



Pleckgate High School Mathematics & Computing College



Headteacher: Robin Campbell BSc NPQH

25 September 2007

Dear Parent/Carer

As part of our desire to drive up standards of learning in school, we have been monitoring the behaviour in classrooms over the last few months. Added to this we have taken into consideration the questionnaires filled in by parents and pupils during the course of last year about your views on the school.

We have been delighted to see that in general your comments and those of your children have been favourable and indicate strongly that progress is being made. However, children in particular have indicated that there are too many incidents of minor disruption in certain lessons which they feel prevents them from making as much progress as both they, and we, would like.

We have decided to implement a system known as the IRIS system with effect from 1st October. This is a behaviour tool introduced in Parrs Wood High School, Manchester and has since been introduced to many schools throughout the rest of the country. Basically this is targeted at pupils, enabling staff to operate a fair system of discipline, allowing rewards as well as punishments. It is a computerised system where pupils are rewarded for good work, good behaviour by gaining points which can be cashed in for rewards such as stationery, cinema tickets, early entry to lunch etc , whilst at the same time recording disruption in lesson. Pupils are given two warnings about their behaviour in class. On the third occasion they will automatically be placed in a thirty minute after school detention.

When this occurs an automatic detention letter will be generated and this will require the pupil concerned to report to the main hall on the date stated on the letter for his/her detention. A member of our office staff will provide the pupils with 24 hour notice and lists of detainees will be posted around school each day to remind pupils of this. Individual punishments from staff for poor work will still take place and you will be notified of this in the normal way; however these will be separate from the IRIS detentions. As all the information will be computer generated, both Heads of Department and Learning Managers will be able to track much more accurately the progress of your child and highlight instantaneously where problems occur, where success is being achieved and above all will have a knowledge of what punishments and rewards were given for. We are confident that this will help to eliminate some of the petty disruptive behaviour that prevents learning whilst at the same time rewarding pupils whom normally work hard but fail to gain recognition for their work.

As this is a web based programme we are hoping to provide access to you at home so that you can monitor your child's progress, allowing you to see exactly what they have been up to in classes, further details will follow shortly. In the meantime if you have any questions about this programme, please contact Mr Briggs on 01254 249134.

Yours sincerely

Peter J Briggs
Assistant Head teacher.

Pleckgate Road, Blackburn, Lancashire BB1 8QA Tel: 01254 249134 Fax: 01254 245329

E-mail: pleckgate@blackburn.gov.uk Website: www.pleckgate.blackburn.sch.uk

