



The Ripley Academy and Sixth Form

Executive Headteacher: **Mrs H Frost-Briggs** BA (Hons)



We are **AMBITIOUS**. We are **COMMITTED**. We are **PROUD**.

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Head of School: **Mr J de Rijk** BA (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: **Mrs J Thawley** BSc (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: **Mr M Kirkland** BSc (Hons)
Assistant Headteacher: **Mr S Kingsland** BSc (Hons)

9 November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

It's a busy half-term at The Ripley Academy and I thought it would be useful to update you on some of the important things we are talking about in school this week.

The Ripley Way

This is embedding nicely throughout the school now. Students are clear of our expectations and our motto "We are ambitious. We are committed. We are proud" is used consistently across the school by all members of teaching and support staff. The students are familiar with my vision for them to aspire to be nothing short of remarkable and they are stepping up to the challenge.

Consequence System

Behaviour at the school is largely good. The vast majority of students are adhering to The Ripley Way and move around the site calmly and with purpose and focus well in lessons allowing quality teaching and learning to take place. We remain ambitious, however, to move behaviour from good to consistently good and better. Consequently, last week, we launched our new consequence system with all staff and students. During lesson time, staff follow certain steps to help students modify their behaviour:

- **C1: Chance to Improve:** During a lesson where a student initially exhibits low-level disruption, refusal to work or defiance the class teacher will issue that student a 'C1' and they will be told that this is their "chance to improve". Their name will be written on the board.
- **C2: A Choice to Make:** Where a student does not modify their behaviour and continues to exhibit low-level disruption, refusal to work or defiance, the class teacher will then issue the student a 'C2' and they will be told they have now got "a choice to make". Their name will be written on the board.
- **C3: Reflect and Change:** At this point, where a student has had two opportunities to improve but chooses not to modify their behaviour, the class teacher will then issue that student with a C3. The student will be sent to the scheduled referral room for that department, giving them the opportunity to "reflect". Students who have received a C3 will automatically be issued with a Stage 1, 30-minute after-school detention for the following day, 3:00 – 3:30pm. Home will be notified of this via Parent Pay.

The Ripley Academy, Peasehill, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3JQ

- **C4: Failure to Comply:** If, on the rare occasion that a student does not reflect and modify their behaviour whilst in the referral room, they will be issued a C4 'failure to comply.' Students who have received a C4 will automatically be issued with a Stage 2 60-minute, afterschool detention for the following day, 3:00 – 4:00pm. Home will be notified of this via Parent Pay.

Successful communication of these detentions is dependent upon the school having your correct email address. Please do ensure that the school has your most up-to-date email address. If you feel we do not, then please contact enquiries@ripleyacademy.org to update us.

We are delighted with how the students have responded to the introduction of the consequence system. The system is still in its infancy but we are already beginning to see a recognisable improvement across the school.

Standards Card

We are also seeking to improve the standards in our school uniform and ensure all students are conforming to our uniform policy. In order to maintain the highest standards in school, form tutors will undertake daily uniform checks. All students have been issued with a Standards Card. If a student is not wearing the correct school uniform (i.e their shirt is untucked, they are wearing rings and bracelets) as per our [Uniform Policy](#), their card will be signed by their tutor or by any member of staff throughout the school day. For any uniform issue that cannot be immediately rectified in the tutor period (e.g. damaged school shoes) the student will be sent to their Head of Year or Student Support at the start of tutor time to receive a uniform pass. Students will then be given a short period of time to rectify the issue and contact will be made with home. Once a student has been issued a uniform pass, staff will not log on that students' card until the pass has expired.

If a student receives three uniform signatures they will be issued with a Stage 1, 30-minute, centralised afterschool detention for the following day, 3:00 – 3:30pm. Home will be notified of this.

Already, we have seen a dramatic improvement in the smart presentation of our students.

Punctuality to lessons

We are also using the Standards Card to drive higher standards of punctuality to school and lessons. Class teachers, tutors and senior staff will sign a student's card if they are late to their lesson, tutor time or school. If a student receives three late signatures they will be issued with a Stage 1, 30-minute, centralised afterschool detention for the following day, 3:00 – 3:30pm. Home will be notified. For repeat offenders, a more serious sanction may be employed.

If a student fails to produce their Standards Card they will receive an automatic Stage 2 centralised, 60-minute, afterschool detention for the following day, 3:00 – 4:00pm.

Students will be issued new standard cards the first day back after each half-term.

Already, we have started to see an improvement in the punctuality of students to lessons.

The new website

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new website. We hope you enjoy the new content and features including our new videography section. The website can be found [here](#).

Safeguarding survey

We have just completed a piece of work in school where students have completed a survey about the safety, health and wellbeing of students. The survey closes this Friday and all students have completed this in tutor time. Our Senior Leadership Team will scrutinise this data shortly and we will use it to inform our next steps in our strategic safeguarding plan.

Thank you

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for working with us. Your support is hugely important to us and I look forward to working together to ensure your child's experience at The Ripley Academy is enjoyable and leads to quality outcomes.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs H Frost-Briggs', written in a cursive style.

Mrs H Frost-Briggs
Executive Headteacher