



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

Success Beyond Belief

A Church of England Academy

BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING CHARTER

SEPTEMBER 2009

VISION:

That every young person graduates from the Aylesbury Vale Academy as citizens of an international community where they have the mobility borne from their outlook, qualifications, skills and experience to be **successful beyond belief**. Improved outcomes will relate to the Every Child Matters framework.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES: WE ADOPT THE CHRISTIAN VALUES OF:

- Honesty
- Respect
- Compassion
- Love
- Forgiveness
- Self-discipline
- Creativity
- Hope

This charter should be read in conjunction with all other Aylesbury Vale Academy policy documents.

ENTITLEMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students and Young People

All our students and young people are entitled to:

- educational provision that meets their needs and enables them to enjoy their learning, be safe and healthy and make a positive contribution to the Academy and to the wider community;
- sustained, high quality educational provision regardless of gender, race, class, sexual orientation or disability;
- a creative and flexible curriculum that stimulates learning and encourages engagement;
- be taught in environments that are conducive to learning and free from disruption;
- school meals that are free from junk foods;
- be free from circumstances in which they are bullied, ignored, ridiculed, or subjected to any forms of discrimination; and to
- have their voices heard, to be listened to and to know where to go to share their concerns.

Students should feel confident about expressing their views about life and work of the Academy.

- Students can discuss any problems or concerns with their Personal Tutor or a Subject Teacher or a Learner Profile and Performance Manager.
- Students can see the Head of College to discuss issues of concern.
- Students can use the Concerns, Complaints, Suggestions and Thank You procedure to inform the Principal of their views (this form is attached to the back of the Charter and further copies are available at the Academy Reception) or to suggest areas for improvement. Alternatively you can use the e-mail address asktheprincipal@theacademy.me . Answers will be posted weekly on the Principal's blog which can be found on the Academy's website.
- Students may be invited to one of the Vice Principal's and Principal's working lunches where 12 students (four from each college) have an opportunity to express their views about the Academy and to make recommendations on how the Academy may be improved.

Our students have an individual and collective responsibility to:

- always work to the best of their ability;
- come to the Academy to learn. Any student who prevents this happening will have to attend a meeting with the Head of College and parents. Persist and you could lose your place at the Academy;

- show, through their behaviour and their language, respect and consideration for all staff and other students;
- take proper care of books, equipment and the Academy's environment generally; and
- accept and support the Academy's discipline policies and normal standards of behaviour.
- Never use technology as an instrument of bullying or harassment directed against students and staff.
- Always wear official Academy uniform. If you do not, your parents will be asked to collect you immediately and you will not be allowed to return to the Academy until the problem is resolved.
- Never have facial markings or piercings.
- Never have tattoos that are visible or can be considered offensive.
- Treat the ICT facilities properly and with a high level of care. Downloading inappropriate materials is a serious breach of Academy rules which could lead to you losing your place at the Academy. You should discuss with your parents what inappropriate materials are.
- Not cheat. Cheating is taken very seriously and can lead to the removal of your qualifications. So make sure that you do not try to copy from other students in examinations or for your coursework, homework, etc.
- Be on time for the Academy. Most students arrive before 8.20am for an 8.30am start.
- Always complete homework. You can have as much as you want!
- Never tolerate a bully. Always tell your Personal Tutor the first time this happens.
- Support your friends by taking part in team and group activities. It is expected that you will always represent the Academy if you have sporting talent. Participate in the many "Elective" activities available.
- You must attend the extra lessons specially organised for you after 3.20pm if they are arranged to specifically support your development in a subject or social skills. This could include detentions.
- Take care of your equipment and respect other people's belongings.
- Always be polite in discussions with your Teachers and fellow students.
- Help everyone be safe. Aggressive or threatening behaviour will result in your parents being asked to collect you immediately from the Academy. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Additional Matters

Illegal or harmful drugs and substances are very dangerous and students should note that there will be no toleration of possession, sale, purchase or consumption at the Academy or in the community. Such activity will result in permanent exclusion.

Students should note that there will be no toleration of possession, sale, purchase or consumption of alcohol at the Academy or in the community. Such activity will result in permanent exclusion.

Any student who arrives already under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be permanently excluded.

Staff

Our teachers should be able to enjoy teaching, without being subject to the stresses caused by unacceptable student behaviour. Our teachers are employed to teach and students come to the Academy to learn. Any teacher who prevents this happening will be subject to the normal procedures that exist for managing staff in schools.

All staff should be entitled to:

- regular professional development on behaviour strategies;
- a clearly defined range of available disciplinary measures and sanctions, including detention, exclusion and the curtailment of voluntary activities;
- clear guidelines and professional development on: what to do in a disciplinary crisis, including guidelines covering intervention in fights or disputes between pupils; the use of physical restraint; sexist, racist and homophobic harassment; unacceptable language; and recording and logging incidents of violent or poor behaviour;
- the necessary time within the Academy day to share information experiences and effective strategies on meeting the behavioural needs of individual students; and
- freedom from verbal abuse, threats or physical assaults within their working environment.

Our staff will be consulted on the Behaviour for Learning policies of the Academy.

Our staff will be entitled to know:

- where to turn when they need support;
- the arrangements in place where students are removed from the classroom; and
- the arrangements for supporting and protecting staff who may be working on their own before and at the end of the Academy day;
- a strong lead from the Senior Leadership Team and those with management responsibilities who provide close support to staff;
- the support of teams of trained and committed support staff;

- work in an environment where the ethos is supportive of teaching and learning; and
- effective security arrangements, particularly when working in remote classrooms and when on their own.

Our staff will have an entitlement to work in conditions that enable teaching to be at its most effective. Those conditions include:

- appropriate class and group sizes, with counselling and personalised tuition available to young people at key points in their Academy lives;
- an up-to-date teaching and learning environment;
- effective health and safety policies which protect the health, safety and welfare of all those in the Academy community;
- sufficient up-to-date books, materials and equipment to meet the learning needs of all those in the Academy community; and
- sufficient up-to-date information and communication technology (ICT), such that all young people have ready and immediate access to that technology.

Teachers have a responsibility to:

- respect the students and young people they teach;
- be committed to and have high expectations of students' learning;
- encourage good behaviour and respect for others;
- prevent all forms of bullying amongst students;
- keep their students safe;
- seek support and advice about how to promote positive behaviour;
- keep parents informed of their children's educational, Learner Profile and social progress; and
- work as part of a team with other teachers and support staff.

Students should feel good about being successful

Our teachers will work to ensure that students and young people are:

- Valued and given quality care and confidentiality where appropriate.
- Encouraged by providing them with stimulating lessons and incentives to do well.
- Involved in their education by providing regular information to them and their parents on progress.

- Congratulated by providing recognition and rewards.
- Benefiting through lots of opportunities in academic, sporting, musical and cultural activities.
- Supported by providing safe, orderly conditions for you to learn effectively.

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers have a right to expect from the Academy:

- high quality education, whatever their children's learning needs, including full information on their progress;
- access to school policies, including their behaviour policies;
- detailed information on how they promote positive behaviour and what they can do to help; and
- the facility to discuss and resolve any concerns.

Parents and carers have a responsibility to support their children's Academy by:

- encouraging their children to recognise the importance of education and learning;
- fully backing the application of the Academy behaviour policies and their systems of incentives, rewards and sanctions;
- support the Academy in issuing a "Justice" session at 3.20pm for one hour provided you have been given 24 hours notice. Please note that proof of receipt is not required. The normal proof will be a handwritten note in the student's planner and we will try to call you.
- Supporting the Academy in issuing a "Justice" session for ten minutes in length from 3.20pm until 3.30pm. These can be issued to your child with no notice. You can expect the Academy to inform you why your child has been issued with a "Justice" session
- insisting and making sure that their children pay proper respect to teachers and support staff;
- preparing their children for the Academy day, including providing breakfast and the conditions for a good night's sleep and making sure they wear the full Academy uniform;
- taking all reasonable steps to ensure that their children carry out work set for them;
- collect your child immediately if they do not wear the official dress, bully or behave aggressively towards other students and staff, or are in breach of any of the Academy's rules.
- respecting staff, students and the Academy environment; and by
- not behaving aggressively or violently towards other students or staff.

Academy Governing Body

The Academy Governing Body (AGB) has a right to be involved and contribute to the formulation of the behaviour policies of the Academy. Their insights and contributions should be valued and fully taken into account.

The AGB has a responsibility to play its part in ensuring that the health and safety of the entire Academy community is not undermined or jeopardised.

The AGB has a responsibility for contributing to the positive ethos of the Academy and to the Academy's work in transforming students' learning.

The Academy Community

Our Academy's Behaviour for Learning Policy will be updated regularly. It will be the product of, and made known fully to, the whole Academy community. It will be applied fairly and consistently and be followed by all students, staff, parents and, as appropriate, visitors to the Academy..

Technology

Your mobile phone must be switched off on the Academy site during normal Academy hours, including lunch and break times. Mobile phones must not be used to take photographs or videos anywhere in the Academy or the area immediately outside the Academy or on transport associated with the Academy. Failure to comply will result in your mobile phone being taken off you and this will then have to be collected by your parents.

Any attempts to post written comments, video or photo images on free websites, eg, You Tube, Twitter or other social networking sites which leads to bullying or humiliation of students or staff, or discredits the Academy, will be dealt with most severely and may lead to you losing your place at the Academy.

Learner and Teacher Profile

As a student I will work to develop the following skills.

As a member of staff, I understand I am a role model for our young people and I will demonstrate the following skills.

Inquirers - I will develop a natural curiosity. I will acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. I will actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout my life.

Knowledgeable - I will explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, I will acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Thinkers - I will exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Communicators - I will understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of ways of communication. I will work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

Principled - I will act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. I will take responsibility for my own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

Open-minded - I will understand and appreciate my own culture and personal history, and will be open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. I will be accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and will be willing to grow from the experience.

Caring - I will show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. I will have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Risk-takers - I will approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. I will be brave and articulate in defending my beliefs.

Balanced - I will understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for myself and others.

Reflective - I will give thoughtful consideration to my own learning and experience. I will be able to assess and understand my strengths and limitations in order to support my learning and personal development.

AGREEMENT

I agree to this charter and will keep to everything it says about me as a STUDENT

NAME	FORM	SIGNED	DATE

I agree to this charter will keep to everything it says about me as a PARENT/CARER for the child named above.

NAME	SIGNED	DATE

I agree to this charter will keep to everything it says about me as a MEMBER OF STAFF

NAME	SIGNED	DATE