



18th March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Positive behaviour in the community

We are writing to highlight our behaviour expectations outside school. These apply at all times but particularly in the morning, on the way to school and on the way home.

The large majority of our students behave exceptionally well at all times, unfortunately concerns have been raised from the local community (particularly Cotteridge business owners), that a handful of our students are not conducting themselves appropriately. We expect **all** students to behave impeccably outside school, acting as positive ambassadors for our school and acting with consideration and respect to members of our local community.

Positive behaviour in the community involves:

- Wearing our uniform to and from school smartly and with pride
- Being considerate and respectful to all adults and students
- Using polite and appropriate language
- Being considerate and respectful of the environment
- Ensuring safe behaviour, with no risks to self or others

We will be talking to students to reinforce these positive behaviours and to ensure that they understand and avoid the following inconsiderate, unsafe and occasionally illegal behaviours. We would appreciate your support in reinforcing these with your child at home.

Inconsiderate behaviours:

- Gathering in groups of 5 or more and loitering
- Blocking the pavement
- Blocking door ways to shops
- Shouting at friends inside shops from outside
- Litter and gum dropping
- Swearing
- Entering Cotteridge shops in numbers of more than 3 at a time (e.g. Heron Foods)
- Not allowing members of the public to exit buses before getting on themselves

Unsafe behaviours:

- Pushing and shoving
- Play fighting
- Running across roads without looking, or knowingly when traffic is approaching and expecting vehicles to manoeuvre around themselves
- Riding bicycles on pavements and in front of shops
- Excessive and inconsiderate noise on public transport
- Covering face which prevents identification e.g. hood up when not raining



Illegal actions

- Filming antisocial behaviour to publicise it
- Meeting other young people with the intent to intimidate or cause trouble
- Use of abusive or threatening language towards other students or members of the public
- Use of abusive or threatening language towards other students, including via social media
- Smoking
- Fighting or assaulting others (including provoking others to fight, watching, filming or cheering on)

We also ask that you direct your child to only use Cotteridge if a bus is required to get home. If this is the case, they should catch the first bus available, they shouldn't loiter and they must follow the positive behaviours listed above, especially when a substantial number of students from many other schools are arriving in the Cotteridge area at the same time.

To support the local community, staff from several local schools are monitoring Cotteridge and the surrounding area at the start and end of the school day.

Please ensure that your child understands that if they behave inappropriately outside of school, the same behaviour sanctions will apply as in school. The Department for Education supports schools with this by empowering schools to enforce their behaviour policies on conduct outside of school, especially when students are in uniform, including commuting to and from school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

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