

4 March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you to introduce some changes that will be made to students' independent study periods after Easter. Students are full time and on campus from 8.40am until 3.10pm everyday, for all lessons, assembly, and for registration. You can find this information in the <u>Learner Agreement</u> which has previously been shared with you.

This week I spoke with the students about our plan to allow them to earn back an hour of time off-site for every subject that they study, i.e. a student studying three subjects will be able to earn three hours. In order to earn this time students are asked to do three things:

- 1. Ensure that their folders are organised.
- 2. Ensure that they are up to date with independent study (e.g. homework).
- 3. Achieve a minimum of 96% attendance to registration.

This decision has been made to help support students to prepare for Post 18 and beyond when they will have greater independence in university or working life.

I have spoken to Leaders of Post 16 subjects and in the coming weeks they will show students how to organise their folders (either online through Google or in a ring-bound file), and they will ensure that students are set work to be completed outside of lessons in order to maximise their progress. By Friday 1st April teachers will have monitored students' work, and students will then be told how many hours they have earned off-site starting Monday 25th April.

Once the students have found out how many hours they have earned, they will need to visit the Post 16 office where a record will be kept for safeguarding purposes of those who will be off-site at any given time. Once the hours have been selected they cannot change them. Students are free to choose how to spend their time off-site, e.g. driving lessons, enrichment activities etc. However they must still attend daily registration on-site. Between Easter and May half term teachers will continually monitor students and if their organisation or levels of independent work drop below our expectations then these freedoms will be removed after May half term.

Yours sincerely

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Vicki Varney Assistant Headteacher - Post 16