

Edward Peake C of E (VC) Middle School

Federation Headteacher: Miss Z J Linington

Potton Road, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. SG18 0EJ

Tel: 01767 314562

E-mail: info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk

Web: <http://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk>



16 October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

It saddens me to be sending this letter but I am writing to you about our expectations of pupil behaviour outside of school, especially when pupils are in their school uniforms, representing both their families and all of the Edward Peake community.

We have three behaviour expectations of all members of the Edward Peake community:

- SAFE - CARING - LEARNING -

All pupils are expected to take responsibility for their own behaviour. We expect pupils to act as positive ambassadors for our school and to be considerate members of the local community. We are always delighted to hear praise about our pupils and welcome positive feedback.

Positive behaviour is non-negotiable and involves:

- Being considerate of all around you
- Using polite language
- Being respectful of the environment
- Safe behaviour, with no risks to self or others

A small number of our pupils are not demonstrating acceptable standards of behaviour. We have received a number of complaints in recent weeks regarding incidents in the Maythorns Park and surrounding areas which have taken place before and after school. The types of incident include:

- Gathering in a large group and blocking the pavement
- Dropping litter/chewing gum
- Being verbally abusive/intimidating to the local residents
- Careless use of road/pavement – on foot, bicycle or scooter - crossing the road without paying due care to traffic
- Unsafe and inconsiderate behaviour when using the play equipment
- Trespassing on private property
- Pranks such as bell ringing

In the majority of cases, I believe, this is due to some of our pupils simply not thinking about their actions and the impact it is having on others and their surroundings. Whatever the underlying reason, it is a problem which we must address together as it reflects poorly on us all. We have advised local residents to make the police aware of continuing anti-social behaviour. All pupils have been issued a consistent message from school staff about behaving responsibly in the local community.



The school would like to ask for your cooperation in speaking to your child about the impact of anti-social behaviour. Please take a moment to talk to your child about being more self-aware about litter and their behaviour whilst out and about in the local community.

"Do to others as you would have them do to you" (Matthew 7:12)

Young people can receive very unfair criticism in the press and on social media these days when the truth of the matter is that the majority of them are well-behaved and are a credit to their families and school. Please help us build that positive image within our local community.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers that the park on the Maythorns Estate is not supervised by school staff either before or after school as it is private property. Parents who choose to allow their children to play in the park before or after school do so at their own risk. Children are likely to forget the rules of social distancing and often mix socially with others that are in a different "bubble", undermining the efforts of the school to minimise the risks posed by coronavirus to children and families. Pupils are expected to arrive on time to school. We have seen an increase in pupils arriving late as they are playing in the park.

Thank you for your continued support of Edward Peake Middle School.

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Z J Linington', written in a cursive style.

Miss Z J Linington
Federation Headteacher