

KKE/WH

9 February 2010

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to inform you that as part of our ongoing work to improve the attendance and punctuality at Park Hall, we will be operating a series of 'late gates' after the February half term period.

This involves a group of Education Welfare Officers from the Local Authority carrying out duties at the school gates. They will be stopping students and asking for reasons for lateness. They will also be monitoring the students attendance figures with them and highlighting those students where further action is required.

If your son or daughter is stopped for being late, you may be contacted by the Education Welfare department as part of the follow up action.

I would ask that you discuss this course of action with your son or daughter in order to ensure their punctual arrival to school.

I would also request that you stress the importance of attending their form period in the morning. Some students are arriving at school but are truanting their form period therefore not getting their morning attendance mark which may result in a truancy call or being highlighted by the Education Welfare Officer as a cause for concern. As parents and carers, I am sure you recognise that action taken by the Education Welfare Service is directed at yourselves so we would appreciate your support in directing your son or daughter to attend this morning session.

Another new development at Park Hall I would like to advise you about is the introduction of 'Sleuth'. This is a new electronic referral system which logs all negative and positive incidents or behaviours during the day. At present, we are using this to identify areas within the Academy which may need a specific focus. Some parents and carers will be receiving individual letters over the coming weeks asking them to come in to the Academy and review their son or daughters behaviour record.

This is intended to be a positive step in improving standards at Park Hall. We have a positive and hard working student population in the main and we intend to ensure that standards remain high for them so that they can leave us as successful young people.

The students have been informed of Sleuth in assemblies but I would again appreciate your assistance in pointing out to your son or daughter the importance of keeping a positive record and therefore their place at Park Hall.

If you would like to discuss your son or daughters record at any time, please feel free to contact their Head of House for Learning. As a reminder they are:

Arden – Ms Price

Bradford – Mr Cox

Jaguar – Ms Hall

Spitfire – Ms Sheldrick

All of these developments are focussed on driving Park Hall forward and build on the recent examination successes. Through working together we can ensure that Park Hall becomes a centre of excellence which will serve our young people and the community well.

Yours sincerely

Tony Morrison

Principal