



ARCHBISHOP ILSLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Let Your Light Shine"

Victoria Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham, B27 7XY

Tel: 0121 706 4200

Email: enquiry@ilsley.bham.sch.uk

Website: www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Ciaran Clinton



Sent to every year group week commencing 16th September

Dear Parents

Raising standards at Archbishop Ilsley and new policies

Pupils have made a great start to the school year. This morning, I had the pleasure of commending them on their positive attitude and focus in assembly. I have attached my assembly for your perusal. If you think this is a good idea, we could start doing this on weekly basis. Let me know!

Archbishop Ilsley is generally a very calm and productive environment. Pupils' focused attitude was rewarded in some very positive examination results, particularly at GCSE where grades have improved by 10% in two years. I know all staff have very high hopes for this year group and hope this can go up another 10% next year and the year after.

For this to happen, we need to raise standards and expectations at Archbishop Ilsley and that is why I am so grateful for the 19 families that attended our Parent Consultation back on 2nd July, where I shared my plans and policies and received some constructive feedback. You can view all our policies on our new website. I will summarise the five new policies that were ratified by our committed governors recently.

<https://www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk/key-information/policies/>

Mobile phone policy – Archbishop Ilsley is now a mobile free zone. Phones should be switched off and in pupils' bags during form and not turned on again until 15:15. The penalties for doing so are quite harsh and are detailed on page 5. Please ensure your child is aware of these sanctions.

Anti-bullying – Archbishop Ilsley is one of the most harmonious schools I have worked at. Bullying has absolutely no place here. Your child needs to know he/she is safe at all times so he/she can flourish and excel in his/her studies. It's important to point out the difference between unkindness and bullying. The STOP acronym (Several Times On Purpose) is a useful way to remember. You can see how we deal with alleged bullying in our new anti-bullying policy on the website.

Uniform policy – Standards of uniform remain high at Archbishop Ilsley. Nothing has changed since my email to you on 24th August, but here are some reminders: shoes should not contain any sports logos whatsoever (e.g. Nike, Adidas). All pupils need to wear a blazer. Tracksuit tops and especially Tech Fleece are not allowed. All girls must wear tights. Sports socks containing sports logos (e.g. Nike, Adidas) should not be worn.

Behaviour – Much of this above is covered in our new behaviour policy.



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Attendance – There is a huge push, nationally, to improve attendance. The best place to be during term-time is in school, surrounded by the support of their friends and teachers. I will be writing personalised letters to you next week detailing and evaluating your child's attendance last year.

Raising a concern – I hope your child is very happy at Archbishop Ilsley. If we ever fall below the high standards that you and I expect, please let me know. I hope any concerns can be dealt with informally – probably by the pastoral team associated with your child's year group. If you are still not satisfied, as your child's Head of Year told you in his/her letter on 4th September, I would urge you to follow our complaints procedure that can be found on our website under 'Contact'. OSFTED and Local Authority have asked all schools to make this complaints procedure very clear as some parents are missing out this important step and their direct complaints get bounced back to schools to investigate anyway.

I hope you found this letter informative. If you would like to be part of the next parent group, please email enquiry@ilsley.bham.sch.uk with 'parent group' in the title and we will add you to the distribution list.

Yours sincerely

Mr Clinton
Headteacher

Attachments
Assembly