

1st February 2022

Dear Y8 Parent / Carer,

I am writing to make you aware of an important presentation that we delivered to Year 8 this afternoon. In the main, Year 8 students are doing very well and are working incredibly hard - as seen in the autumn term assessments. However, given a rise in recent incidents, it was felt amongst pastoral leaders at the academy that a reset of expectations was required.

The following key points were communicated to students:

- The focus each day should be learning and it is concerning that some students are paying more attention to being involved in personal or group disputes, including those who spread malicious rumours.
- The behaviour of students who compromise our learning environment will not be tolerated.
- The academy has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying, as set out in our anti-bullying policy.
- We have a clear expectation that students must report concerning behaviour and actively avoid conflict.
- The academy has the same high expectations regarding student behaviour in the community, as well as when using social media. This is clearly set out in our behaviour policy and student code of conduct.
- The academy will apply our sanctions in a fair and consistent way, should students go against the expectations set out in our behaviour policy and home school agreement, up to and including suspension and permanent exclusion.

All policies, including our anti-bullying and behaviour policies, can be found here: <https://kaa.org.uk/the-academy/policies-documents/>.

Students were encouraged to reflect on their own conduct and we are confident that all students will have been able to acknowledge which of these reminders, if any, are most applicable to them and their past behaviour. I would ask for your support in following up on these reflective discussions at home.

We would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of parents/carers monitoring their child's phone usage, including social media accounts. We thank you in advance for all your support with this. If you require any support in doing so, or have any queries regarding anything detailed in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact myself, or the Directors of Learning for Year 8, Ms Reed and Mr Abubaker (m.reed@kaa.org.uk / h.abubaker@kaa.org.uk).

Yours sincerely,



Miss Gurnell
Assistant Principal – Pastoral / Designated Safeguarding Lead