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# ROYAL ALEXANDRA & ALBERT SCHOOL



15<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parent,

## **Behaviour for Learning**

As I explained in my newsletter last week, we as a school want to place particular emphasis on the academic development of our pupils this year. We want them to feel hungry for progress and foster their ambition to achieve their very best. To help to this end our focus this year will be on the pupils getting into the right habits for successful learning – both in and out of the classroom.

As staff we believe that the important point is for pupils to realise that effective learning requires personal engagement from them - it is not a spectator sport! They cannot hope that being attentive, but passive, in class will be enough for them to do well. They need to invest extra effort and show initiative in thinking the material through, participate positively in the classroom and reflect on the feedback they are given by staff, whether verbal or in the form of marking. We want them to be ambitious in their wish to understand the work and to have the determination to persevere when the work is hard. It is easy to give up and feel one cannot get to grips with work when it becomes difficult or confusing, but we want them to learn the important life-skill of resilience.

I have spoken to the school about the culture of learning that we expect from the pupils and that we will be both supporting and challenging them to meet these this year. Similarly Heads of Year and Form Tutors have been discussing the expectations for effective Behaviour for Learning to the pupils, in an age-appropriate way. On the next page you will see these listed, for your reference.

Please could I ask that you support this message from home. You can really help us by reinforcing the message we are giving to the students as well as the practical expectations that go with it. We will be doing so in the boarding houses, particularly during the evening prep slots, and would ask for flexi-boarding parents to do similarly when the pupils come home.

To complement our drive for 'Behaviour for Learning', this academic year we are changing the way that we report to you on the pupils' attitude to learning. Rather than an overall grade for this aspect we will be breaking it down into the following areas:

- Classwork
- Behaviour for Learning
- Prep

We feel it is very useful for you to get separate information on classwork and prep. The Behaviour for Learning aspect will consider how well they have been meeting the expectations as set out on the next page.

With very many thanks for your support in this important area.

Mark Dixon  
Headmaster



## **BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING** **EXPECTATIONS**

1. I am a resilient learner and I always try my hardest.
2. I do as I am asked, the first time I am asked.
3. I am always in the right place at the right time doing the right thing.
4. I am a reflective learner. When someone is speaking, I always listen and give my full attention.
5. I always have the right equipment for every lesson.
6. I always look smart and I am ready to learn.
7. I am responsible for my learning and the learning of others – this means I work well independently and with others.
8. I respect others, focus on my learning and do not disrupt the learning of others.
9. I take pride in my work including the presentation of my work and my exercise books.
10. I am responsible for my own behaviour. I do not make inappropriate noises or comments.