



# Great Wyrley Academy

**A part of the Windsor Academy Trust**

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Ref:mne/gwaadmin/letter – detentions/toilets

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Behaviour Policy: Use of Same-day After-School Detentions**

As you will be aware from our Behaviour Policy, we use a graduated consequence system (alongside our rewards system) to support pupils with 'getting it right' in terms of our expectations of them each day both in terms of their conduct and their organisational skills/preparedness for learning.

In common with most secondary schools both nationally and locally, we will now be introducing **same-day after-school detentions** from Monday 14 November where there are repeated instances of particular behaviours or where deadlines are repeatedly missed. This not only encourages good conduct and a happier school day-to-day, but also creates a positive learning environment for our pupils at Great Wyrley Academy. These detentions will run from 3:05 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Teachers have limited resources to support pupils with improving their conduct and/or organisation and detentions are an important part of delivering a clear message to them that any inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated and will have consequences, just as it would within wider society. During a detention pupils are expected to reflect on the choices they have made and have a restorative conversation, where appropriate, with the staff member issuing the detention so that we can support our pupils in realigning poor behaviour choices.

You may not be aware, but **schools and academies have no legal obligation to inform parents/carers that their child is being detained** after-school for a detention, **nor do they need the consent of a parent/carer to detain a pupil** for an after-school detention. However, we wish for the relationship between school and home to be collaborative and positive therefore, at Great Wyrley Academy we have chosen to notify you if your child has been entered for a detention by email and/or through an alert through Classcharts for **same-day after-school detentions**.

We understand that making alternative arrangements for pick-ups due to after-school detentions can sometimes be an inconvenience for families, but this will not be accepted as a reason to cancel a detention as they are an integral part of the behaviour management system; accordingly, we urge Parents/Carers to encourage their children to adhere to the high expectations of the school, so that ultimately they are not issued with a detention at all. Where they are, engaging in a restorative and proactive conversation with your child at home in terms of how they can avoid future detentions will support the school's own work with pupils.



Parents/Carers **are not able to refuse attendance at after school detentions**. In rare, exceptional circumstances (e.g. a medical appointment) we will consider deferring a pupil's detention to the next available after-school slot, but it will not be cancelled and deferrals will not be accepted routinely. On rare occasions where a deferral may be appropriate, please contact your child's **Head of Year**.

For further information on the government's guidance in relation to detentions and exclusions, please visit the link below:

[Legislation regarding School Discipline and Exclusions, including Detentions](#)

### **Use of toilets during lesson times**

There will be alterations to the policy on the use of toilets during lesson time, starting on Monday 14 November. Our aim in making these changes is to:

- Ensure that teaching is not interrupted by students being late or out of their lessons regularly
- Ensure that toilets are used for their primary function rather than meeting places
- Have well-maintained toilet facilities available to students by reducing potential damage

We have unfortunately had significant damage to the toilets recently. As I am sure you will realise, this is money that could have been spent elsewhere such as on new learning resources. Students have a morning break and a lunchtime, which gives students ample time to get something to eat/drink in the canteen and to go to the toilet. Some students, however, regularly wait until their lesson has started before going to the toilet. Hence, they are late to class and disrupt the start to learning. A minority of students regularly ask their teachers to go to the toilet in several lessons during their day and is causing significant disruption to students' learning so, we have made the decision to lock the toilets during lesson time. Students will only be allowed out of a lesson to go the toilet if:

- They have a particular concern around needing to use the toilet during lesson times, e.g because of a medical condition or heavy periods, we would request that they speak to their Head of Year in the first instance.
- Their teacher is convinced it is a rare extreme case.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in our drive to ensure the highest standards and expectations are maintained at Great Wyrley Academy

Yours sincerely



Mrs Kelly Moore  
Headteacher