



Manor Community College

a DCSF designated Specialist Creative and Performing Arts College
Principal Ben Slade BA (Hons) Ed, NPQH

Arbury Road, Cambridge, CB4 2JF
Tel: 01223 508742, Fax: 01223 508747
Email: office@manorcc.org.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: WELCOME BACK AND START OF TERM ISSUES

I do hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year break.

The behaviour of students at the end of last term was brilliant and many of them were involved in the end of term shows.

1. National Challenge – our progress so far

As part of the government's National Challenge we have already received two visits from our National Challenge Adviser, Mrs Janet Morrison. She is pleased that the college is engaging well and, like me, is confident that we will perform above our targets. She has stated in her recent report that "the college is well led and managed by senior staff and a committed Governing Body" and "the Principal and senior team have a relentless focus on raising standards and improving accountability. Students speak warmly of the improvement in their welfare since the Principal and, subsequently, the Deputy Principal took up their posts".

2. Uniform issues

We have a very simple college uniform designed by the students. A significant minority of students are not wearing it properly. We realise that there are some rare occasions where this is beyond parent/carer's control. However there is no excuse for students coming to college in trainers, jeans, non-uniform sweatshirts or polo shirts.

In order to tackle this issue we will be introducing the following procedures from next Monday (19/01/2009):

1. If a student arrives in college not wearing the correct uniform they will a) be sent home to change and b) will make up the time missed in detentions after college. A record of this will be kept by form tutors who will pass this to Mr Price.
2. If a student arrives out of college uniform for the second time, the student will spend the day out of circulation in the Learning to Learn Centre which will go on their college record. Again the form tutor will inform Mr. Price.
3. If this happens for a third time or more, it will be treated as failing to follow instructions/college rules and may lead to an external fixed-term exclusion. Parents/carers will be invited in to discuss the matter further.

Deputy Principal: Jane Davies
Chair of Governors: Phillip Ward
PA to the Principal: Lucy Crebo
Bursar: John Moloney

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However, if there are genuine reasons why your child does not have a uniform, please contact Mr. Price or Mr. Slade either by phone or via email:

aprice@manorcc.org.uk (Mr. Price) or lcrebo@manorcc.org.uk (Mr. Slade)

Black jeans are **not** acceptable college uniform. Neither are trainers that are not completely black.

3. PE Kit

This is also an issue that will be dealt with in the same way as college uniform (above).

4. Lateness

Students have a responsibility to be in college by **8:45am (preferably 8:40am) every morning.**

We now have a breakfast club in operation with free breakfast provided for all those students who arrive between 8am and 8:30am each day. Again, I am not aware of any other college in the county that offers this free of charge. Please take us up on this initiative to raise standards of attendance and improve the health of students.

In order to tackle this issue we will be introducing the following procedures from next Monday (19/01/2009):

1. Students who are late will go into the Friday night SLT detention for up to 2 hours commencing at 3:10pm.
2. If they fail to attend the SLT detention any one of a range of sanctions will be applied e.g. a day in the L2LC, 4 X 1 hour detention (twice the SLT detention time).

5. Basic equipment

I know, teaching Media Studies, that students arrive to college every morning without the basic equipment: student planners, pens, pencils, rulers etc. They should also have a bag which is big enough to hold these items and their college books and PE kit.

We would really appreciate your co-operation with all of the above. We are a good college – let's demonstrate this all of the time!

To finish on a positive note, I was delighted to be able to hand out over £300 in cash to a range of students at an assembly on Friday. This money was for good attendance: over 92.5% for the form prize draw for £5 and over 98% attendance for the £10 cash award supported by the Local Authority.

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The atmosphere was great. We want to be doing more rewarding of good performance as opposed to spending our time challenging those who refuse to comply.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Ben Slade
Principal

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