

21st July 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

As the academic year of 2022/23 draws to a close, we wanted to take the time to share some of the amazing achievements of your children, our students, here at SUA this year and to also share some updates to our Behaviour Policy for September 2023/24.

- Over 281, 000 reward points awarded, the most Team SUA have ever achieved – 50, 000 more than last year!
- A staggering 1720 on-the-spot SUA Star rewards have been issued!
- For another year, nearly 400 of Team SUA attended our annual rewards trip to Alton Towers, whilst the rest of the team had a fantastic day of workshops here at SUA.
- We've had a bumper amount of trips and visits out of the academy, across the country and the world.
- Year 11, Year 13 and some Year 10 have sat formal summer examinations; they were brilliant and we wish them all good luck for the results.
- Record numbers of students joining us in Year 6 – we hosted our transition events, and welcomed families, some familiar, some brand new, to Team SUA.
- A fantastic finale to the term with our Sports Day and Rewards assemblies!
- ... and much, much more!

Class Charts app

Parental engagement had been a critical part of our success. The large majority of our parents have downloaded the Classcharts app; the most effective way of monitoring your child's rewards and sanctions here at SUA. If your email changes please contact reception directly and they will update the files; a delay in informing us of any changes may lead to you not receiving vital communication.

We do, however, wish to form a supportive partnership with our families which is why we encourage such frequent communication between our colleagues and the home.

Furthermore, we would encourage you all to download and make use of our Class Charts and SchoolComms apps which will enable you to see reward and behaviour points (including any detentions issued) in real time. Instructions for downloading and using Class Charts can be found overleaf, including your unique Class Charts code. To make use of SchoolComms, download the app from Google Play or the App Store and simply follow the instructions using the details we have for you at the academy.

You are also welcome to join our Facebook group – 'Official Parents of SUA Students.' This will always have the most accurate and up-to-date information.

Behaviour update for September 2023

At the beginning of this academic year we launched a streamlined behaviour system which almost all of our students have benefited from. We removed unnecessary warnings so that students take quicker ownership of their behaviour.



Marston Road, Hednesford,
Cannock, WS12 4JH



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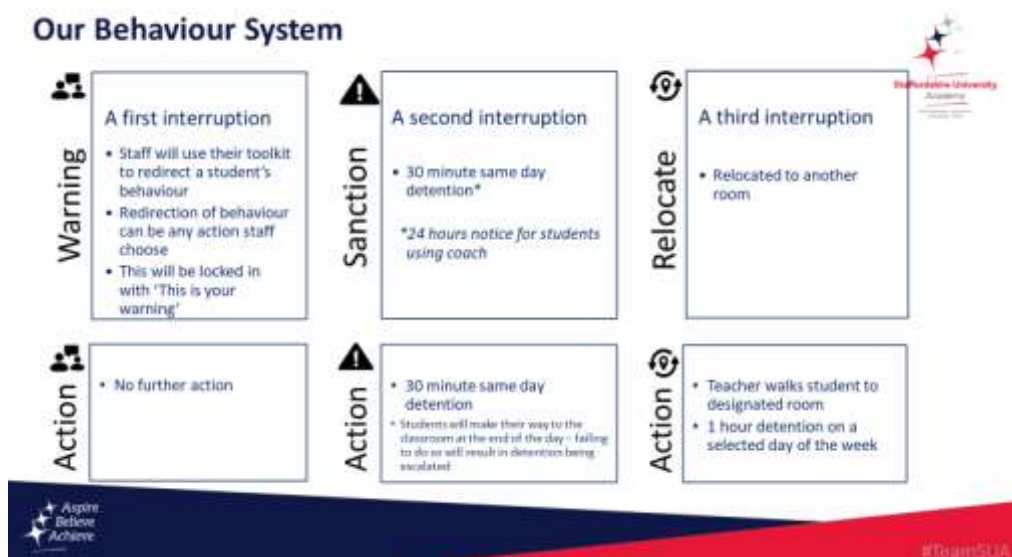


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For a reminder – our behaviour system is listed below:



The policy is developed to ensure that the insistence on a child who interrupts learning twice being issued a **same day 30-minute detention**. This is non-negotiable and follows the guidance from the Department for Education, which also states that 'Schools don't have to give parents notice of after-school detentions or tell them why a detention has been given'. In a change to this year, **we will expect students to make their way to their detention afterschool** from September. In the first year of the policy, we have collected students centrally. The emphasis is now on the students taking accountability for their actions and going directly to the detention, should they be issued one.

We continue to have growing number of families joining us from across the district, if your child makes incorrect decisions and is issued a detention, you will be given 24 hours to arrange alternative arrangements for collecting them to take home.

Following the RESPECT code and changing behaviour after the warning remains the most effective way of not being in a detention. Rewards will continue to be our priority in rewarding all of the positive behaviour that we regularly see here at SUA – the large majority of students consistently get things right and are thriving at SUA.

Use of Time Out Cards and Toilet Passes

On rare occasions we may issue a Time Out card or a Toilet Pass – these are only awarded with medical or professional evidence. If you feel your child should have either please can the evidence be sent into the academy. Without evidence no passes will be issued. This has been embedded over the last academic year and is a system that safeguards your children well.

All passes will be issued into the student planner. If a child does not bring their planner into the academy, they will not be allowed to leave class. Please rest assured that children who have medical need will be issued a pass as soon as evidence is sent into the academy.

Please send recent medical evidence to info@suacademy.co.uk clearly indicating your child's name.

Lockers

Every child is able to have access to a locker at SUA, free of charge. If your child would like one please contact their form tutor who will organise this. Please note the first key is issued free of charge, if a second key is issued there will be a small charge.



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SUA Planners

Your child will receive an SUA planner on the first day of each term. It is a requirement that these arrive with your child every day. They will need to get their planners out each lesson and place these on the table. If a child forgets their planner, they will be issued a 'Daily planner' up to three times within a term, then a sanction will follow. If your child loses their planner, there will be £2 replacement fee.

Standards of Uniform

We pride ourselves on the high standards that we have with uniform. We also know that these standards remain due to the parental support that we have. Over the summer we know that families will begin to prepare for the September return, so please be aware of the expectations around shoes. Please be aware that popular sporting brands often call their trainers 'school shoes' when they are not. Footwear must be black school shoes – these must not include logos and should not be trainer type shoes. The best guidance is from the poster below and on our website.

Following student voice we have also altered our policy around nose studs. We will now **allow** students to wear a **clear, plastic nose stud** if they have their nose pierced. No other facial piercings are permitted. This will be expected from the first day in September, if you will be taking your child for a nose piercing over the summer, please ensure there is enough time to be able to remove the piercing and replace with a plastic stud.

We would also like to remind families that a plain black V-Neck jumper is an optional part of our uniform. With the colder days approaching in the autumn term, we would encourage the purchase of these. Suitable options are available from shops including Tesco and Asda at very reasonable prices (a pack of 2 for less than £12).

Finally, students trousers must be tailored. Students **are not** permitted to wear leggings, black jeans, jeggings or cropped trousers. Tailored shorts are still allowed until October half term.



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Plan for September and important dates

Year	Wednesday 6 th September	Thursday 7 th September
7	Arrive at 8.45am – to the academy hall	Arrive at 11.25am – straight to form rooms
8	Term begins Thursday 7 th September	Arrive at 9.30am – to the hall
9	Term begins Thursday 7 th September	Arrive at 10.30am – to the hall
10	Term begins Thursday 7 th September	Arrive at 8.45am – to the hall
11	Arrive at 9.30am – to the hall	Arrive at 11.25am – straight to tutor
12	Arrive at 10.30am – to hall	Arrive at 11.25am – straight to tutor
13	Term begins Thursday 7 th September	Arrive at 11.25am – to the hall
Y7, 11&12	Begin regular timetabled lessons from period 4 to the end of the academy day	All students begin regular timetabled lessons from period 4 through to the end of the academy day

Autumn term 2023/24

Date	Event
Monday 11 th September	Whole academy photos
Monday 25 th September	Open Evening (6-8.30pm)
Monday 2 nd October	Teaching and Learning afternoon, students leave at 12.30pm
Thursday 12 th October	Y7 Settling in Parents' Evening
Friday 27 th October	End of half term
Thursday 9 th October	Y8 Parents' Evening (4-6.30pm)
Monday 13 th October	Y11 and Y13 mock exams (running for two weeks)
Wednesday 15 th November	Teaching and Learning afternoon, students leave at 12.30pm
Thursday 16 th November	SUA6 Open Evening (5.30 – 7pm)
Friday 1 st December	INSET Day
Thursday 14 th December	Awards' Evening (6-7.15pm)
Friday 22 nd December	Christmas Jumper day; last day of autumn term- students finish at 12pm

We hope that all of the information above offers clarity to you regarding a number of our expectations. This has been shared with students and staff. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us directly at the academy info@suacademy.co.uk or 01543 227400 where we will do all we can to support. May we take this opportunity to wish you and your families a fantastic summer break.

Kind regards

R. Hillier

Rowena Hillier
Principal

Mitch Allsopp

Mitch Allsopp
Vice Principal



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