



## Positive Discipline - Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q. What is Positive discipline?**

Positive Discipline is centred on four very simple concepts:

- that all young people enjoy being effectively **rewarded** for their effort;
- that most young people need **clear guidelines** in terms of what constitutes acceptable behaviour;
- that students, staff and parents want to see **consistency** in terms of rewards and sanctions;
- that effective **communication** between teachers, parents / carers and students is essential for effective schools.

### **Q. Why has Positive Discipline been introduced at Driffield School and Sixth Form?**

Consultation with students, staff and parents indicate that all three groups want to see consistency in how rewards and sanctions are given and want to see a reduction in low level disruption in lessons and want the vast majority of our “silent majority” of students to receive the recognition they deserve.

### **Q. Is Positive Discipline found in other schools?**

Staff from Driffield School and Sixth Form have visited other schools to see Positive Discipline in action. These schools have high OFSTED ratings and point to Positive Discipline as transforming and moving their schools forward.

### **Q. What is the best way for a parent to understand Positive Discipline?**

The student planner is at the heart of Positive Discipline and shows, to the day, how your son / daughter is doing in school. The top of the right hand page shows how many stamps each student has received. Stamps are given for positive engagement in a lesson. Students will also receive three stamps every week if they have 100% attendance in a week and three stamps every time they have no written warnings in a week.

The lower part of the right hand page lists the number of written warnings that have been given to a student. A code is used to explain the reason that a written warning was given. For example L stands for lateness. That is why there are strict rules about students always having their planners in school and not defacing them in any way and why there are severe sanctions for planners not being in school and for being vandalised.

### **Q. How is my son or daughter rewarded?**

Students can exchange stamps for rewards in the Rewards Shop. For example Y11 students can purchase discounts off their prom and students can buy VIP passes to go to the front of lunch queues, school equipment, amazon vouchers, high street vouchers, etc. Students can “pool” their stamps together to buy high value rewards. There are also other ways that

students are rewarded such as celebration assemblies and certificates amongst other things. Please refer to the rewards poster.

### **Q. Can you explain how the written warnings work?**

There are basically two types of written warnings – in the classroom or around the school site.

### **Q. How do written warnings work in the classroom?**

In the classroom any student who is not behaving properly will receive a verbal warning and will subsequently receive two further written warnings if they continue to have a poor attitude to learning on two further occasions. Any student who receives two written warnings in a lesson for poor behaviour (B) or disruption (D) will automatically have a 45 minute detention the next lunchtime. In this way, the student has a chance to correct their behaviour before it moves to a sanction.

A student can also receive a written warning from a teacher in the classroom for lateness, no exercise book and no homework. For example, if a student arrives without an exercise book or crucial equipment e.g. PE Kit, food ingredients, a written warning will be given but will not count as a behaviour warning in the classroom. So a student who is late and has no homework with them could get two written warnings but they will not result as two “behaviour” written warnings which lead to a lunchtime detention. However, as explained below, students are trying to avoid six written warnings in a week which lead to a detention after school. Tutors will also give written warnings in the morning for students to whom they have to lend equipment.

### **Q. How do written warnings work around the school?**

Any member of staff can give written warnings to a student who is not following our basic standards and expectations. These are basically given for:

- B Behaviour
- D Defiance
- L Late
- M Mobile Phone
- OLB Out of lesson behaviour
- U Uniform

### **Q. What happens when a student gets to six or nine written warnings in a week?**

- A student who gets six written warnings in a week has a fifty minute after school detention.
- A student who receives nine written warnings in a week will be placed in School Remove for a day.

Remember, a student could get two detentions in a week, one for two written warnings for behaviour in a lesson and one for accumulating six written warnings in a week. On rare occasions, a student could have three, four or five detentions in a week if they keep getting two written warnings in a lesson for behaviour! As we say to the students “your behaviour, your choice!” Lots of students in school will never ever receive a written warning.

**Q. What can I do as a parent?**

- Look at your child's planner every night – it tells you how they are doing. Congratulate them on the number of stamps they are getting and even put in your own rewards. For example, reward your child if they get thirty stamps in a week or every hundred stamps they receive. Discuss with them why a written warning has been given and what they are going to do to avoid getting any more.
- Sign the planner every week.
- Support the school even if you think a written warning has been given for a petty reason. If we all get the small things right students will learn that rules are rules and we will have a better school with a better learning environment where students are ready to learn and all students can reach their potential.

**Q. What do you hope the school will look like with Positive Discipline?**

- Students taking responsibility for their own behaviour and discipline instead of having to be reminded about the school expectations.
- Lots of happy smiling faces because students are able to get on with their work in lessons, make progress and reach their targets.
- The “silent majority” of students getting the attention they deserve and feeling that they are important in the school.
- Students belonging to a school that is outstanding