

19th January 2024

**Dear Parents & Carers** 

At Warlingham we strive to provide an inclusive, safe, warm, welcoming and friendly school and I would like to thank the large majority of students in Year 7 that are consistently polite, kind, hardworking and setting a good example to others.

However, recent incidents have indicated that not all students consider that these values apply to them and they have made irresponsible and inappropriate decisions, which have impacted on the safety and well-being of other members of our school community.

These incidents have occurred within the year 7 cohort, mainly during social times and the transitions between lessons and have included causing physical harm to another person. Engaging in aggressive acts towards anyone at school is strictly against our school culture and will not be tolerated.

It is disheartening to observe that some students also perceive recording fights as acceptable behaviour. Such actions compromise the safety of others, are inconsistent with our behaviour culture and against our mobile phone policy. Some students have also chosen to share video footage with friends and on social media which is totally unacceptable. Students involved in such activities will face serious sanctions from the school, which could also result in police involvement.

Choosing to be part of our school community signifies a commitment to a shared set of values and we trust that you will reinforce these principles at home. It is crucial for parents and carers to be aware of the severity of such actions, engaging in or promoting violent behaviour is not only detrimental to the individuals involved but undermines our behaviour culture, which we expect your child to adhere to.

In addition to addressing this at home, we have held an additional Year 7 assembly today to reinforce our expectations.

We believe that by working together, we can rectify this situation and instil a sense of responsibility and respect amongst our students and we value your partnership in fostering a healthy and supportive educational environment.

Kind regards

Mr S Strachan

Assistant Headteacher

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