



Statement of behaviour principles

At Malden Oaks we aim to create a positive atmosphere where all students feel safe, supported and able to learn.

We achieve this through the following key principles:

- We want students to leave us at the end of year 11 able to make the right choices and to take responsibility for their actions. This means that they need to take charge of their own behaviour, not rely on externally imposed controls.
- We do not hold detentions. Many of our students have been through an endless cycle of detention after detention in the past, with no discernible impact on their behaviour.
- Similarly we do not operate a complicated reward system, which again can be a means of manipulating behaviour through external control. We do however present half-termly awards, to celebrate and recognise achievement, attendance and progress.
- We recognise and understand that everyone makes mistakes but we ensure that every day is a fresh start, with high expectations of what can be achieved on that day. We do not carry difficulties forward.
- We aim to establish and maintain positive relationships between all members of our community, so that there is an adult, purposeful atmosphere.
- Incidents will be resolved internally wherever possible. It may be that the support of parents and/or other professionals is enlisted to resolve more complex matters.
- We do not have a school uniform. This is partly because many of our students are with us for a very short time, and partly because we are preparing students for the next step of their

Malden Oaks



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education and/or training, when they will need to select their own appropriate clothing. The same applies to Jewellery, make up and hairstyles.

- At the Dukes Centre site students may have their phones during the day, as long as they do not use them during lesson times. At our satellite sites, students must hand their phones in on arrival at school. This is because younger students are more easily distracted by these devices, whereas we want to encourage our older students to behave in a way that is appropriate for a college or workplace.
- Our school belongs to our students and to this end we will use the formal school council, as well as other opportunities, to encourage students to be active participants in creating a safe, calm learning environment.