



The Featherstone Academy

18 May 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

I wanted to inform and remind you all of the procedure regarding our female students whilst they are on their periods.

Our Positive Discipline policy states that students are not allowed to go to the toilet during lessons unless they have a medical note from the doctor. This is to ensure we maintain high levels of safeguarding within the academy and to make sure students are in lessons learning rather than walking the corridors. Students can use the toilet facilities at the start and end of the academy day, at break and at lunch time.

However, I want all students to feel comfortable and confident whilst they are here in the academy and so I want to address the issue of female students when on their periods. I am aware this can be a delicate and sensitivity situation for all concerned and I want to make our policy very clear to support our students.

If a child is on their period that week, we ask parents/carers to write a short note in the Notes section of the student planner and to date it. Therefore, if a situation occurs in class where a student needs to use the toilet, they can show the note to the teacher who will allow the student to leave the lesson. The teacher will then inform our on-call system who will be alerted to the student leaving the class and will check the student is ok and escort them back to class when ready.

By dating the note, we are able to track when students will require assistance and prevent students abusing the system.

At reception we stock a small amount of sanitary products which students can access in an emergency.

All female students in Years 7 to 10 have received an assembly this week to inform them of our policy and the support we have put in place to ensure they feel confident and comfortable within the academy. I have spoken with all teaching and support staff and reiterated our policy so they know how to deal with a situation sensitively should it arise.

As always I look forward to your support and cooperation with this policy.

Kind regards

W Bush
Head of School