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NNO/JBI  
16th November 2023

Dear Blaise Families,

We are writing to thank you again for your ongoing support. Week on week the students continue to receive more and more green points. This is because week on week the students are working harder and harder, and continuing to demonstrate our values. Students at Blaise are kind, hard working and polite. They engage with one another politely and respectfully and work their hardest in every lesson. This is why the school has recently achieved the best results it has ever achieved, and this is why the school continues to improve every day. I am writing to you in the first of this year's 'What We Do' letters in which we will outline key aspects of the school in order for the whole community to understand them

### **Lesson Routines**

At Blaise High School, our lesson routines are entirely consistent from one lesson to the next. Every lesson starts with a low stakes quiz, based on the knowledge organisers. The knowledge that is tested is the required knowledge for children to access that exam. Testing the students on it means teachers know whether or not children understand it and that they will be able to access the lesson. This is one of the reasons why homework is so important.

Each lesson then follows the same structure, ten minutes of the 'I Do' phase in which teachers teach, ask questions and check understanding. When teachers ask questions they use mini whiteboards so they can see what everyone knows and a technique called 'cold call' which means children don't raise their hands, and teachers can accurately tell if every child understands. This is followed by 10 - 15 minutes of the 'We Do' phase in which teachers model what success looks like, often using the visualiser. This means that not only do students know what has been taught, but they are given the opportunity to work with the teacher to have a clear understanding of what success looks like. This is then followed by 15 - 20 minutes of independent practice, called the 'You Do' During this phase students work, allowing them the opportunity to elaborate, consider and overlearn on the content that has been taught. Teachers circulate and provide feedback for students, stopping if there are common misunderstandings and using the visualiser to correct them for everyone. This always comes with scaffolds supporting the children in accessing the deliberate practice. Throughout lessons teachers will use 'Turn and Talk' in order to give children the opportunity to discuss ideas quickly with their partners.



If children require the bathroom in lessons, without a medical pass, they can ask their teacher who will alert 'on call' to collect and walk the student to the bathroom. We walk students there to ensure that students are safe in the bathroom, there is a reduced risk of truancy, and a reduced risk of poor or often dangerous behaviour in there. Unfortunately, dangerous behaviour in school bathrooms is a common occurrence in schools across the country, but not at our school.

Throughout lessons children receive green points for good answers or hard work, and a golden ticket goes to the best child at the end of each lesson. We firmly believe that it is essential that children are consistently rewarded for doing the right thing. The improvements that we have seen in results in the school is testament to this approach working, and we are really really proud of our children.

Please follow the link on the website to book a tour, we welcome tours for anyone, and we can always make the times work.

Please find a link to a video summary of this letter [here](#).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Nabarro', written over a horizontal line.

**Mr N Nabarro**  
Headteacher