



DARWEN VALE HIGH SCHOOL

An Aldridge Community Academy



24 February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been made aware of social media messages circulating amongst our students advising of a potential protest taking place on Monday in school.

We are aware that this is the latest social media craze affecting schools nationally, with students choosing not to attend their lessons, arrive to school with the incorrect uniform and appearance in protest of school policy.

The social media messages that we have been made aware of suggest that some of our students are unhappy with our uniform, appearance, and mobile phone policy. Any student found to be arriving to school to purposely cause disruption to the learning of others, or in the incorrect uniform will have their parents contacted and will be sent home.

We would like to remind all parents, carers, and students that if they have any feedback on or have a complaint about any aspect of school policy, they can report this through the following channels:

- Students can join the school council who meet fortnightly to discuss school issues and suggest improvements.
- Students can approach any member of the pastoral team including their Form Tutor, Assistant Head of Year, Head of Year or Designated Safeguarding Lead Mr Bradley.
- Students complete a student voice questionnaire every term.
- Parents can contact their child's Form Tutor in the first instance and escalate any concern up to the Head of Year, or Senior Leadership Team link for their child's year group. Please see our most up-to-date Parental A-Z on our website under C for Communication for the relevant email addresses.
- Parents can attend our half termly parental forum with Miss Bridges, Assistant Principal and Mr Little, Principal to discuss any arising issues and put forward suggestions for whole-school improvement.

Darwen Vale High School has been on a significant journey of improvement in the last 5 years, and this can be attested to our culture of high expectations of behaviour and academic excellence. Further evidence of this can be found in our most recent monitoring visit from Ofsted in September 2022, as well as Darwen Vale achieving its best GCSE outcomes in the history of the school in the Summer of 2022. Additionally, we are oversubscribed for next academic year with over 250 first choice applications from prospective Year 6 parents.

Please find below the relevant links referenced in this letter:

<https://www.darwenvale.com/ofsted>

[Parent A-Z](#)

[Uniform and equipment policy](#)

Yours sincerely

Mr M Little

Principal