

Dear Parents/Guardians

Litter/Behaviour in the Quarry

I hope that your son/daughter has made a good start to the new term and that they are enjoying their subjects and college life in general.

I am delighted that so many students have chosen to come to the college this year and early signs are that we will be having another successful year. There is however one area of concern that I would like to raise with you and ask for your support.

Since the beginning of term (quite understandably) large numbers of students have been buying their take away lunch in town and consuming it in the Quarry Park. Despite polite notices, and a series of visits to the Quarry by a number of staff, frequently vast swathes of litter and food waste were left by a small number of our students. Students have been told clearly what our expectations are – and some students are clearly choosing to ignore them. A minority of students show a lack of respect to the park wardens and members of the public.

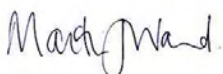
Given the decision to stay in the town centre – and the strong argument that was made by students for wanting to stay in the town – it is very disappointing and frustrating to witness such behaviour. I have no doubt that if this behaviour continues the reputation of the college in the town will suffer, and there will be calls to reduce student access to the Quarry at lunchtime. This is something that we should all wish to avoid – including the students.

I am therefore setting up a rota of the leadership teams (Senior Leadership Team, Student Support Leaders and Curriculum Leaders) to monitor the situation in the Quarry, and I am encouraging the park wardens to fine students who drop litter. I will also take disciplinary action against students who show disrespect to staff, or members of the public. It will be raised with the College Council at their first meeting – and I will be looking for ideas on how this difficult issue can be tackled.

I hope that I can count on your support and that you will talk to your son/daughter about the damage such behaviour is doing to the image of the college and young people more generally.

I prefer to celebrate the many positive things about the college – as evidenced on the website and in the newsletter, but it is important to tackle the difficult issues as well.

Best wishes



MARTIN WARD
Principal