



STREATHAM & CLAPHAM HIGH SCHOOL

SENIOR SCHOOL

DETENTION POLICY

Person(s) responsible for this policy		Deputy Head Mistress	
Last review by	G Cross	Review date	September 2019
Date of next review		September 2020	

Rationale

At Streatham & Clapham High School we expect every pupil to meet the required high standards of the school. Pupils and teachers have the right to work in an orderly atmosphere where learning and teaching can progress uninterrupted. Parents are expected to support the school in achieving these high standards. Pupils will face consequences should they fail to meet the school's standards and expectations. A detention is one of the sanctions that may be used e.g. for both class and homework not being completed or adequately attempted; lateness without good reason; breaching the school's behaviour policy or persistent lack of co-operation etc. The 1997 Education Act gives schools the legal right to detain pupils after the end of a school session on disciplinary grounds.

Aims and Objectives

- That all sanctions, including detentions, are applied fairly and consistently taking into account a pupil's age, gender, ethnicity, culture, beliefs, socio-economic background as well as their physical, emotional and psychological state.
Consideration will be given to pupils with protected characteristics and where such a pupil or one with a disability, is facing detention, the school will consider whether or not reasonable adjustments should be made to take account of the possible effect of these factors, alongside the impact of the pupil's behaviour on the school community. In some circumstances, it may still be appropriate to exclude the pupil.
- That sanctions should also conform with school and departmental policy and for departments to use this policy to modify or draw up their own procedures for setting and managing detentions.
- That wherever possible detentions are targeted at specific pupils i.e. whole class detentions must be avoided.
- The time a pupil spends in a detention should be used constructively and to best effect e.g. appropriate work should be provided for pupils to undertake during the detention.
- In common with all other sanctions detentions should be:
 - Graduated and proportionate to the offence.
 - Intended to modify the behaviour of the relevant pupil.
 - Applied professionally and objectively.
- One of a number of punishments in a hierarchy e.g. admonition, extra work, lunchtime detention, after school detention
- Only in a case of serious indiscipline, or often repeated incidents punished in the hierarchy, should an after school detention be given

- Used sparingly, for serious misdemeanours only, it can be an effective deterrent. Over use devalues it
- Consideration of age of pupil and time of year (early dusk) should be given
- Punishment should follow misdemeanours as quickly as possible. Follow up to failure to attend should be equally swift
- Policy should be clear to pupils, parents and teachers

DETENTIONS

Departmental detentions for academic work-related offences

- Set at lunch time with the HOD or relevant member of staff to ensure proper follow up to misdemeanour
- Make sure the pupil has time to eat lunch, visit lavatory etc. before afternoon registration
- Detentions for missing PE kit come into this category
- Detentions need to be recorded (SIMS)
- Be responsible for ensuring the student has appropriate tasks to complete during her detention.

House Mistress/House Master detentions for behavioural misdemeanours

- To be done at lunchtime, break, before or after school or at HM convenience
- For incidents such as lateness, faulty uniform, mobile phone misdemeanour, chewing gum etc.
- Detentions to be recorded (SIMS)

After school detentions

- Supervised by SLT (GC/RH) or other designated staff
- For serious behavioural misdemeanours or for consistently missing departmental/House Mistress/House Master detentions
- Once set they should not be rescinded
- **After school detentions require that notice be sent home to parents giving at least 24-hours' notice, and that parental permission has been granted.**

Responsibilities of Form Tutor/HOD/House Mistress/House Master

- Keep a record in the pupil file (SIMS)
- Liaise with SLT or designated supervising staff as necessary

SLT or other supervising staff

- Do not detain a student without a reply from parent, or without confirmation on the spot via personal telephone call
- If the student does not arrive check the register for absence and ask staff who set the detention to follow up and set new date
- If parents object to the detention HOD/House Mistress/House Master to liaise about contacting student's parents and/or refer to SLT in difficult cases
- Conversation with parents should result in a mutual agreement as to the punishment or a suitable alternative.

Work set during a detention:

- Should be worthwhile
- Could be useful e.g. de-littering field, de-gumming an area, doing a notice board

- Could be remedial e.g. copying up missed work, doing missing homework. Completing reinforcement exercises.