

27 February 2023

Dear Parents and carers,

Today, some of our students took part in a protest at breaktime. Whilst we support the rights of students to voice their opinions, these protests presented a significant risk to the safety of students and staff as students crowded in areas around the school, failed to listen to instructions whilst chanting, crowding, climbing fences and videoing each other and staff. As a result of this behaviour, some of our students have suffered panic attacks, property has been damaged, and members of staff have been injured. Our year 11 students were also sitting a Mock GCSE exam and this was interrupted when a student maliciously set the fire alarm off. These behaviours caused all students to miss two hours of learning.

It goes without saying that students come to school to feel safe and staff do not come to school to be assaulted, videoed or harassed. As a result, we have responded to this behaviour by issuing levels of sanction depending on how involved students were with the disruption.

We thank the majority of our students who conducted themselves really well and we praise their conduct in following the school rules. They followed our values and remained respectful of their community, they took responsibility for their own actions, worked hard and acted with kindness.

At WSS, we very much value our students' voice. Last week, students were provided an opportunity to share their views as we take part in the DfE Behaviour Hubs. I meet with a student panel each half term and we encourage students to share their concerns using the appropriate channels such as tutor groups and through the student leadership team.

We will be holding assemblies for all year groups throughout the week to reiterate our expectations and thank those that continue to uphold them.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Louisa Paston
Headteacher