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Eich cyf • Your ref: Gofynner am • Please ask for: Gareth Morgans

Fy nghyf • My ref: Llinell Uniongyrchol • Direct Line: 01267 246522

Dyddiad • Date: 05-02-24 E-Bost Uniongyrchol • Direct E-Mail: question ECS@sirgar.gov.uk

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We write to ask for your support and cooperation to an address a significant issue which has become more prominent in recent months.

As an Education Service in Carmarthenshire, which includes our schools, we believe that a positive, professional, and constructive relationship with parents and carers is essential in ensuring our children and young people have the best start in life.

We believe that the success of our schools and our learner's education is dependent on a strong partnership between all members of the school community: pupils, parents, carers, staff, and governors. This partnership must be based on a positive and respectful relationship.

We appreciate the support you have given us recently in improving behaviour and attendance in our schools. By working together, we have seen improvements and improved engagement in learning.

However, we are currently experiencing unacceptable behaviours from a very small minority of parents/carers. Our education staff work in our schools and services to provide the best possible education for our talented learners, and we expect schools to be orderly, safe places for pupils, staff, visitors, and others. Unfortunately, some of our school leaders, teachers, support staff and officers have experienced verbal abuse, violence, and threatening behaviour from a very small minority of parents/carers. This is not acceptable, and all our staff should be treated with respect.

I appreciate that on occasion parents/carers might have concerns about their child's education and there are clear processes, based on national guidelines, to deal with such issues. Every school has a Complaints Policy which explains these processes and how parents/carers can discuss their concerns. This should always be done in a constructive and respectful manner as all concerned will have the learner's best interests in mind.

All members of the school community have a right to expect that their school is a safe place in which to work and learn. In this context, violence, threatening behaviour, and harassment in any context against school staff or other members of the school community will not be tolerated.

Where such behaviour does occur, we will respond decisively and take action to deal with it. This may include liaising with the Police or other agencies to determine the appropriate response to an incident.

Yours sincerely,

Glynog Davies

Cllr. Glynog Davies
Cabinet Member for Education and Welsh Language

Gareth Morgans

Gareth Morgans
Director of Education and Children's Services

Gareth Morgans, BAdd/BEd; MGw/MSc

Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Plant, Neuadd y Sir, Gaerfyrddin, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA31 1JP Director of Education & Children's Services, County Hall, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire SA31 1JP

