



Garswood Primary School

Hamilton Road, Garswood,

St. Helens WN4 0SF

12th July 2016

Dear Parent,

The vast majority of children at Garswood School behave exceptionally well.

For many years we have used a system of Golden time as a reward system. This has been used for consequences and rewards.

However, the incentive of Golden Time has no longer got the impact that it once had and nor is this actually needed. With the introduction of other incentives including house points, the children, in the main, are not behaving well to keep Golden Time – they are behaving well because that is what is expected of them. Similarly if a child who behaves brilliantly makes one mistake – the current system can be a heavy burden. As we know – everyone (especially when you're aged 4 – 11) can make a mistake but it is important to learn from our mistakes and move on.

In addition, we want to convey to the children some important concepts. For instance, it is our aim for children develop an appreciation for all aspects of the curriculum and engage with the wonderful events and trips that we offer as part of their education – and not to see the Golden Time of 'free choice' as a reward – raising the profile of the reward that is education. Our children do behave well and this additional step is a natural progression as they learn the way to behave impacts on others and on their own lives.

Therefore **from September** we will no longer be operating a system of Golden Time. We will instead have a more flexible reward/sanction system personalised to each child based on who they are and what will benefit them in becoming a well-rounded, responsible citizen.

Of course there will still need to be consequences for those rare instances of poor behaviour and these will be decided upon as appropriate, proportionate to the child's behaviour and age.

I have included a copy of the revised School's Behaviour Policy for your attention. I would appreciate you taking the time to talk to your child about their behaviour, and this new approach from September. We will also be helping them to see how we should all aim to make the world a better place by being a good person.

This change does come within the context of some changes to our curriculum. A focus for our school next year is developing our children's depth of understanding about equality and empathy; compassion and respect. These concepts will permeate all of our curriculum subjects and I'm sure will strengthen our already happy and friendly school.

Yours sincerely,

Pamela Potter

Pamela Potter
Headteacher

Roots of happiness, branches to learning

Head teacher: Pamela Potter BA (Hons) QTS NPQH

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