

CONCORD COLLEGE

PROMOTING GOOD BEHAVIOUR AND REWARDS

Induction talks for new students focus on senior staff expectations regarding the high standards of academic rigour and also behaviour which is expected of all members of the College community. Induction talks, as well as weekly assemblies in both the Lower School and Sixth Form, draw the attention of students to the qualities of decency, trust and community which lie at the heart of Concord. A great deal is also made of students "being the best that they can be". Although much is made of academic achievements and the numbers of students who go on to Top 10 UK universities and medical schools, there is also an emphasis on the friendliness and happiness of our community and the fact that all students and all staff (including support staff - such as domestics and gardeners) have a part to play in making Concord such a dynamic and pleasant place in which to live and work. At a prosaic level, it is normal for Concord students and staff to greet each other in passing, say "hello", smile, speak in English, open doors for others.

Older students, Prefects and Lower School Monitors are all expected to lead by example and prefects and monitors are involved in the induction of new students so that ice-breaking can take place and so the ethos of the student body is passed on from one cohort to the next. Prefects and Lower School Monitors are not appointed solely because of their academic strength, but also due to their personalities, behaviour and leadership qualities. Although there is academic mentoring available from older students at Concord, a great deal of informal mentoring also takes place in terms of maintaining the friendly and cheerfulness of the student body. Concord College is proud of its efforts to live up to its aim of achieving "harmony" between people from all around the world.

There is a rewards system in place at Concord College. All students are focused on achieving both inside and outside of the classroom as a means of realising their ambitions to attend top universities and to produce rounded UCAS statements which show they are far more than just being fine scholars. Students might be awarded commendations for outstanding work, or other contributions to College life, at the discretion of the Principal and these will be recorded using the Behaviour Management feature within the SIMS database. Many aspire to being monitors and prefects, or to gain other positions of responsibility such as training to become Lifeguards.

There are various awards ceremonies at different times of the year. Academic achievements and subject prizes tend to be awarded in final assemblies at the end of the year, or during the 6.2 Leavers' Ball. Sports prizes are awarded following the swimming gala, road race, Sports Day and the Track & Field Competition. Poetry prizes and debating competitions also culminate in the award of prizes.

Full colours and half house colours for both Lower School and Sixth Form students have been introduced in recent years by Heads of Houses to recognise the efforts and achievements of Concord students in inter house events and competitions. School colours are awarded at the discretion of the Principal to recognise and laud students' efforts, contributions and achievements at a whole College level (e.g. for excellence in music).

Student achievements are recognised in student reports sent home to parents and praise is lavished on groups and individuals in assemblies and via TEAMS as and when appropriate. E-mails are sent around to all members of the community to inform them of the results of sporting fixtures against other schools as well as the keenly contested inter-house competitions. Staff leading assemblies also recognise the achievements in competitions and challenges in non-sporting areas such as:

Debating; Duke of Edinburgh Award; Mathematics Olympiads; Music examinations. The high quality of music recitals and concerts is also given public recognition. Certificates and other prizes awarded to students are frequently handed out during weekly assemblies

Upstairs in Main Hall, lists of top students from previous academic years are displayed to all members of the community. Students are keen to study the achievements of students in previous years at GCSE, AS and A levels. They aspire to match, or even to exceed, the results of their predecessors. In addition, downstairs, the boards of Head Boys and Head Girls inspires many prospective and existing students to excel both inside and outside of the classroom at Concord.

The College website also contains a news section which publicises events and achievements to the wider world and is often read by parents. Sixth Form and Lower School Blogs keep the community updated and stories and photographs of students are often published in the press as well.

J B Kerslake
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