

**THE LEARNER'S CODE
PARENTS GUIDE
2016/17**



**BRIMINGTON
JUNIOR SCHOOL**

**Helping your child
achieve their best!**

This is our Learner's Code for the 2016/17 school year. We continue to refresh the Learners Code following feedback from parents, staff, governors and most importantly the children. The Learner's Code will start from September 2016. All children will start at the beginning of the band system.

We have written this booklet so that everyone is clear about how the system works. This booklet is also available on our website.

Why do we have a learner's code?

- To help children develop the skills and learning behaviours they will need to be successful at school and in later life
- To help the children know the next steps they need to take to develop their learning behavior
- To remove low level disruption from the classroom

What is low level disruption?

- Repeated pencil sharpening
- Asking irrelevant questions
- Staring out of the window
- Not having correct equipment
- Being late for sessions

How does the Learner's Code work?

- 4 stages - Learning to Learn (blue band), Learning Champion (yellow band), Going Further Learner (orange band) and Learning Ambassador (rainbow band)
- At each stage the requirements get harder but the privileges get better
- All children will progress at different rates
- **The stages are not about how clever you are** - they are about how hard you are trying and whether you show good behavior.
- The stages are different for children in year 3 and 4 than for year 5 and 6

What does the band colours mean?

- We define 'no band' level behaviour as non-compliant and unsettled in school. They demonstrate persistent low-level disruption.
- We define 'blue' level behaviour as compliant and following school expectations.

- We define 'yellow' level behaviour as showing consistent levels of behavior and follows school expectations. **This is where the majority of children should be aiming for.**
- We define 'orange' level behaviour as being independent and trustworthy.
- We define 'rainbow' level behaviour as being consistently mature and trustworthy.

What is persistent low-level disruption?

- This refers to a pupil who may disturb learning 3 or more time per week. These are children who will be targeted for intervention and improvement.

What is consistent levels of behaviour?

- We define consistent levels of behaviour as those children who demonstrates an average of 1 or less low-level disruptive behaviours per week.

How do I know if I'm meeting the requirements and what I need to do next?

- Each term children meet with their teacher to discuss their targets. Part of this discussion will include looking at the Learner's Code and identifying which parts your child might be struggling with.
- Also children will be asked to complete a self assessment each term so that they can evaluate their own progress through the system.

How do I get to the next band level?

- First look at all the statements.
- Decide which ones you need to work on.
- Talk to your teacher about what you need to do
- Children should aim to be working at a Learning Champion level for the majority of the year. This is the expected level that all children reach and maintain.
- To get to the next band level you must be consistently demonstrating the requirements of that level. Teachers will consult with other adults who work with your child (midday supervisors, kitchen staff, other teachers, TA's, etc)

- When your teacher feels you are ready to move to the Learning Ambassador level then they will discuss it with the senior leader's team who will make the final decision.

Why might I lose my band?

- If you do something wrong you will get a warning. You can get Yellow Card for all sorts of things:
 1. Anything that disrupts learning in the classroom
 2. Not being ready or having the correct equipment for lessons
 3. Being rude or unkind
 4. Not completing homework or reading
- When you get a Yellow Card the adult will write on a post-it note what the warning was for.
- If you get a second card on the same day Miss Hatton will talk to you about the reasons why and if it is felt that a consequence is appropriate for their behavior then you will be moved to the next learning level (lose your band)
- If you do something seriously wrong then you may lose your band straight away without any Yellow Cards

What happens if I lose my band?

- If you lose your band you bring the two post-it notes to Miss Hatton to show her what you are losing the band for.
- Miss Hatton will record on the class sheet that you have lost your band and keeps your band and the post-it notes.
- Miss Hatton will clarify what has happened with the teacher and will then phone home if the incident relates to behavior.
- If you lose your band you have reflection for one day (playtime and lunchtime).
- In reflection Miss Hatton will spend some time with you talking about what went wrong and how you can put it right.
- You get your band back when your teacher sees that you are meeting the requirements of that band level again.
- Miss Hatton will check up on you for the next couple of weeks to make sure you are staying on track.

What happens if I keep losing my band?

- We keep records of who has lost their band, when they lost it and what they lost it for. If you lose your band 3 times Miss Hatton will send a letter home and ask to meet with parents.
- If there is a persistent problem then Mr Newberry will meet with parents and class teacher.

What are the Learner's Code Privileges?

- The Learner's Code privileges are all the extra things you can earn for working hard and trying your best. They are an incentive to keep Going Further and being the best you can possibly be. There are more and better privileges as you progress through the band system.

What should I do if I'm worried about anything?

- Talk to us! If anything worries you have a chat with your teacher or an adult you feel comfortable with. Most things can be very easily solved.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Do I bring my band home?

No. Bands are kept in school to prevent them being lost or forgotten.

What happens if I forget my homework or don't read enough times?

We all make mistakes sometimes and we all have the occasional busy weekend when we can't get everything done. The teachers know this and will make some allowances and if you have a reasonable excuse you can play your 'wild card'. However if you keep forgetting things or not doing your homework then you will lose your band. If you are really struggling with homework or reading then you could come to the homework club or we might assign you a reading buddy to help you out.

What is a Wild Card?

A wild card is like a 'chance' card. If you make a mistake like forgetting your homework, not reading enough etc then you can use the wild card to avoid losing your band. However even if you use your wild card you still have to do the work

you've missed. Your teacher will record that you've used your wild card and what it was for. In Year 3 and 4 you can use your Wild Card once every term but in Year 5 and 6, you only have 1 wildcard per year.

Do I go back to the beginning at the start of each new school year?

Yes everyone will start the new year at the same point.

If I lose my band, do I go back to the previous colour?

If you lose your band we will support you to regain it. Miss Hatton will check in with you regularly and she will talk to your teacher. You must show that you are meeting all the requirements of the relevant band level to stay on the same colour. If you are not meeting those requirements then you will go back to the previous colour.

Can I go down a colour band as well as up?

Yes. Lots of children work really hard to get their next band. Once they've got the band they stop working so hard and their effort slips. If your teacher notices that your effort has dropped or that your attitude has changed then they will talk to you. If the problem persists then you may be moved back to the previous colour band.

What happens in Reflection?

If you are in reflection it means that you lose your playtimes for a day. This is to give you time to think about what has gone wrong and work out how you are going to make it better. Miss Hatton will help you with this and together you will agree a plan of what you need to do. For the rest of the time in detention you can catch up on any work you need to do.

How long does it take to earn your next band?

This is different for everyone. Each child is unique and will progress through the system at different rates. Your teacher will make the decision about when they think you have achieved your next band but remember; the higher bands require more effort and over a sustained period of time. The senior management team and class teacher will be involved in the decision to move children to a Learning Ambassador. They will also monitor whether these high standards are being met.