



Community College

Dear Parent / Carer,

At Stoke Damerel we are always proud of the achievements that our students make both in and out of the classroom and have always ensured that we have a rewards scheme to celebrate their efforts.

After working with our college student council and listening to the positive parental feedback from our postcards sent home over the lockdown we have taken the time to carefully redesign how we recognise positive behaviours and attitudes from our students.

We are extremely excited to be launching our new MERITS system from today, Tuesday 3rd November 2020. All students will have had an assembly today to explain the new merits scheme and may even have collected their first merit.

### **How does it work?**

Students can collect merits from 4 different categories over the course of the academic year and build up their total.

We have designed the merits rewards scheme to ensure that:

- Students are proud of their achievements
- Consistent efforts are recognised
- Parents and carers can easily find out information about when merits are awarded
- Every student has the opportunity to be rewarded

### **What are the 4 categories of Merit?**

**Preparation:** A merit will be generated for every student that meets our expectations for the line up routines at the start of the day by completing a whole week of being punctual, wearing the correct uniform and having all of their equipment.

**Classwork:** A merit can be awarded by any teacher from any subject for exceeding expectations in their lesson. This could be for an excellent piece of writing, for impressive contributions to class discussion or for succeeding with extension or challenge material, as just a few examples.

**Homework:** A merit will be awarded for outstanding achievement in any single week on one of our online homework platforms, Hegarty (Maths), Tassomai (Science) or Bedrock (English). A merit will also be awarded for any student that gets 'green' for each element of their homework in a single week showing that they met all of their expectations for self quizzing, online homework and exam questions (year 10+).

Executive Principal Miss A Frier BSc (Hons), M.Ed

Inspiring Schools Partnership is a Company Limited by Guarantee (England and Wales), Company No 7557634 and An Exempt Charity

Registered Address: Stoke Damerel Community College • Somerset Place • Plymouth • PL3 4BD

Tel: 01752 556065 • info@sdcc.net • www.sdcc.net



**Community:** A merit can be awarded by any member of the college staff body for a student making a positive contribution to the Stoke Damerel community outside of lessons. This could be for representing the college at an event, showing kindness, volunteering time to support the college or for outstanding achievements with extra-curricular activities.

**How will I know when my student gets merits?**

Special postcards will be sent home after merit benchmarks have been reached alerting you to 10 merits being reached as the first special recognition.

We have some extra special rewards planned for when students hit some of the higher scoring benchmarks which we have worked with the student council to design. Watch this space!

**It starts today!**

We are looking forward to students working even harder to collect their merits this half term and beyond and we do hope that you will enjoy being a bigger part of the celebrations with the updates you will be getting with the postcards.

We look forward to sending a merits postcard through your letterbox very soon!

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "ATSFrier". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Anita Frier  
Principal