



# Soar Valley College

A SPECIALIST MATHS AND COMPUTING COLLEGE

**ASPIRE ENJOY ACHIEVE**

## POLICY NAME HERE

APPROVED BY: J Robinson

DATE: August 2020

LAST REVIEWED ON: August 2020

NEXT REVIEW DUE BY:

## REVISION HISTORY

DATE OF REVIEW:	CHANGES MADE:

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**REWARDS:**

At Soar Valley we recognise student **achievement** and **effort** through a variety of different methods.

**Our formal rewards processes:**

Achievement Points	Soar Valley Stars	Postcards	Certificates
Student of the Month	Celebration Evenings	Rewards Trips	Attendance

**Achievement Points**

Achievement Points can be given for the following reasons. Descriptions of each of these categories can be found below. These categories have been weighted and therefore allocated a range of achievement points.

Reward	Value	Achievement Points
Positive contribution to the lesson	Participation	1
Representing the school	Participation	7
Positive contribution beyond the classroom	Participation	5
Producing a <u>great</u> piece of work	Effort	5
Producing a <u>great</u> piece of homework	Effort	5
Being a <u>resilient</u> learner	Effort	3
Demonstrating leadership in learning	Respect	2
Demonstrating acts of kindness	Respect	2
Demonstrating <u>manners</u> towards others	Respect	2

**Positive contribution to the lesson: (Participation)*****Courage, Confidence, Proactive, Reliable, Initiative, Responsible, Enthusiastic***

Students should receive APs under this heading if they have done anything that helps the learning process for themselves and/or others. Some examples can be seen below;

- Answering a 'difficult' question
- Asking a high quality question
- Contributing well to group work

**Representing the school: (Participation)**

Students should receive APs under this heading if they have assisted the school in any particular event or process. Examples may include;

- Being part of an interview panel
- Being a tour guide
- Assisting at a school evening event, for example, a parent's evening, options evening, open evening etc.

*Please note students should not receive APs for simply being picked for a school team or group.*

### **Positive contribution beyond the classroom (Participation):**

This should include extra-curricular activities if they have contributed in any fashion to the set up or organisation of an extra-curricular activity.

Some examples include;

- Students have helped to set to **set up** for an after school, e.g. open evenings, parent's evenings etc.
- Students have completed additional work for other areas such as careers, volunteering for aspects of their participation passport etc.
- Students have been **proactive** and completed extra work using online resources such as GCSEpod, SAM learning, MyMaths etc.

*Please note students should **not** receive APs for simply attending extra-curricular activities*

### **Producing a great piece of work (effort):**

#### ***Organised, Diligent, Resilient, Dedicated, Committed, Reflective, Ambitious***

Students should receive APs under this heading if they have produced a piece of work that is beyond what is expected of them (for their ability). For example;

- Handing in a piece of work that demonstrates they have made great progress (a big leap forward in their understanding / presentation / writing etc).
- Handing in a piece of work that demonstrates they have gone the extra mile, such as doing independent research / background reading etc

Please note the word 'great' has been used to signify that it is better than expected. Please ensure if the work is of 'WOW' level for that student and their ability, they should be nominated for a Soar Valley Star.

### **Producing a great piece of homework: (effort)**

Please see above, the same criteria is in place for great classwork.

**Being a great resilient learner (effort):**

Students should receive APs under this heading if they have demonstrated a great effort in responding to feedback/marking, for example, further independent work/reading before a response is made. *APs should not be given for simply responding to feedback/marking as instructed by the teacher.*

Students may also receive APs under this heading if they have taken initiative to improve their own work without the need for teacher feedback/marking, for example, rewriting/improving notes at home.

**Demonstrating leadership in learning (respect):*****Kind, Polite, Empathic, Caring, Considerate, Thoughtful, Trustworthy***

Students should receive APs under this heading if they have shown leadership qualities that have resulted in assisting their own and/or others learning. The qualifiers for this heading are similar to that of 'positive contribution to learning' but we would like to specifically promote 'leadership' with our students.

Examples include;

- Volunteering to take the lead and doing a great job (for example, leading a group, making a presentation on behalf of others etc.)
- Recognising others in need of support and offering that support independently of the teacher, for example, when finished they aid other students in their work.

**Demonstrating acts of kindness: (respect)*****Kind, Polite, Empathic, Caring, Considerate, Thoughtful, Trustworthy***

Students should receive APs in this category if you feel they have demonstrated an act of kindness to either their peers, staff or the wider Soar Valley community.

Examples of acts of kindness could include but not exclusively:

- Helping others tidy up even though it is not their mess
- Volunteering to stay behind to help tidy a classroom over a lunch time or break
- Taking a student in distress to a member of staff during social time
- Returning someone's property such as a coat, phone or money to reception

**Demonstrating good manners: (respect)**

Students should receive APs in this category if you feel they have demonstrated good manners to either their peers, staff or the wider Soar Valley community.

Examples of good manners could include but not exclusively:

- Using please and thank you routinely in conversation when in conversation
- Lining up in an orderly fashion and avoiding pushing in
- Avoiding shouting/raising your voice when in discussions or debates
- Knocking on a door and waiting to be invited in
- Holding doors open for others
- Not running or barging past others in corridors

#### *Progress Checks:*

Effort is very important in all that we do at Soar Valley and as such students can receive Achievement Points for demonstrating high levels of sustained effort. Students who gain 'effort 5' for all of their subjects in a progress check will be nominated for a Soar Valley Star by their Head of Year (but will not receive the APs that come with a normal nomination). Students who receive 10 or more 'effort 5s' will be presented with a certificate in recognition of this.

#### ***Certificates:***

Students will receive certificates for obtaining a certain number of Achievement Points. Reports will be run every two weeks and students who reach a threshold will be publically acknowledged (assembly/plasmas etc). They will receive their certificate when they meet the threshold via their tutor during tutor time. The thresholds can be seen below.

Achievement Points	Certificate
100	Bronze
300	Silver
500	Gold
800	Platinum
1000	Platinum Plus

#### *Rewards notice board:*

Each year group have a designated notice board to celebrate students and the number of Achievement Points they have earned. The year group notice board celebrates student running totals (leader board), students who were awarded the most that particular month and any individual or groups of students who have earned special recognition that month.

#### **Soar Valley Stars:**

Where students have done something exceptional they can be nominated for a Soar Valley Star. A student may be nominated by a member of staff as a Soar Valley Star for a single piece of work of outstanding quality, effort above and beyond that expected, outstanding contributions or ongoing

excellence. They meet with the Principal and are awarded a Soar Valley Bronze Star which they then proudly wear on their lanyard. When a student is nominated a further time they receive a Silver Star and so on up to Gold. Each recipient also receives

- A star displayed around school on one of our Achievement boards.
- A letter is also sent home to inform parents.
- 10 Achievement Points



### **Postcards:**

Teachers/subjects should send these home to give positive feedback to parents and at the same time provide recognition of achievement to the student. These may be sent home for a variety of reasons, such as (but not exclusive to) a good piece of classwork/homework, improved effort or ongoing excellent contribution to class discussion. Postcards should be seen as a reward placed above achievement points but below Soar Valley Stars.



### **Certificates:**

Certificates are used to provide students with an official record of a specific subject based achievement or for participation in extracurricular activities, such as a sporting achievement or voluntary work representing the college.

### **Student of the month:**

Each department / subject area selects a 'student of the month'. The criteria for which will be set by each department/subject. Winners of this award have their name and picture displayed within the respective department/subject area and a letter sent home to inform parents.

### **Celebration Evenings:**

These are held annually where large numbers of students have their achievements recognised in front of an invited audience consisting of parents, peers, staff and governors.

**Our informal reward processes:**

The list below of methods of recognition is not an exhaustive one, and it should not be underestimated how much students value them:

- Phone Calls home
- Positive comments written on work
- Use of stickers / stamps
- Public recognition in lessons
- Placing student's work on display
- Positive comment made in homework diary for parents
- Informing Form Tutor and/or Head of Year
- Mentions/shout outs from HOY in assembly
- Senior staff visiting classes to praise students' work and effort
- Non-verbal recognition (thumbs up, nodding, smile)

**Rewarding Attendance:**

Along with effort, attendance is crucial to making progress and as such good attendance is rewarded at Soar Valley College.

Attendance is celebrated in assembly each week through inter-form competitions. 100% attendance is also celebrated each term. Students who have 100% for that particular term receive a certificate in assembly.