

We recognise that students do best when their achievements are recognised and celebrated. Wherever possible we use rewards instead of sanctions to motivate students to behave in line with our high expectations. For more information on our sanctions see our 'behaviour policy'.

Aims

- To enable staff to create an environment conducive to learning
- To enable staff, students and parents/carers to track student achievements

Using the Merit System

- Merits are awarded to individual students NOT whole classes
- Merits are given for outstanding effort and work. Verbal praise is used to recognise achievements.
- Teachers have high expectations and explain to students what they need to do to achieve a merit.
- Teachers generally issue 3-5 merits per lesson.
- Merits are recorded on a student's record. Parents/carers will be told how many merits a student has achieved each half term.
- Praise postcards are sent home when students show especially high levels of commitment or effort. A praise postcard is equivalent to 2 merits.
- Merits are used with all year groups
- There are opportunities for all students to achieve a merit.

1 Merit	2 Merits	3 Merits
Excellent class work	Regular attendance at extra curricular activity	Outstanding contribution to the academy
Excellent effort	Representing the college	Producing outstanding work well above target grade
Excellent homework	Participating in assembly	
Helping Others	Taking a lead role in a lesson	
Being an excellent team member		
Excellent contribution to a lesson		
Good Penrice citizen		

Praise Postcards

Praise Postcards are sent by home to parents/carers by individual subject teachers to recognise outstanding effort, achievement or progress by individual students in their lesson. When a Praise Postcard is issued the student also receives two merits. Praise Postcards can also be issued by tutors, Pastoral Support Mentors, Heads of Year and Members of the Leadership Team to recognise student achievement outside of the classroom.

Behaviour Star of the Week

Students also have the opportunity to become 'Behaviour Star of the Week'. This is an award given by every member of staff each week to an individual student they teach. The 'Behaviour Star of the Week' is worth two merits.

Attendance Awards

Years 7/8

The tutor group in each year group with the highest attendance over a term receives a team prize/trip to the value of £150.

Criteria

- Individuals must have attendance over 90% to qualify for award.
- Students with a deficit point v merits will not qualify for award.

Additional Information

- Trip run by tutor in last week of term with support from Head of Year and Pastoral Support Mentor. For example, cinema or bowling trip.

Years 9/10/11

30 students are chosen at random from each year group who have 100% Attendance for that term.

Top Achievement Award

Years 7/8

The tutor group in each year group with the highest combined merits over a term receives a team prize or trip to the value of £150.

Criteria

Individuals must have a positive points v merits total to qualify for the award
Attendance of individual students must be over 90%

Additional Information

- Trip run by tutor in last week of term with support from Head of Year and Pastoral Support Mentor. For example, cinema or bowling trip.

Years 9/10/11

The top 30 merit earners from each year group will qualify for this award each term.

Tutor Group Individual Award (All Year Groups)

10 (11 in Year 10) individuals in each year group from each tutor group are rewarded. They are nominated by their tutor and peers.

Criteria

- good citizen of the college
- makes very good progress
- most improved report
- involved with extra-curricular activities
- a positive role model

These student are rewarded with vouchers and special recognition in their termly Celebration assemblies.

Head of Year Individual Awards (All Year Groups)

Up to 10 students per year group per term are awarded vouchers by the Head of Year.

Head of Year can award these at their discretion, but PROGRESS should be a priority.
In Year 11, rather than a voucher for an individual award, a Ball Ticket may be awarded.

Academic Awards

The top 3 performing students each term in each year group will be rewarded with a pin badge for all subjects. The next 7 students will receive certificates.

Special Head of Year Awards

Penrice Badges

These should be awarded on a regular basis by Heads of Years during assemblies for students who go above and beyond. This could be an achievement in school or outside of Penrice.

There is also a special raffle for Year 11 students from February half term until their final assembly.