

8 May 2022

Dear Families,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well. I have a couple of updates and some news items to go through with you all for clarity and communication.

Equipment and Uniform Shop

Our equipment and uniform shops open from 8am. All individual items are free of charge. If students have lost two or three full pencil cases by now, there will be a small charge to replenish stock. If they have no money to purchase a full pencil case, we will provide it and take their name for later payment. The rule is in place to teach them responsibility and personal organisation. The shop is open from 8am. All uniform can be borrowed. We will never put a student in a correction who is doing the right thing. All students should be in line up areas by 8:15 ready for a prompt start at 8:17.

Attendance and Punctuality

Daily attendance to school is vitally important and a big area of focus for us as an academy. Every student must attend every day to give them every opportunity of success. Please encourage your child to arrive on time. Punctuality is a very important part of holding down a job in adult life. If your child is unwell and cannot attend school, please use the following email: attendance@dixonsba.com to contact our attendance team. We have medically trained staff in school, if you are not sure if your child is well enough, we are happy to make that judgement in school after a visit to the medical room. We would always contact you if we thought your child needed to be at home or see a doctor.

Positive Response - Learning Habit 5

This week starts our phased introduction of our penultimate learning habit - positive response. We lead with a positive response because it is very important to us that our students learn how to speak to each other and all other individuals in a positive way to have a successful adult life. It will be modelled by all adults in the building as we continue our training on positive framing. We will also remind our students that they need to listen so that they hear the full content of the message that they are being told before they react and give them time to practice. The vast majority of our students are very polite and well mannered, which is a reflection of your own family values. I am confident that we will embed this learning habit very quickly. As with all of our learning habits, we will have a week of reminding before the corrections begin.

Parking on Heliers Road

I ask parents and carers not to park on Heliers Road, it is making access for residents and staff very difficult, and it is also hazardous for our students with so many moving cars. Please park on Broadgreen Road. Your child can walk the short distance to school from there to the academy gates.

Meetings are by appointment only

All meetings with parents, carers and other organisations are by appointment only as with any other professional organisation. If you leave a message with reception, the appropriate person will contact you in good time.

The House System

We have introduced our house system this week and there will be opportunities for your children to become Sports Leaders, part of the Student Council and Community Leaders. These posts will last for 12 months and are open to all. They are fantastic opportunities to develop leadership skills for our students which look great on university and job applications. Please discuss with them at home.

The New York Trip

There has been a lot of excitement since the announcement of our trip to New York next Easter. We are going to do our best to secure as much funding as we can by fundraising in the local community and where we can, offering some kind of financial support. The trip is open to all students from this point onwards with outstanding attendance who live by our values every single day. We will be speaking to students about a savings plan for those who wish to start saving now. More information on this to come.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs R Fidler Principal Dixons Academies Trust

