

14 December 2021

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.

Learning Habit 4- Homework and Deadlines

We have now embedded the learning habits of uniform, equipment and punctuality. The vast majority of our students come to school in the correct uniform with the right equipment on time. These habits are so that children understand what is expected of them in the world of work. If they turn up late, wearing the wrong clothes without the things they need to do their job then life will be harder for them. We will introduce our learning habit of homework and deadlines in January. All students will be shown what is expected from homework and there will be the usual lead in time before issuing a correction so that expectations are clear. All students have daily homework already, they are expected to learn the sections of their knowledge organiser each week for daily revision sessions in Morning Meeting. Their knowledge organiser can be found in their pack which also contains a pad of A4 paper. If your child loses their knowledge organiser a new one can be obtained from their HOY. If your child is in Y11, they will receive additional work to do to prepare them for their GCSE exams.

Covid Update

We are already wearing masks in communal areas in our academy. This means that on corridors and in morning meeting spaces our students and staff are expected to wear their masks. Health exemptions will still apply and must go through their pastoral lead for the year group. Please ensure your children come to school with a mask to wear. If students are wearing disposable coverings, they must understand the importance of disposing them in a plastic bag in a lidded bin. If it is a cloth cover, it must be washed every day. If a student cannot manage this, then the guidance is to keep it in a small plastic bag for 72 hours and rotate it with clean face covers. Face coverings must be plain coloured and must not be scarves, balaclavas or bandanas; they must be suitable for a place of work.

The advice for us in a nutshell is:

Test twice weekly at home with the LFT's being sent home with students

Do not attend school or college if you have coronavirus symptoms or a positive LFT– arrange a PCR test

Wear a mask on public transport and in communal areas

Keep up good hygiene habits, including washing hands regularly, sneezing and coughing into a tissue or your elbow

No need for self-isolation if fully vaccinated or under 18 years of age, just daily LFT's

All contacts to take a PCR test whilst continuing to attend school or college as normal

Following a positive case, all contacts will be followed up by NHS Test and Trace

End of Term Arrangements

There will be a free Christmas Dinner on Friday 17 December for all students if they want one. There will also be a Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 17 December to donate £1 each to charity where students can wear a Christmas jumper with their school uniform if they wish to. The only change to the uniform is the jumper, students are still expected to wear the rest of their uniform as normal. It is not a non-uniform day. Our final day of term is Tuesday 21 December. Students will go their p5 lesson after lunch when they will be dismissed for the Christmas break. We finish one day earlier since we have used the flexible bank holiday awarded for the Queens Jubilee.

Start of Term Arrangements

Students return after the Christmas break on Thursday 6 January. Students should arrive on time in full uniform and be in line up locations before 8:17.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a fantastic Christmas break. Please stay safe and look after each other. Thank you for getting behind us during our first full term so that we can help our children climb mountains to university or a real life equivalent, thrive in a top job and live their best life. I look forward to welcoming all our students back in January.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs R Fidler

Principal

Dixons Academies Trust

