

15 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 corrections for 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. This is closely linked to our values so we talk about having integrity and being fair all the time yet we have spent a full week emphasising what a positive response looks like and the importance of speaking to people in the right way.

GCSE's Begin

We wish all of our Y11 students the best of luck as they start their GCSE exams this week. Please continue to support them at home by encouraging them to revise. It is such a short time in their lives with a huge impact on their future yet we are confident that they have had a much better deal with our curriculum and systems in school for their final GCSE year. We have sessions planned before the core and EBacc exams to support revision and exam technique as we collapse the Y11 timetable where we need to. We have asked students to leave their coats at home (weather permitting) for an easier transition to the exam hall, get some rest and eat well during what can be a stressful time for them. Unless you have been contacted directly by us, your child is expected to attend daily until the final core exam on 24 June for these support sessions to help plug all knowledge gaps.

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 now 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 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.

LCWC Homework Reset

At Dixons Broadgreen Academy, our mission is to provide all students with a first-class education; one that opens every door in their adult life to maximise their life chances in the future. It is our moral responsibility to fulfil our mission of ensuring every student succeeded at University or real life alternative, thrived in a top job and lived their best life.



We know the highest of expectations delivers the best outcomes and improves the lives of young people, so we are relentless in our work with students and work hard to provide them with the necessary information to meet and uphold our standards. Occasionally, this requires us to reset the expectations around a habit which has already been introduced by restating the purpose behind it and provide additional training to clarify the required expectations that result in outstanding academic performance. This is especially important as new habits are being introduced.

Having introduced Positive Response last week, we felt it was appropriate to return to a habit we introduced at the beginning of the year. This week we will retrain students in the expectations surrounding homework. Students will hear messaging about the type of homework we do, why do it in this way and the criteria for success. Students will also be shown examples of good homework and homework that does not meet the expectations. Furthermore, they will have the chance to discuss whether different pieces of homework meet the criteria they have been provided with.

In view of this, we felt it was appropriate to suspend corrections for students whose homework has been submitted yet did not meet the criteria until the end of this week. These will recommence on the 23rd of May. To be clear, corrections will still be issued to students who do not submit any homework during this period. Staff checking this homework will also be retrained in order to ensure a consistent standard is applied for all students.

We believe the homework habit encourages self-development and self-discipline. Research shows students who complete regular homework don't just perform better at school and during exams, they learn broader life skills and associate hard work with long term rewards.

As always, we thank you for your continued support. If you would like further information on the Look, Cover, Write, Check process, please go to the 'about' section of our website where you will find an example of what we will be expecting students to produce from Monday 23rd May. Alternatively, you can contact Mr Gee, the Assistant Principal with responsibility for homework.

I would also like to take this opportunity to state that we are very proud of your children. There are so many of them who are getting it right every day, working hard, acting with integrity and being fair. We have had teacher visitors in the academy this week from another school and they were full of compliments for our students' attitude towards their work and wonderful natures. Thank you for your ongoing messages of support as we transform the school on our journey to outstanding. We all want the same thing- the best possible opportunities for our young people.

Enjoy your week.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs R Fidler

Principal

Dixons Academies Trust

