

21 January 2023

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

The equipment and uniform shop is open from 8am to 8:15. All items are available for purchase or loan. Please contact us if you need support with anything.

Free Breakfast 8am in the Bistro

Bagels, cereal and toast are available for free at 8am every morning.

Important Dates for your diary

- Monday 23 January - Y7 - 9 Mid Term exams begin.
- Thursday 26 January - Y12/13 Parents Evening 5-7pm
- If you cannot attend or have any queries, please contact nbelshaw@dixonsba.com
- Friday 10 February - Trust Day - Academy is closed to students for staff training.
- Monday 20 February - School return 8am start. Options Process to begin for Y9
- Thursday 23 February - Y8 Vaccinations (Childhood boosters - Diptheria/ Meningitis)
- Monday 27 February - Y11 GCSE Speaking Exams begin for PPE2 grade.
- Thursday 2 March - World Book Day; Y11 Mentoring Session 2:25 - 3:30
- Monday 6 March, Tuesday 7 March - Data & Planning Days - Work set for students to complete at home.
- Thursday 9 March - Y10 Parents Evening 5-7pm
- Monday 13 March - Friday 23 March - Y11 PPE2 Exams (informing final run up to GCSE's in May)
- Thursday 29 March - Y9 Parents Evening 5- 7 pm
- Thursday 20 April - Y8 Parents Evening 5-7pm
- Monday 24 April - Y11 GCSE Speaking Exams - final.
- Thursday 4 May- Y11 Mentoring Session 2:25 - 3:30; Y7 Parents Evening 5-7pm

MCAS App Reminder

Please ensure that we have an up to date copy of your email address and that you have downloaded the app My Child At School. All correspondence is now done via the app. All reports will be issued via the app. Support can be given to set it up by contacting the academy.

Changes to Uniform on PE Days

Because essential learning time is being lost while students are changing, we have taken the decision to allow students to come to school in their PE Kit on the day(s) that they have PE. They must wear the following:

- Full grey DBA PE Kit
- Black base layers when it is cold underneath the PE Kit or branded DBA leggings, jogging bottoms and/or top (available in the uniform shops). Some sizes available for loan or purchase in the Mountain Rescue shop from Helen.
- Blazer

Teacher Strikes

The teachers in the NEU have balloted for strike, the first of which is due to take place on Wednesday 1 February. We are in the process of gathering information to make a decision on how the academy will be able to operate on that day. As soon as this is completed, all parents and carers will be notified.



Extra-Curricular Provision

The following clubs are running after school. Please encourage your child to attend.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths GCSE Revision	English GCSE Revision	Maths TT Rockstars	Staff CPD	English GCSE Revision
Music KS4 Support	History GCSE Revision	Science GCSE Revision		Bugsy Malone Band
Art KS4 Drop in	Geog GCSE Revision	History GCSE Revision		Italian Club
Homework Club	French GCSE Revision	Spanish GCSE Revision		Y10/Y11 Art Drop in
	Art GCSE Revision	KS4 Music Support		Tech GCSE Revision
	Business GCSE Revision	KS3 Art Club		
	Homework Club	Art Y10		
		Philosophy Club		
		R.E GCSE Revision		
		Homework Club		
Dodgeball KS3/4	Y8 Football	Girls Football	Y9 Football	Y11 Football
Y7 Football	Dance KS3/4	Table Tennis		
Y7 Badminton				

SEN Update

Thank you to the parents who took part in our listening exercise. A newsletter is being issued to aid better communication and a series of coffee mornings and workshops are being put together.

We are in the process of recruitment for additional classroom support and mentoring and support roles including mental health leads both internally and via Liverpool SAFE project to support all our students.

Attendance

In secondary school, 19 days' absence correlates, on average, to a grade at GCSE in all subjects. 97% attendance is the Academy's expectation but we are striving for 100% every day. Students under 90% are classed as persistent absentees by the Government and, if all attempts to improve attendance has failed, the case will be sent to the Local Education Authority. They will then investigate the case and potentially prosecute parents for non-attendance at school; this can involve large fines. It is ultimately the parents' responsibility to ensure their child attends school.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We continue in our endeavour to get better every day.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs R Fidler

Principal

Dixons Academies Trust

