

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this communication finds you well after our recent half term break.

I am writing to you to share the outcomes of the Safeguarding Audit that has just been completed at the Academy by the NSPCC.

The inspection took place on Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th January during a normal school day. This included:

- Preparation – review of external information, including policies, the school website, and social media
- Joining senior staff to observe the arrival of students in the morning, and during key points of the day including break and at lunchtime
- A tour of the school
- Meetings were held with a number of colleagues including:
 - Principal (Rachael Fidler)
 - DSL, Safeguarding Officer and other DDSLs (Jonathan Moore, Janis Griffiths, Frank Gee, Nick Hughes, Mr Higham, Mr Wilson)
 - PDS (PHSE) Lead (Lydia Idris)
 - Assistant VP and SENCo (Martin Eccleshare)
 - Operation Business Managers
 - A selection of staff
 - A group of students representing Years 8 and 9

Overall View of Safeguarding from the NSPCC

Dixons Broadgreen Academy is a remarkable school and serves a very diverse community that faces a number of challenges including crime, poverty and substance misuse. Leaders at the school rise to the challenge and show a determination to meet the needs of each student, with a long-term goal of having a meaningful impact on their future opportunities. Staff and students recognise the value of well-being and safeguarding procedures that are very well embedded and both proactive and reactive. The school has a strong sense of safety and warmth for all.

There are some areas in particular that should be highlighted:

- The values and ethos of the school are embedded and well-modelled by senior leaders, led by the Principal who is very highly regarded by all
- The Mountain Rescue approach to supporting students is very broad and offers an excellent range of responses, much of which is well led by the SENDCo
- The PDS programme appears central to the work of the school and is highly valued by staff and students
- Routines and expectations are well embedded and contribute to a sense of calm, safety and well-being in the school
- The diversity of the school is seen as a major strength of the school by both adults and students.

Areas highlighted by students:

- The way the school focuses on character development and 'lets people show who they really are'
- The PDS sessions
- After school cubs
- The many opportunities that the school offers.
- The teachers – 'they are always really helpful'.
- Broadgreen makes students feel 'open' and 'welcome'.



As with all areas of school life, we are constantly seeking to improve and the audit highlighted areas where we can do this including:

- Add the PDS programme to the Curriculum page of the website.
- Share the work of the student Diversity Group with other Dixons schools as an example of best practice.
- Share the experience of the Sharp system with other Dixon schools for their consideration (this is our anonymous reporting system for students)
- Contact local media to promote and celebrate the next Culture Day
- Review the areas of the school that students say are overcrowded and feel less safe (staircases)
- Review the supervision of the second gate as students feel this is less secure and safe (Ringcroft Road Entrance)
- Consider the introduction of a student interview panel when recruiting new staff.
- Share the SEN Hub with other Trust schools as an example of best practice.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support for your child's education.

