

Tuesday 14 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you at the end of our first full week in a new academic year to communicate some changes that are taking place in the school to support academic attainment and keep all children safe.

As part of Dixons Academies Trust, Broadgreen School is now in the first stages of its turnaround. We are implementing systems and routines based on the outstanding academies that make up our Trust in West Yorkshire. We are on track for full conversion on October 1st so have agreed with the local authority to run the school in line with the Dixons routines and curriculum that get us great outcomes for our families.

Who we are

Those of you who attended the parental information evenings at the start of the conversion process will know that Dixons Academies Trust is the second highest performing Trust in the country and at the heart of everything we do is our overarching Trust mission – To challenge educational and social disadvantage in the North. For too long have our families not had access to the education and life chances that they deserve. I was born in this city and this is personal for me.

How we behave

My colleagues and I have all agreed the following Academy statement ‘The Academy ensured that all students succeeded at University or a real alternative, thrived in a top job and lived their best life.’ This is our rallying cry for our students and one to which we are 100% committed to achieving.

- Our core values will help support our Academy mission. Every conversation we have with our students will revert back to the following:
 - Work Hard- Whatever it takes for as long as it takes. We never give up.
 - Have Integrity – Do the right thing because it is the right thing to do. We support each other without excuses.
 - Be Fair – We play by the rules. We are polite, fair and courteous in all we do.

New Routines

For a smooth start to the day and in order to maximise attainment we start with line ups in the main yard at 8:17. We ask for natural state i.e silence so that key messages can be heard and pupils understand what is expected of them. Students are asked to take out the materials they will need for Morning Meeting and put their bag in the other hand to speed up entry into the larger learning spaces for the next part of their day which is called Morning Meeting. This is a study session in Year group areas with a different theme each day. After October half term, all homework will feed into these sessions and they will become much more academic. For now, we are focusing on our core values.

A DEAR (drop everything and read) session has been inserted into the day for fluency and so that Advisors can read to their advisory groups. The canon of books selected for this has been recommended by the best researchers to build cultural capital with children and develop a love of reading. Advisors do all the reading and plan ahead so that all students can access the session together. At the heart of everything we do is meeting the needs of our most vulnerable students. Year 11 will follow a different plan, focusing on their GCSE Literature texts.

You may be aware that we have made one of the buildings one way due to the size of the corridor and feedback from students who felt unsafe before. We ask for natural state in the corridors because students and teachers are working and it reduces cognitive overload for our students. It also ensures that students no longer need a 5-minute early pass to leave a lesson missing out on vital learning to avoid noisy and unruly corridor behaviour. It is the fairest system for all.

Over the coming months we will be introducing our six learning habits which are the rules and cover uniform, equipment, punctuality, homework and deadlines, on task and positive response. Students will get a lead in time to understand expectations before same day corrections of 30 minutes begin. This will be communicated to you as and when we begin the process.

This week we began with our first learning habit of uniform. We know that there are supply issues due to manufacturing and COVID with some of the larger blazers and PE Kit so will apply the reasonable adjustment in those cases. It is always worth remembering that we have a supply of uniform and equipment on site and encourage students to get to school before the line ups begin (8:17) and resolve any issues they may have with either uniform or equipment to avoid that same day correction. We want them to learn to be proactive and take responsibility for their lives. We will never put a student in a correction who is doing the right thing.

How you can find out more

Our new website is now up and running which I would encourage you to look at: www.dixonsba.com

Information about our learning habits, curriculum and policy documentation can all be found on there. Any news items and parental letters will be uploaded moving forward.



How we will succeed

We know that change is sometimes hard, and yet, in a school that has been judged inadequate by Ofsted who stated that children have been let down for a decade, it is vitally important for all our families that these changes happen. It is about purpose. There is a reason behind all we do which is 100% in the best interests of our students. We are specialists in education and know what works.

We are all committed to making Broadgreen the best school in Liverpool and I thank you for all your messages of support during the last week.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Fidler
Principal

