

20 July 2023

Dear Families

Thank you for all your continued support over the past year. It has been quite a difficult return to normality and there are a few things we must focus on together to ensure our students remain successful.

As we approach the end of the year, I am writing to provide you with some key dates and information ready for the next academic year.

The academy will close for students on **Friday 21 July at the slightly earlier time of 1.00pm**, please make sure you make the necessary arrangements to have your child collected at this time. The Academy will re-open on Monday Thursday 31 August 2023. Students will be expected to be in the academy at the latest 7.50am ready to start at 8am.

To keep up to date with all the latest news from the academy please follow us on Twitter @DixonsKings. Here you will find pictures of events and the weekly appreciations bulletin.

Uniform expectations

Please note that **Year 10 students** need to purchase a new blazer and tie. Should you have any blazers or ties that you would like to donate to the academy we do recycle old uniform.

All Boys' and girls' trousers should be black, full-length and tailored; jeans (jeans are defined as trousers with patch pockets and rivets) / tracksuits / leggings / very flared trousers / knee length trousers / trousers which gather at the ankle are not considered appropriate wear. Trousers should not trail on the floor.

Years 7, 8 and 9

Grey blazer
White shirt
Copper tie
Grey jumper (optional)
Black shoes

Years 10 and 11

Navy blazer
White shirt
Blue tie
Blue or Grey jumper (Optional)
Black shoes

Our uniform policy is clearly outlined on our website under the 'About' section. Can you please take a moment to familiarise yourself with the details. Increasingly we have students turning up with inappropriate footwear. Please be mindful that shops will advertise trainers as school shoes, to clarify the shoe must be polishable and not have a trainer style sole. Please check if you are unsure.

Attendance

Attendance is vital to enable your child to maximise their opportunity to make progress. Only 35% of students will achieve 5 good passes at GCSE if they miss 10% of learning. Our target for next year is 98%. Attendance since Covid has been an area of concern and we urge all parents to make sure their child attends school every day. The start of term is especially important, please ensure your child returns on the correct date. This year we fell quite short of this target. Appointments during academy hours affect your child's learning and should therefore be made outside of academy hours. Should there be an emergency appointment required proof of this is expected with at least 24 hours prior notice. If your child is ill and is unable to make it to the academy, then please ensure you follow our attendance procedures in reporting absence.



Holiday dates and data days

Please see enclosed holiday and training dates; this information is also available on our website.

Exam results

Well done to all the Year 11 students for the exams taken this term; they have all worked very hard. The GCSE results can be collected from the academy on Thursday 24 August 2023 between 09.00am – 12.00 noon. If students are unable to collect their results in person, we MUST have received notification from the child as to who will be collecting on their behalf. After this date, any results that are uncollected will be posted out. If students

Dropping off and picking up students

With our new Year 7 students arriving in September, now is a good time to remind you all of the risks associated with dropping off and picking up your children. Northside Road does become congested at peak times especially before and after school. We ask that you consider other users by parking and manoeuvring in a safe appropriate manner and not blocking the flow of traffic, also noting that outside the academy there are parking restrictions and sets of yellow zig-zag lines which indicate NO WAITING, STOPPING or PARKING. There is also no access to the academy grounds for parking other than for those parents who have pre-arranged meetings, I urge all parents to please ensure that this is adhered to for the safety of your children and those of others.

Mobile phones

We have recently reviewed our mobile phone policy, to be blunt mobile phones are a huge safeguarding, bullying and distraction to our students. Therefore, from August 2023 students must lock their phone in their locker once they get to school and only take it out at the end of the day. Any phone seen in school will be confiscated and only returned to parents at the end of the week.

Parent Pay Debts

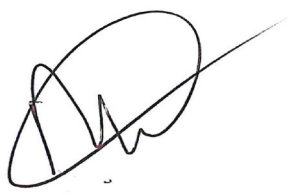
It is important to remind everyone that all Years do not have an overdraft facility on their Parent Pay accounts, if an account falls into arrears, then students will not be given access to break or lunch facilities, and it will be the responsibility of parents to provide packed lunches / snacks. It is also worth noting that if you use pay point rather than online payments there is the likelihood that any payments could take up to 48 hours to show on your account, this will again be the responsibility of parents to ensure accounts are topped up in good time.

Next year we do have some students with particular allergies and this includes someone with an airborne nut allergy. Therefore can I ask that students do not bring in any items that contain nuts as this could cause a serious allergic reaction.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff at the academy we hope you have an enjoyable summer break.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely



Richard Wilson
Principal



Term Dates 2023/24

Staff Training / Data Days Thursday 24, Friday 25, Tuesday 29 and Wednesday 30 August 2023

Monday 28 August - Bank holiday

2023 Term 1 - Thursday 31 August to Friday 20 October 2023

Holiday - Saturday 21 October to Sunday 5 November 2023

2023 Term 2 - Monday 6 November to Friday 15 December 2023

Data Days - Thursday 30 November and Friday 1 December 2023 - School closed to students

Holiday - Saturday 16 December to Sunday 31 December 2023

Monday 1 January – Bank holiday

2024 Term 3 - Tuesday 2 January to Thursday 8 February 2024

DAT Conference Friday 9 February 2024 - School closed to students

Holiday - Saturday 10 February to Sunday 18 February 2024

2024 Term 4 - Monday 19 February to Friday 22 March 2024

Holiday - Saturday 23 March to Sunday 7 April 2024

Data Days - Monday 8 April and Tuesday 9 April 2024 - School closed to students

Possible Eid Day - Wednesday 10 April 2024

2024 Term 5 - Thursday 11 April to Friday 24 May 2024

Monday 6 May - Bank Holiday

Holiday - Saturday 25 May to Sunday 2 June 2024

2024 Term 6 - Monday 3 June to Friday 19 July 2024

Possible Eid Day - Monday 17 June 2024

Holiday - Saturday 20 July onwards

Training Days

Friday 25 August 2023 and Tuesday 29 August 2023

Data & Planning Days

Thursday 24 August 2023 and Wednesday 30 August 2023

Thursday 30 November 2023 and Friday 1 December 2023

Monday 8 April 2024 and Tuesday 9 April 2024

