

February 2023

Dear families

I hope that you have had a prosperous start to 2023 and I thank you for the warm welcome and support in my first term as Principal at Dixons Unity Academy. We have made a number of positive steps and I look forward to continuing to work with you all. I am writing to you today to discuss arrangements for the end of term alongside some other notices.

End of Term

Students will break up for their half-term holiday at 3.10pm on Thursday 9 February 2023. Friday 10 February 2023 is a staff training day. Students should return to the academy on Monday 20 February 2023 by 07:56am.

Lockers

Student lockers will be cleaned over the half-term break. As such, students must empty their lockers before the end of term, take all belongings home and leave them open for cleaning. Any items left in lockers will be removed and will need to be collected by the family at an appropriate moment.

Uniform Expectations

Students will need to return in full school uniform (which is detailed below). Students must be in full school uniform prior to passing the threshold to the Piazza. Students who do not have full school uniform will be directed to student reception to borrow any missing items. Borrowed items must be returned to student reception at the end of the day or a charge will be applied to the students Parent Pay account. There is one change to the uniform policy that I would like to draw your attention to. Students can now wear either their blazer or their jumper or both.

- Plain black trousers. No jeans, leggings, tight fitting trousers, tracksuit bottoms, shorts or skirts. Jeans are defined as trousers with patch pockets and rivets. Trousers should not trail on the floor.
- Plain white collared shirt or blouse, buttoned up to the top and tucked in. The green Academy tie must be worn.
- **Academy jumper or academy blazer or both.**
- Plain black shoes with no motifs (trainers, boots and pumps are not suitable).
- Students can opt to wear plain a black salwar kameez or tunic with a white blouse / shirt, green academy tie with the academy blazer and / or jumper over the top.
- Hijabs, scarves, turbans, crowns and top knots, worn for religious reasons, must be plain black and well secured.
- No jewellery, other than a wristwatch. No earrings or bracelets are to be worn. Piercings of nose or tongue are not permitted.
- No fake eyelashes. Minimal makeup is permitted. No false nails or nail varnish. No unnatural hair colouring is permitted.

Conduct towards members of staff

Unfortunately, we have seen a rise in families using abusive language towards members of staff. Abuse towards staff will not be tolerated and individuals will be banned from site should this happen. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that staff will respond to queries within 48 hours. You will likely be directed to the Form Tutor or Head of Year in the first instance and SLT will be happy to pick up queries if they are not resolved at that first stage.

Gate reminder

A reminder that the vehicle gate to the school site will be closed between 07:45am to 08:00am and 15:05pm to 15:20pm, so that the site is safe and secure for students who are entering and leaving to access the school site. I thank you for your support with dropping students away from the school drive and kindly ask that you continue to be mindful of our neighbours during these times. We have seen a significant improvement in safety since this began.

Finally, I hope that you enjoy the half-term break and I look forward to seeing all students on Monday 20 February.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Jacobs
Principal

