

20 October 2022

Dear families

Miss Rothenburg

Miss Rothenburg will be moving to another role within Dixons Academy Trust at the end of this term. This is a great opportunity for Miss Rothenburg and I know you will all join me in wishing her well in her new role. Miss Rothenburg has been instrumental in the rapid and sustained improvements at Dixons Unity and I know her presence and support will be missed by all.

Whilst we appoint a new Principal, Mr Miley, Deputy CEO, will become the interim Principal. Mr Miley has worked alongside the school for many years and knows many of the students and families. Therefore, we know the school will continue to support all students to receive a superb education.

Learning habits

At Dixons Unity Academy, we are committed to ensuring that our students master the knowledge, skills and understanding to achieve the academy sentence and mission. We are committed to ensuring that all students are successful at university, or a real alternative and live a happy and purposeful life. We believe that anyone who is successful (in the broadest sense of the word) must develop self-discipline and be given autonomy to make the right choices. We also want our students to understand their role in developing a common purpose across our academy community and beyond.

When your child/ren return after the November break we will be focusing on the simple routines that make Dixons Unity Academy a positive environment for students and staff.

The Dixons Unity Academy Learning Habits provide a framework to ensure our core values (Integrity, Resilience and Respect) are embedded within our daily practice and routines.

From the first day at Dixons Unity Academy, children are expected to pick up and keep our six learning habits which we believe every student has the ability to demonstrate. In doing so, each student will thrive at our school and will have the skills they need to be successful at university and in the professional world of work. As a reminder our six learning habits are:

- Meet all deadlines
- Punctuality and attendance
- Equipment
- Perfect uniform
- On task behaviour
- Positive response

Further information about each of these learning habits and our behaviour policy can be found on our website. However, I want to draw your attention to two specific habits, perfect uniform and equipment.

We expect all our students to attend the academy in full uniform, this includes the academy tie, blazer, black leather school shoes (not trainers), black trousers and a white shirt. Unfortunately, too many students are turning up to the academy in the wrong uniform or are getting dressed in school, this is not acceptable and if students fail to turn up in full uniform they will be issued a correction.

Furthermore, too many students are wearing jewellery. Other than a wristwatch, jewellery is not permitted in the academy and if seen will be confiscated and returned at the end of the week to the student.

Finally, in relation to uniform, there are many students with inappropriate hair colours being applied. Students are not allowed to have unnatural hair colours sprayed or dyed into their hair. Students will be placed in Reset if this is seen.

Equipment is currently not being carefully looked after by students and we would appreciate the support of parents in making sure all students are fully equipped when they arrive at the academy. Students are required to carry their planner, exercise books, locker key, reading book and knowledge organiser to all lessons, this is along with a pencil case containing the following items:

- 1 black and 1 green pen
- Black whiteboard pen and rubber
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Calculator
- Highlighter



It is important that students are fully equipped for all lessons as this maximises learning time for all students. If a student does not have the relevant equipment the night before school, it can be purchased in the morning before their Morning Meeting.

If a student attends their first lesson without their equipment, they will receive a correction.

We have high expectations. Whilst sometimes this may be challenging, we expect our students to live by our learning habits 100% of the time. If they do this, their hard work will be recognised. However, if any of the learning habits are not met, a same-day correction will be issued. A correction is a same-day, after-school detention, as a consequence of a break of learning habit in the day. This will be sat that evening if the correction is issued before 11.25, any correction after 11.25 will be sat the following evening.

It is vital that this is served on the same day so the student is given the opportunity to reflect on their mistake. This allows the student to take the necessary next steps to improve on the following day.

If a student fails to attend a 30 minute correction, the time will be extended to an hour on the following day. If the student fails to make the hour correction they will spend a period of time in Reset and then complete their hour correction.

Unhealthy snacks

Outside of our learning habits, I want to remind families and students of the expectation around food and drink in the academy. Sweets, unhealthy snacks, energy drinks and fizzy drinks that are caffeinated or contain excessive sugar are not permitted.

There has been an increase in students bringing these items into the academy, and from November, they will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day if unopened. If opened, they will be removed and thrown away. We appreciate how expensive these drinks and snacks can be, so please do not allow your child/ren to waste their money on bringing these into the academy.

Breakfast club

As a reminder, we have a breakfast club that provides free cereal and is open from 07:00 each day. This club provides a great opportunity for students to sit and talk to friends before the school day starts.

Training Day

Finally, can I remind you that next term, Monday 7 November, Thursday 24 and Friday 25 November will be training days; therefore, your child/ren are not required to attend on these days.

I hope you and your families have a great break and I look forward to welcoming back all students on Tuesday 8 November.

Yours faithfully



Mr Neil Miley

Deputy CEO

