

March 2023

Dear families

I wanted to thank you for your continued support over the past half term and to confirm the arrangements for last day. I would also like to take this opportunity to provide an update and reminder about behaviour and uniform expectations.

End of Term

Students will break up for Easter at 12.20pm on Friday 31 March 2023. Students should return to the academy on Monday 17 April 2023 by 07:56am.

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.

- 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.

If a student arrives at school in the incorrect uniform and refuses to borrow or remove inappropriate items, they will be placed in Reset until the issue can be resolved.

Student Equipment

To support families, we have reviewed the list of equipment which we expect students to bring with them to the academy. After Easter we have revised the list as follows:

- 2 x black pens
- 2 x green pens
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Highlighter pen
- Black whiteboard pen (if this runs out a teacher will swap this for a fresh one free of charge)
- Pencil Case
- Reading book

Students who wish to succeed always bring the right equipment to the academy, for the right lessons, each day. If students fail to have the correct equipment, they will receive a 30-minute correction on the same day.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are not permitted in the academy. If parents want their child to bring a phone to school for safety reasons, they must be switched off before students enter the Piazza gates and kept in lockers (we cannot accept any responsibility for lost or stolen possessions). If a member of staff sees a mobile phone, it will be confiscated and will be kept until a parent / carer collects it. If a student refuses to hand over their mobile phone, they will be placed in Reset for the rest of the day.



Energy drinks

As a healthy school we do not allow students to bring energy drinks into the academy. Students are encouraged to bring water or an empty bottle which they can refill using the built in water fountains. If a student brings an energy drink into the academy it will be confiscated and placed in the bin.

Positive behaviour and attendance to corrections

Dixons Unity is committed to ensuring that our students master the knowledge, skills and understanding to achieve our 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.

From the first day at Dixons Unity, children are expected to pick up and keep our six learning habits which we believe every student can 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. 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 correction will be issued. If a correction is issued before 12.20pm it needs to be completed on the same day. A correction issued after 12.20pm will be completed on the next school day. It is vital that students attend correction as it gives them the opportunity to reflect on his / her mistake. This allows the student to take the necessary next steps to improve on the following day. More information about our Learning Habits can be found in the Positive Behaviour WTD on our website. It is vital that we have your support with your child's attendance at corrections.

What the law allows:

"Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: Advice for headteachers and school staff (July 2022)" states that:

- Teachers have authority to issue detention to pupils, including same-day detentions.
- When poor behaviour is identified, sanctions can include detention, including during lunchtime, after school and at weekends.
- The times outside normal school hours when detention can be given include:
 - Any school day where the pupil does not have permission to be absent.
 - Weekends – except the weekend preceding or following the half term break; and
 - Non-teaching days – usually referred to as 'training days', INSET days or non-contact days.
- Parental consent is not required for detentions.

Parents are informed by text message when students have been set a correction and it is essential we work together to ensure 100% attendance. If a student does not attend their correction, it will be upscaled as follows:

Missed 30-minute Correction	Upscaled to a 60-minute detention the next day
Missed 60-minute Correction	Upscaled to a 90-minute detention the next day
Missed 90-minute Correction	Reset the next day until 4.10pm

Reset

Students are placed in Reset if their behaviour has caused a concern or does not meet the Academy expectations. Students who are placed in Reset will stay there until 4.10pm regardless of the reason or time they arrive.

Everyone in our community has the right to learn and work in a respectful and positive environment. It is crucial that we work together to embed high standards of behaviour and I look forward to your support in ensuring students meet our expectations. I thank you for your support with the above reminders and ask that you discuss these with your child(ren). I look forward to welcoming all our students back after the Easter break and I hope you all have a relaxing and restful holiday.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Jacobs
Principal

