

14 June 2022

Dear families

I want to thank you for your continued support of the academy and our work towards the vision that **all students were successful at university or a real alternative. They lived happy and purposeful lives.**

Our students in Year 11 are working hard to complete their GCSEs, and our students in Year 7-10 are showing resilience and integrity when completing their Cycle assessments. These assessments allow students and teachers to identify gaps in knowledge, which in turn allows interventions to be planned to support students.

At the end of Cycle 3, we will hold our recognition event. Students who meet the set criteria will have the opportunity to spend time at a Fair, on our site. We are pleased with our work on recognition this academic year and the students have said they appreciate the efforts made to recognise students who do the right thing all the time.

Curriculum model proposed changes

We are looking to change our curriculum model to allow more lessons within our curriculum. Some subjects do not currently receive an equal amount of lessons compared to others, which means students do not have a fair chance of being successful in each subject. The proposed model also allows for Y9 students to continue to study creative subjects for an extra year as we believe this allows for a broader curriculum, we have seen real success in this approach with history and geography and want to extend our offer of subjects once students have opted.

The model we intend to move to will change the lesson structure from 26 x 1 hour lessons to 30 x 55 minute lessons, and have a slightly shorter morning meeting and morning break. The start time would remain as 8am; however, we will finish the school day at 15:10 Monday – Friday. This model means we have a consistent finish time.

The alternative option to include the additional lessons was to finish at 15:50 three days a week. However, based on feedback from families and students, this later finish has caused some difficulties. Particularly in the winter months, when some students stay for enrichment or corrections.

We are interested in your views on this change, so please provide feedback to info@dixonsua.com by 20 June 2022 at 10am.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Gemma Rothenburg
Principal

