

15 October 2021

Dear Families,

It has been wonderful to have all our students back this half term and be back to using the building as normal, post COVID restrictions. Our students have demonstrated our values of integrity, resilience, and respect everyday this half term and I know their commitment to their education will ensure that they are successful at university or a real alternative and live happy and purposeful lives.

Recognition

We have introduced many new ways to recognise our students this academic year, please see our latest Recognition Event information here: <https://www.dixonsua.com/cp/entries/eventsEntries/4037-now-that-recognition-events>

The students are currently working hard to ensure they secure a place on the recognition trip in December to the Arcade Club in Kirkstall.

Principal's Breakfast

Our staff nominate students every week who have gone 'above and beyond', these students are invited to have a special breakfast with me. It has been such an enjoyable part of my week to talk to and listen to our students who always get it right and meet our expectations.

Published authors at Dixons Unity

We are delighted that five of our students have been successful in having their short stories chosen to be included in an anthology of creative writing to be published on 12 November. They wrote a 'spine-chiller' story in 100 words or less. Well done to Ronnie W, Jessica M and Sarah K in Year 8 and Sofia P and Alfie BP in Year 9. A copy of the book will be available to borrow from the Library once it has been published.

Enrichment

We currently have over 20 Enrichment clubs on offer for all students, these include sign language, debate club, Lego club, drama club and numerous sports clubs. Our staff offer these enrichment activities and give up their own time to provide these experiences for our students, it is very pleasing to see so many students accessing these clubs. Please see the full list of clubs on offer here: <https://www.dixonsua.com/why/enrichment-opportunities>

Covid testing

If you have consented to the Lateral Flow Testing, please continue to complete these during half term. New tests are being given to students today.

Uniform

Half term holidays are a great opportunity to check your child's uniform and equipment so you can ensure they are ready to be successful every day. DUA uniform suppliers are Design School Uniform; the shop can be found at 21-23 The Headrow, Leeds, LS1 6PU or you can purchase uniform online at: <http://www.designschooluniform.co.uk/> we do have school ties that can be purchased from reception for £5.99. It is essential your child has the correct uniform.

Attendance and punctuality

We continue to find ways to recognise our students for meeting our expectations for attendance, we know that if your child is not in school, they cannot learn. If your child is absent, you must contact the attendance team on 0113 2244277, this is required for every day of absence. Please work with us to ensure your child has good attendance. We return to school on Monday 1 November. Students must be in their morning meeting spaces ready to learn at 8am.

Support over half term

The school will be closed over the half term holidays. If you require assistance, please use the following e-mail address safeguardingteam@dixonsua.com

I feel privileged to have completed my first half term as Principal at DUA, I am passionate about your children receiving the best educational experience and I know as we continue to work together your child/children will have every chance of a happy and purposeful life.

Have a fantastic half term.


Gemma Rothenburg

Principal

