



Message from the Principal



Mr James Haseldine
Executive Principal

We are aware of two separate incidents that recently happened in the community, whilst students were making their way home from school. Naturally, we were saddened with the conduct witnessed and I would like to reassure our community that we have acted quickly to address both incidents and liaised with the Police and Manchester City Council. We have taken time in school to speak with all children about our expectations, values, and the consequences of such behaviour. We have also provided guidance for students on the importance of not filming and sharing footage of incidents, and should they witness any such situations in future, how students can have a positive effect without putting themselves at risk. Additionally, we have taken time to speak with parents and families at our advisory evening and also provided support for students who witnessed the incidents. The positive response of our community to support those who were affected by the incidents is heart-warming.



On a brighter note, I am delighted to share with you a wonderful example of the kindness our students can demonstrate which occurred recently. Kyle (pictured) stayed with an elderly member of our community who had fallen and hurt themselves recently. Kyle called for an ambulance and stayed with her until the paramedics arrived. The comfort, compassion and support he provided, reflected our values of kindness and integrity. Kyle was awarded with a Commendation this week, as a result of this selfless act.

Students of the Week

Congratulations to Kayomi, Oliver, Savannah, Summer and Ava, who were nominated by staff to be our Students of the Week for demonstrating our values brilliantly this week.



Advisory Evening



Our 'Meet the Advisor' event took place last night, giving families the opportunity to meet their child's advisor. We had representation from local Sixth Form and College providers and the opportunity to speak with our careers advisor, Ms Geary. Thanks to all the families who attended, to support your children on their journey to university or a real alternative.

School Photographs

A reminder that it is school photograph day on Monday 18th September. Kittle, our school photographers, will be in school to take student photos; parents/carers will be able to purchase these photos – details to follow. As always, we expect students to attend school in their full uniform, as per our uniform policy.

Our Futures Event

We will be holding our 'Our Futures' event on Friday 22nd September. During the afternoon, Year 11 and some selected Year 10 students will have the opportunity to meet with a whole host of employers, colleges, universities, and apprenticeship providers. We even have Microsoft visiting to meet our students to spot the next generation of talent!



Compass Provision

Unfortunately, there are times when our students make the wrong choice. Typically, we have issued suspensions for such events that seriously breach our behaviour policy: [Dixons Positive Behaviour Policy](#)

From Monday 25th September, we will be opening our Compass Provision. We are striving to become a truly inclusive school and our Compass Provision will enable us to help students to remove barriers to success, understand the consequences of their actions if they make mistakes that breach our behaviour policy, and not miss out on learning so we can help students to maximise their attainment. There will be times when we still use suspension as a tool to ensure our school is safe, orderly and so that we can fulfil our mission to provide a first-class education to enable all students to live a fulfilling life and make a difference in their community.

It is our mission to provide a first-class education to enable all students to live a fulfilling life and make a difference in their community.

Staff and students at Dixons are committed to three core values that underpin everything we do.

Work Hard

We never give up; we do what it takes for as long as it takes. We are industrious and curious.

Have Integrity

We always do the right thing because it is the right thing to do.

Be Kind

We play by the rules. We are polite, considerate and kind.

New Staff at the Academy

We have a number of new staff who have joined the academy. As a regular feature of the newsletter, we'd like to introduce them to you. This week, it's the turn of Ms Diver, our school nurse, and Mr Roberts in English. We've asked them 5 questions to find out a little bit more about them.

Ms Diver – School Nurse

What is one of your hidden talents?

I love to bake! I often get asked to make people's birthday!

What are some traditions or superstitions you have for the first day of school?

First day back picture! My grandma still has a photo album of me and my cousins, even though we're adults now! She says you have to keep the tradition alive.

What's the best thing about your role?

Working alongside so many staff who bring ideas together to make the school a better place for everyone

If you could take the students on a field trip to anywhere in the world, where would you take them?

Budapest. It has an amazing association with health and therapy. It would give the opportunity to look at the children's mental health foundation, which is internationally acclaimed.

What would you like students to remember about you?

I'm always here to listen whether it's about your worries, concerns or what you had for tea! I'm also quite good at popping on a plaster or two!



Ms Roberts – English

What is one of your hidden talents?

I've played guitar for many years.

What are some traditions or superstitions you have for the first day of school?

I can never sleep the night before, so I always pretend that school has started one day early.

What's the best thing about being a teacher?

The best thing about being a teacher is Results Day, and getting to see students who have worked hard all year being rewarded for their efforts.

If you could take the students on a field trip to anywhere in the world, where would you take them?

I would love to take a trip up Hadrian's Wall. A trove of preserved ancient Roman letters was recently uncovered there and you can read these with your own eyes.

What would you like students to remember about you and your class?

The most important thing for me is that students remember the content of my lessons. It's nice to leave a good impression, but it's better to leave powerful knowledge.



World's Largest Foam Board Aircraft

Last academic year, in conjunction with the University of Manchester, our Year 10 students helped construct the World's Largest Foam Board Aircraft. Following a successful test, on Monday 18th September, the University of Manchester will be delivering an assembly to our Year 7, 9 and 10 students and giving them the opportunity to see the aircraft first hand.

This is just one of the many STEM experiences that our students will be able to participate in this year. We have a programme of events throughout the year to allow students to engage in a variety of activities to enhance their STEM knowledge.

Ski Trip 2023: Information Evening Thursday 21st September, 5.30-7.00pm

As the date for the DBK Ski Trip to Prato Nevoso, Italy gets closer, we have an information meeting on Thursday 21st September for students on this trip and their parents/carers to discuss final details.

Ski Equip will be also be on site should you need to buy our hire any equipment.

Mandatory ski lessons at the Chill Factore will begin in October for students on this December ski trip.



Extra Curricular Activity

Cross Country begins next Friday after school. Students can sign up to this via the sheets on the PE Office door. If you child is interested, please encourage them to sign up at the PE Office.

Dates for your Diary: September 2023

Monday 18th September	School photographs
Thursday 21st September	Ski Trip Information Evening: 5.30-7.00pm
Friday 22nd September	Our Futures Fair: Post-16 advice to students
Thursday 28th September	4.30-7.30pm: Open Evening