



**DIXONS  
BROOKLANDS**  
ACADEMY

## A message from our principal



**Mrs K Gardner**  
**Principal**

What a fantastic evening it was at our Open Evening! We were thrilled to welcome so many prospective families and share with them the wonderful community that makes our school so special. The atmosphere was electric, it was heartwarming to see so much excitement and engagement from everyone who attended.

We are truly grateful for all the positive feedback we received regarding your experiences during the event. Many parents commented on how welcoming and helpful our staff and student helpers were, creating an environment that showcased the best of our school spirit. It fills us with pride to witness our school shining so brightly!

To continue this spirit of community and to extend our welcome, we are pleased to announce that we will be opening our school for individual visits over the next few weeks. This is an excellent opportunity for both new and current parents to tour our facilities, meet our dedicated staff, and learn more about our community. If you would like to book an appointment for a tour, please contact Dr Rogers via email at [nrogers@dixonsbk.com](mailto:nrogers@dixonsbk.com). We look forward to showing you around and answering any questions you may have.

Thank you once again for making our Open Evening such a success. Your involvement and support are what make our school community truly exceptional!

# NEWSLETTER

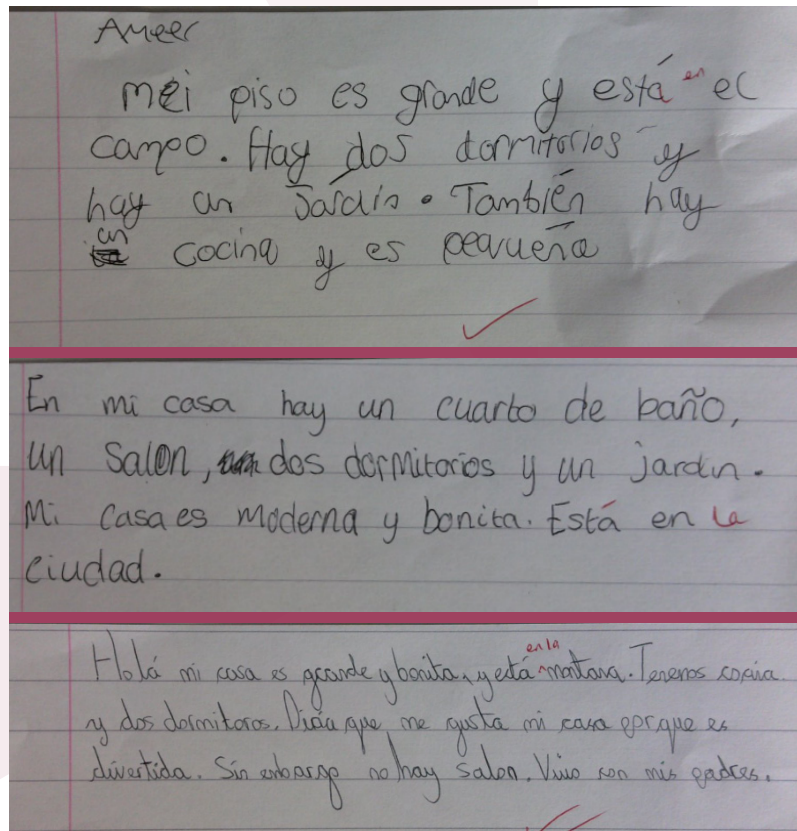
27 September 2025

Issue #4

# Celebrating our students through focus

## Spanish writing

Well done to Ameer, Isabella and Liv for producing great paragraphs in Spanish without referencing resources to help. Keep up the amazing work!



## Clubs spotlight: The Achieve Club

We have seen a fantastic start to this years' Achieve Club, with participants taking part in fantastic session run by Mr Gordon. The Achieve Club is a leadership programme, designed and run by The King's Trust. We are incredibly lucky to have in school, and want to encourage as many students as possible to get involved!

The Achieve Club takes place on a Monday straight after school, in T9. Come and join us!



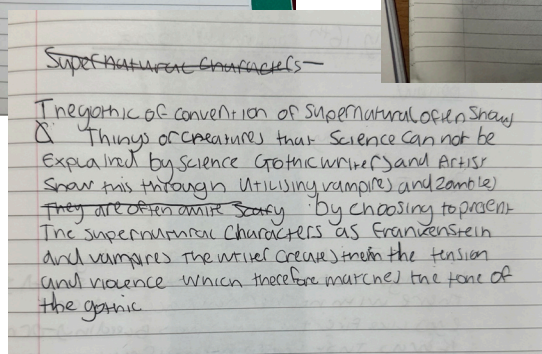
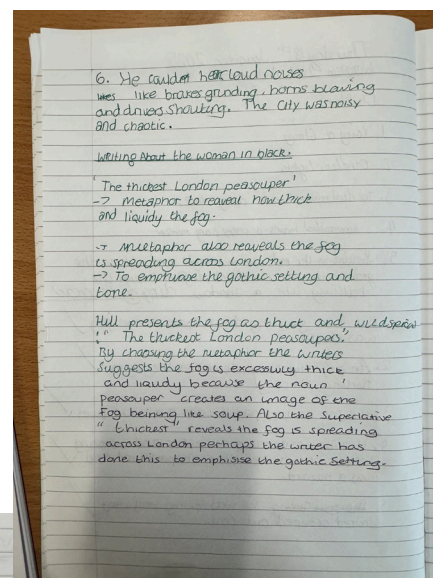
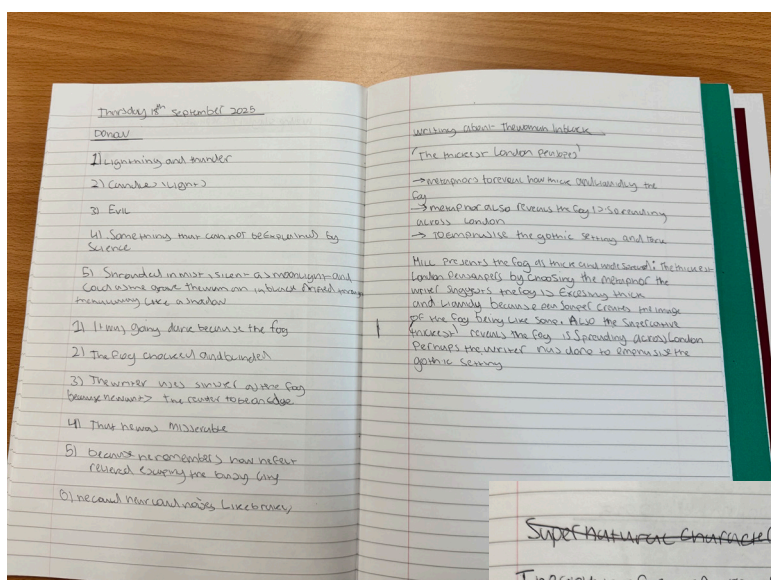
# Celebrating our curriculum with their creations

## Spine Chilling Creativity

Year 9 have been delving into the mysterious world of Gothic literature, exploring how writers use setting to build suspense and keep readers on the edge of their seats. Students have impressed us with their insightful analysis of how mystery and tension are woven through eerie landscapes and shadowy settings.

But that's not all, Miss Moran's class have also unleashed their imaginations, crafting their own spine-chilling descriptions inspired by *The Woman in Black*. From creaking corridors to ominous figures lurking in the mist, their writing has brought the Gothic genre to life in truly haunting style.

We're so proud of their creativity and critical thinking—be prepared for some ghostly tales at home as Year 9 continue to master the art of suspense!



## Star bakers nail the technical challenge

Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students have shown precision and flair whilst making their Swiss rolls this week. Including homemade jam these sweet treats are a challenge to make but students showed excellent technical skills and creative flair whilst making their whisked sponge and filling. Special mentions to Amir for his beautiful presentation.



# Celebrating our students through their perseverance

## Year 7/8 Netball Game away at St Pauls

Our Year 7/8 Netball team had their first fixture of the year away at St Pauls. The students who faced a full Y8 team from St Pauls battled hard to show grit and resilience, where their skills progressed throughout.

## KS4 girl's football team make a fantastic start to the league



On Thursday, the KS4 girl's football played their first set of fixtures towards the Manchester girl's league. The girls got off to a flying start with a 1-0 victory over Parrs Wood. Throughout the games they showed fantastic teamwork, resilience and effort which resulted in 5 wins out of the 8 games played, putting them high up the league table after this first round of fixtures.

## Our Futures - Work Experience

Year 10 were fortunate to welcome John from Our Futures into assembly this week. John was launching the year 10 work experience programme, which will run in the final week of this academic year.

John discussed why work experience is so important, different career paths, and how to arrange your own work experience. Year 10 asked some enlightening questions, and the cohort was incredibly positive and excited about the upcoming experience.

Two letters were sent home with students to support the start of their career journey. We can't wait for them to provide the letter to an employer, and see where they will be going for work experience!



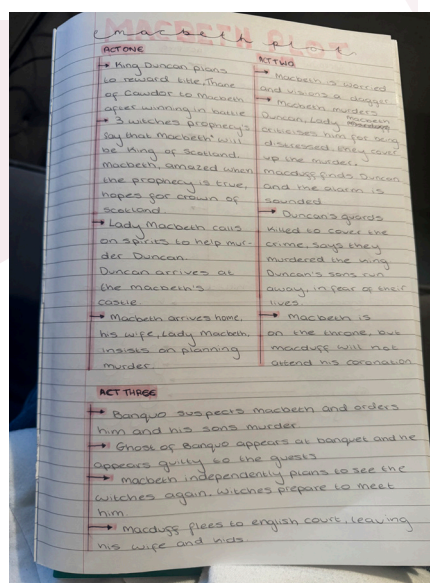
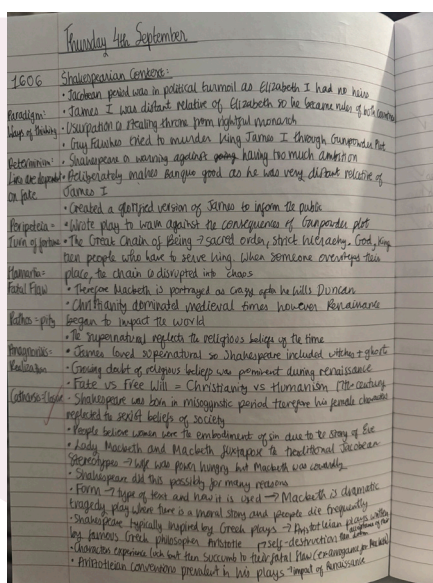
# Celebrating our curriculum through cultural celebration

## Monday Macbeth Madness

This half term, Year 10 have been diving into the world of Shakespeare's Macbeth—just in time to kick off spooky season a little early! Students have been exploring the historical context behind the play, including Jacobean beliefs about witchcraft and the supernatural. We've focused on:

- The Witches: Analysing key quotations and Shakespeare's descriptions of the “weird sisters” who set Macbeth's fate in motion.
- Contextual Understanding: Investigating why witches were so terrifying to Shakespeare's audience, and how these fears shaped the play.
- Critical Thinking: Discussing how the supernatural themes still resonate today.

Expect some eerie discussions at home as Year 10 bring Macbeth's world—and its witches—to life!



## Year 7 European Day of Languages

The European Day of Languages was on Friday 25 September. To take part, students listened to a different song each period and had to guess the language. By the end of the day, those who were able to guess each of the five languages correctly were in for a prize.

In Morning Meeting, each year group had the opportunity to learn about fun facts relating to languages in Europe. Did you know that only 17% of the world's population speaks English?



# Extra-curricular activities

## to enrich our students' experiences

### Timetable

We now have over 25 amazing clubs up and running and Dixons Brooklands Academy! Every student is expected to attend at least one club per week, and with such a wide range of clubs on offer, there is something for everyone! Get involved and reap the benefits of being involved in clubs!

	Lunch	After school
<b>Monday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football</li> <li>Basketball</li> <li>Thrive and Dine (by invite) (T9 and T14)</li> <li>Music club (T8) (Week A)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieve club (T9)</li> <li>Football (Girls)</li> <li>Rowing</li> <li>Singing rehearsals (T8)</li> <li>Duke of Edinburgh (P18)</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football</li> <li>Basketball</li> <li>Thrive and Dine (by invite) (T9 and T14)</li> <li>Music club (T8) (Week B)</li> <li>Cooking club (Week A) (T7)</li> <li>Steel Pans (T8)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Netball</li> <li>Rugby</li> <li>GCSE Art Club (S8/P16/S13)</li> <li>Sustainability club (P12)</li> <li>Poetry revision (P3)</li> <li>Homework club (P13)</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football</li> <li>Basketball</li> <li>Thrive and Dine (by invite) (T9 and T14)</li> <li>KS3 Spanish film club (T4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football (Boys)</li> <li>Sparx homework support (P22)</li> <li>Guitar club (T8)</li> <li>Show acting</li> <li>Maths games and puzzles (T4)</li> <li>Creative writing (P1)</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football</li> <li>Basketball</li> <li>Thrive and Dine (by invite) (T9 and T14)</li> <li>KS3 GCSE Spanish exams skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BTEC Sport</li> <li>Basketball</li> <li>Keyboard club (T8)</li> <li>Media Cubs (Year 7 only) (S1)</li> </ul>
<b>Friday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football</li> <li>Basketball</li> <li>Thrive and Dine (by invite) (T9 and T14)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cross Country</li> <li>Dance</li> <li>Foundation science revision Year 11 (P13)</li> <li>Singing club (T8)</li> </ul>

There is also a free breakfast club every morning before school from 7.30am, this is open to all students.

# Celebrating our students

## through focus and independence

### Sparx maths 100% completionists!

Well done to all those students who are developing a revision schedule for achievement. This shows a commitment to your own learning which is important to be successful in mathematics.

Will you keep up your streak of 100% completion?



Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
89 students	51 students	45 students	64 students

### English subject stars

Students who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, integrity, and perseverance in their pursuit of powerful knowledge. Their consistent hard work and commitment to learning have not only elevated their own understanding but also inspired those around them.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sebastian</li><li>• Samuel</li><li>• Darshika</li><li>• Olivia</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Huey</li><li>• Alisha</li><li>• Hoorain</li><li>• Poppy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mia A</li><li>• Mia M</li><li>• Isabelle</li><li>• Lola-Rose</li><li>• Molly</li><li>• Brooke</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connor</li><li>• Faith</li><li>• Leighton</li><li>• Kyle</li><li>• Mia</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Erin</li><li>• Chloe</li><li>• Aimee</li><li>• Zach</li><li>• Hussain</li></ul>

### English independent thinkers

Students who are developing into resilient, inquisitive young people. These learners ask bold questions, explore ideas beyond the classroom, and embrace challenges with a growth mindset.

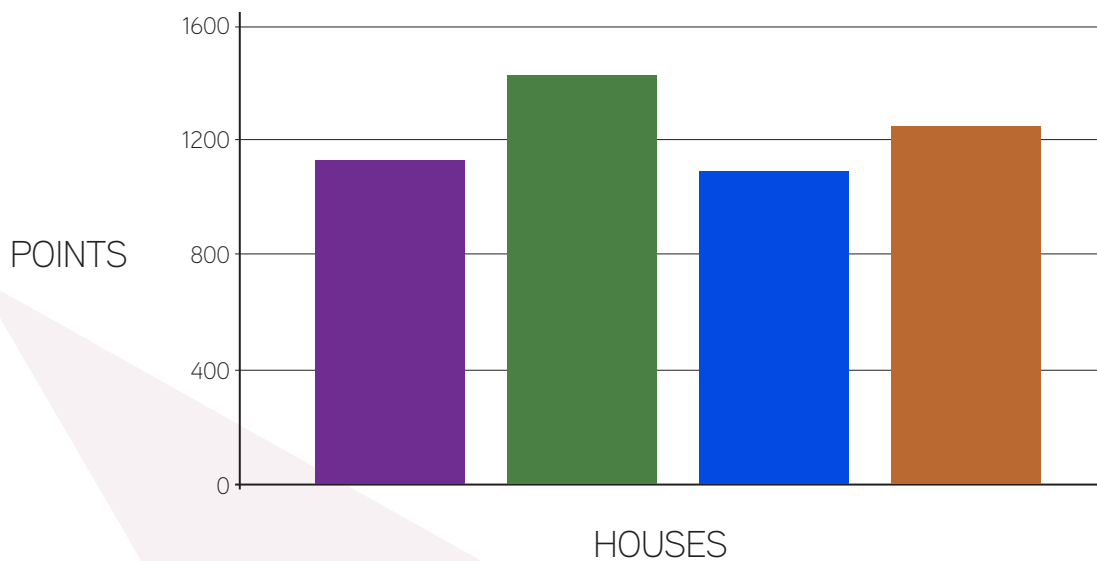
KS3	KS4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Isabelle R</li><li>• Simeon T</li><li>• Elise P</li><li>• Connor W</li><li>• Naya R</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Harley G</li><li>• Priya</li><li>• Dina</li><li>• Cameron</li></ul>



# House points leaderboard

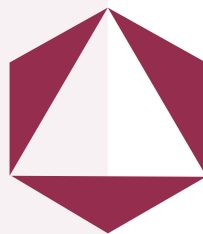
The House competition is heating up! House Valour have taken a narrow lead, with Aspiration, Spirit, and Rigour close behind.

Remember that the deadline for the House Logo Competition is Friday 10 October, with all designs to be handed to Mrs Cashmore for judging!



**VALOUR**

**RIGOUR**



**ASPIRATION**

**SPIRIT**

Well done Houses, keep up the good work!

# Attendance

Our **academy target** is for all students to achieve between 97 - 100% attendance. All students are **expected to arrive by 8.15am**, any student arriving after this time are late. Students arriving after the register has closed at 8.45am will receive an unauthorised absence (u code) which will impact on their attendance.

We can and will provide support to remove any barriers to attending school on time every day. Please contact the Attendance Team should you wish to discuss how we can work together to improve your child's punctuality and / or attendance: [attendance@dixonsbk.com](mailto:attendance@dixonsbk.com)

## Students who have achieved 100% this week

665 students achieved 100% attendance this week, on Monday they will be in with a chance to win a queue jump pass for use in the canteen!

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
127 students	143 students	124 students	158 students	113 students

## Top advisory groups

7B	8X	9W	10Z	11X
100%	97.1%	98.6%	93.8%	93.2%

## Full house Friday games

Students who had been in school all week were able to play some games during lunch including giant jenga, noughts and crosses, and others.



# What's on?

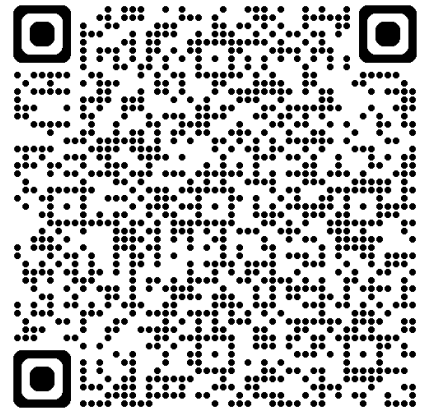
## Parent Power

Wythenshawe Parent Power is taking place at Dixons Brooklands Academy on Tuesday 30 September at 4pm. Come along, give your views on the school, and make our academy an even better place!

## KS3 Trips - Expression of Interest

At the end of this academic year we have three fantastic trips lined up for Years 7, 8 and 9. If your child is interested in going on the Paris football and netball trip, the Amsterdam sightseeing trip, or the London sightseeing trip, please notify us of your interest by clicking the link below or scanning the QR code.

<https://forms.office.com/e/GtbkndOw7R>



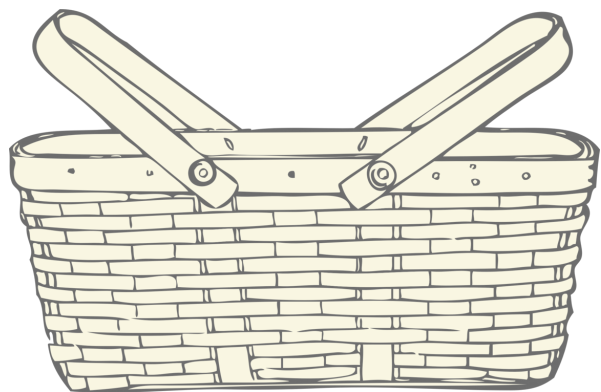
## Harvest Appeal from the school council

As members of the Dixons Brooklands Academy School Council, we ask for your support with a very important cause. We are collecting food donations for Wythenshawe Food Bank, which provides essential supplies to families in our local community who are experiencing difficult times.

Food banks play a vital role in helping people who may be struggling to afford everyday essentials. By donating, you will be making a real difference to the lives of people right here in Wythenshawe.

The food bank has asked for the following items in particular:

- Tinned meat and vegetables
- Tinned fruit
- Biscuits
- Coffee / sugar
- Milk (UHT)
- Jam
- Custard / rice pudding
- Crisps / chocolate
- Washing powder
- Washing up liquid



We are asking students and families to bring their donations into school on Thursday 2 and Friday 3 October. Please take any items directly to the main reception before school, where they can be dropped off.

Thank you in advance for your support!



# WYTHENSHAWE PARENT POWER



Attend our monthly sessions that provide training for parents to develop into higher education experts and help create local change.



Meet other  
parents



Ask questions and  
have conversations



Further your skills



**Sessions are held monthly at  
Dixons Brooklands Academy**



Community organiser:  
**Sandra Berlyne**  
**07535077872**



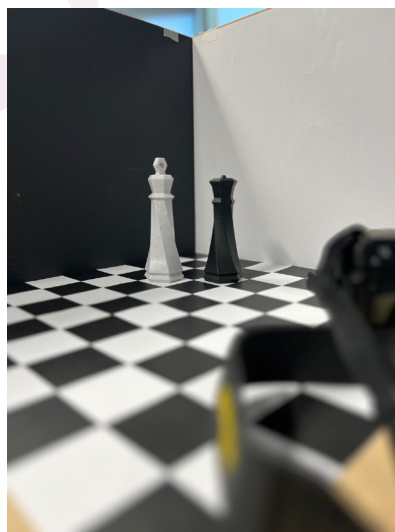
**DIXONS  
BROOKLANDS**  
ACADEMY

# Year 6 Open Evening

We were excited to welcome the families of year 5 and 6 students into our academy to share our successes, our values and the experiences of our current students.

Kicking off the evening with a speech from Priya in Year 11, she walked us through her journey navigating secondary school. This was followed by Mrs Gardner sharing her own journey from the moment she first stepped into the academy, inspired to believe each student's success to instill their own sense of internal motivation to succeed.

Families were then encouraged to walk around the academy, exploring what the different departments had to offer, from science experiments including magic liquid making hairdos for trolls, to Year 10 and 11 students working on their GCSE sketchbooks. Poetry making in English from prompts, a live drama practice of a Christmas tale, exciting maths riddles and 3d shapes, and so much more. We were proud to display our many sports achievements in the sports hall with students having a late workout, demonstrating their unity in rowing and trampolining.



If you missed the opportunity to come on the evening, or know a family who are interested, please contact Dr Rogers via email at [nrogers@dixonsbk.com](mailto:nrogers@dixonsbk.com) to book a tour between 8.45 to 11.00am from Monday 29 September through to Friday 17 October.

## Family Hub for school transition support

The Family Hub is reaching out to all Wythenshawe schools with their school link offer.

Please see attached posters for two school link workers. We encourage you to contact them to find out what support they can offer.

Hayley works with children, parents and staff from Key Stage 1 up to the age of 19 years old.

Catherine works specifically within the Early Years and can support children, parents and staff.

This will be helpful for incoming Year 6 students, and they can support current students also.



**Hayley Williams**  
Family Hub Navigator

[hayley.williams@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:hayley.williams@manchester.gov.uk)  
07971 384 537

Location:-  
Crossacres family hub  
Poundswick Lane  
M22 9TA

**Our Family Hub Navigator links in with secondary schools in Wythenshawe**

**We offer:**

- School transition support
- Literacy support
- Attending parents evening, open evenings and other events, sharing the family hub offer
- Mentoring with BW3 (certain schools only)
- Referring families into the family hubs family help team for further support
- Signposting young people for further support
- Signposting Young People to the family hub to youth sessions
- Hygiene bank
- C-CARD scheme with Brook

**Family Hub**  
**Family Hub Navigator**

Our Family Hub Navigator links in with primary schools in Wythenshawe

**We offer:**

- School transition & Readiness support
- School application drop-in & support
- Literacy & Story time sessions with Key stage 1 & Key Stage 2
- Attending parents evening, Coffee mornings and other events, sharing the family hub offer
- Referring families into the family hub for further support
- Signposting families for further support
- Preparing for high school support and drop-ins

Family Action. Working together with:  MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

Family Action. Registered as a Charity in England & Wales no: 264713.  
Registered as a Charity in the Isle of Man no: 1206. Registered Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales no: 01068186.

[family-action.org.uk](http://family-action.org.uk)



**catherine.desjardins@family-action.org.uk**  
07817 041 237

Location:  
Benchill Children's Centre,  
Lyndene Road,  
M22 4PZ

**Our school link worker links in with primary schools in Wythenshawe**

**We offer:**

- School transition support
- Literacy sessions
- Attending parents evening and other events
- Makaton song and story time
- Outreach support for early years children
- Signposting families for further support

**Family Action**  
**School Link Worker**



# Next week

## Menu week commencing 29/9/2025

	Main meal	Vegetarian meal
<b>Monday</b>	Sweet and sour chicken with rice	Vegetable spring rolls with noodles and sweet chilli sauce
<b>Tuesday</b>	Mince beef and onion pie with garlic new potatoes	Cheese and tomato turnovers with side salad
<b>Wednesday</b>	Chicken curry with rice and naan bread	Vegetable giant samosa with noodles
<b>Thursday</b>	Chinese chicken with egg fried rice	Cheese and onion slice with side salad
<b>Friday</b>	Chicken burger with chips and side salad	Spicy roast vegetables with noodles

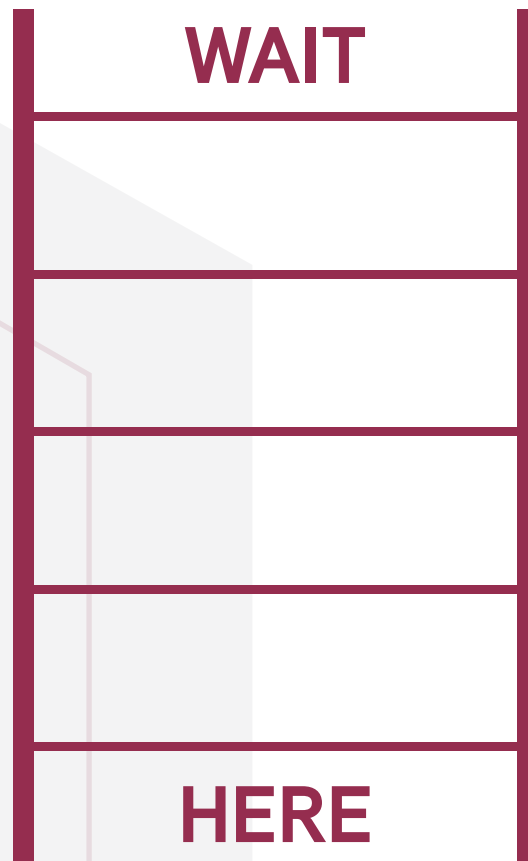
Each day there is also a panini selection with fillings of cheese, ham, pepperoni, and cheese & beans. Alongside this are a variety of sandwiches and baguettes, a salad bar and a choice of dessert.

We follow best practices in safe food handling to prevent cross-contamination. However, we cannot guarantee our products are 100% free of any specific allergens. Allergens are listed on the front counter, which refer to the ingredients we use. We also are unable to guarantee an allergen-free environment where some of our ingredients or products from suppliers may have been produced in an environment with other allergens. Please double-check with a member of staff if you have any questions.

	Year group	Description
<b>Tuesday 30/9</b>	All Years	Annual student photographs throughout the day
<b>Tuesday 30/9</b>	Families	Parent Power meeting at 4pm
<b>Thursday 2/10</b>	Year 10 / 11	Cycle 2 information evening
<b>Friday 17/10</b>	All Years	Last day of term

# Brain teaser

Climb the ladder by changing only one letter at a time, do not rearrange the order of the letters



Last week's solution:

6	4	7	9	2	5	1	8	3
5	9	1	3	7	8	2	6	4
2	8	3	4	1	6	9	7	5
3	2	4	7	5	1	6	9	8
1	6	5	2	8	9	3	4	7
8	7	9	6	4	3	5	2	1
9	5	6	8	3	7	4	1	2
4	3	8	1	9	2	7	5	6
7	1	2	5	6	4	8	3	9