

December 2023

Dear Families,

Re: End of Term Arrangements and Return to Academy Information

As we approach the end of another productive term at Dixons Newall Green, we would like to update you on the upcoming events and arrangements, as well as provide some essential information for the return to academy after the holidays.

Stretch Project Finals: Students have been working hard on their stretch projects (writing a speech about a topic that is important to them personally). The finals are set to commence this week. Each student will have the opportunity to present their speeches to their advisories. We hope to see many of them securing a place in the finals with their remarkable efforts.

Charitable Christmas Wear Day: On Thursday, 14 December, students are encouraged to wear one item of Christmas clothing, along with their normal academy uniform, or an accessory, by making a £1 donation to DePaul UK. This initiative supports the provision of accommodation, relationships, and stability for young people facing homelessness or at risk of it.

Special Christmas Lunch: Also on Thursday, 14 December, we will be hosting a special Christmas Lunch for Students during Family Dining. Our academy choir will be spreading festive cheer by performing some delightful seasonal tunes, along with some special solo performances.

End of Term Arrangements:

The Christmas Holidays will officially commence on **Friday, 15 December 2023**, with students **finishing at 2:20pm**. Please ensure arrangements are made for your child's timely pickup or transportation.

Return to Academy Arrangements:

Students are scheduled to return to the academy on **2 January 2024 at 11:05am**. They should enter through the normal student entrance where a warm welcome awaits them in the dining hall for refreshments before period 4. Staff members will be present earlier for training purposes.

Uniform and Equipment Check:

It is an ideal time over the holidays to check your child's equipment and uniform. Please ensure they have the correct uniform and the following equipment before returning to the academy:

- Clear plastic pencil case containing:
- 2 black pens
- 2 green pens
- Black whiteboard pen
- 2 pencils
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Reading book (from the library)
- Protractor

Reminder: Students are permitted to wear their PE kit only on days when they have PE scheduled or when participating in an elective that requires it. To avoid inconvenience, kindly review your child's timetable in advance.

Lockers and Cashless Payment:

Upon return, new lanyards and cashless cards will be issued to students. These will link to your ParentPay account and facilitate purchases during break time and Family Dining. Students are required to carry these at all times.

Additionally, for students who have lost their locker keys, replacements will be provided after Christmas. We strongly advise making copies of these keys to avoid future inconveniences. Please note, any subsequent replacements will incur a charge of £5.

Term Dates for 2024/2025:

We have officially published the term dates for the upcoming academic year. Kindly visit our website at <https://www.dixonsng.com/calendar> to access this information.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation throughout this term. We wish all our families a joyful and restful holiday season. May it be filled with warmth, happiness, and precious moments with your loved ones.

Warm regards,

Stephen Garvey
Principal