



**DIXONS
NEWALL GREEN**
ACADEMY

A message from our principal



Mrs J Whitworth
Principal

Dear families,

What an incredible term it has been! We have so much to celebrate, from our students' academic achievements to their many sporting successes. We are immensely proud of everything they have accomplished.

As we look ahead to the next term, there will be many more opportunities for our young people to learn, grow and succeed, and we look forward to another positive and productive term.

From all the staff at Dixons Newall Green, we wish you a safe, peaceful and happy Christmas.

NEWSLETTER

22 December 2025

Issue #4

Celebrating our students through Physical Education

This term, the Physical Education (PE) department has focused on two key areas: **Badminton** and **Fitness Training**.

Badminton

Students have been developing a range of technical skills, including:

- Smash Shot
- Drop Shot
- Overhead Clear
- Serving Techniques (underarm and backhand)

These sessions have been highly engaging, and students have shown significant improvement in both skill and confidence. To celebrate their progress, on Thursday, 18th December, students will participate in an exciting Badminton Challenge, playing matches against staff after school.

Our students have been competing for the number one spot. This term, Rinelle Q claimed the #1 position, overtaking Levi W, who now holds the #2 ranking.



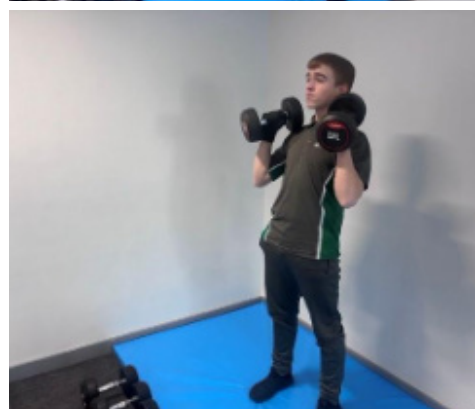
Fitness Training

Alongside badminton, students have spent time in the gym focusing on cardiovascular endurance. Using rowing machines, they have learned techniques to improve stamina and overall fitness. We are proud to announce that Riley H-S currently holds the top position in the school for rowing performance.

Students have also been learning how to improve their muscular strength through a variety of exercises and activities. These include:

- Free Weights: Bicep curls, hammer curls, overhead press, lateral raises, squats, lunges
- Bodyweight Exercises: Press-ups, sit-ups, squats, lunges

This has helped students understand the importance of strength training and how it contributes to overall health and athletic performance.



Celebrating our students through their achievements

On Tuesday 16 December the Year 8 Sports Hall Dixons Cup Athletics tournament held today at Dixons Brooklands.

The results are as followed;

- Dixons Newall Green Y8 Girls were crowned Dixon Cup Champions.
- Dixons Newall Green Y8 Boys also secured the title of Dixon Cup Champions.
- Dixons Newall Green Year 8 team overall Dixon Cup Champions Athletics Champions.



On Monday 15 December the Year 7 Sports Hall Dixons Cup Athletics tournament held at Dixons Fazakerley.

The results are as followed;

- Dixons Newall Green Y7 Girls were crowned Dixon Cup Champions.
- Dixons Newall Green Y7 Boys also secured the title of Dixon Cup Champions.
- Dixons Newall Green Year 7 team overall Dixon Cup Champions Athletics Champions.



On Wednesday 17 December, Mr. Jones and Mr. Kiernan took 17 students to watch Manchester City play Brentford at the Etihad Stadium. Despite the rain the students had a great time and with their behaviour and attitude did our school proud.

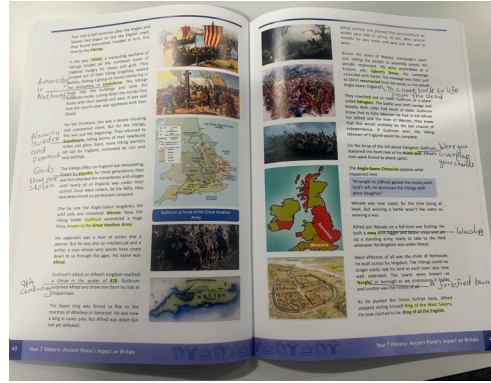
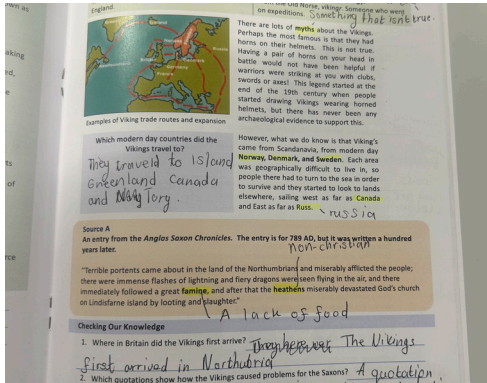


Celebrating our curriculum

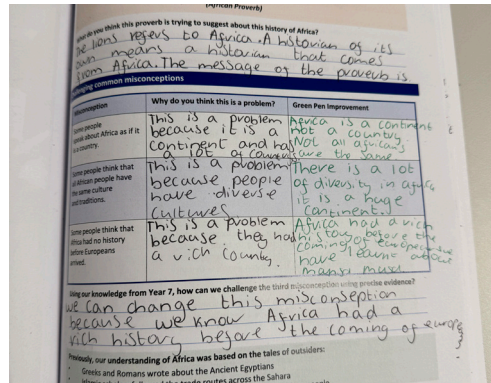
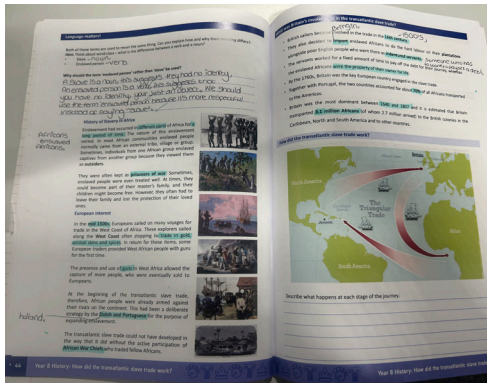
through knowledge

History

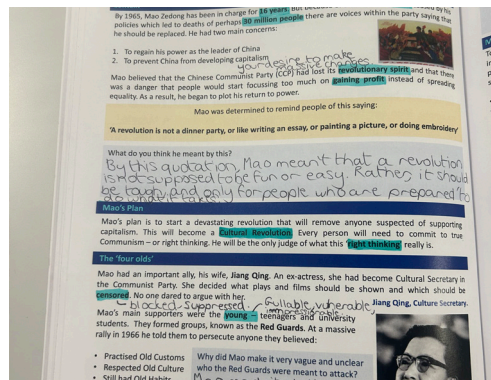
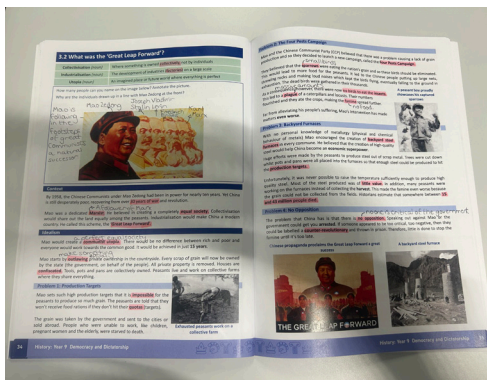
Our Year 7 students have been studying the Smashing Saxons and the Vicious Vikings! Well done everyone, you've been learning some horrible history!



Our Year 8 students have been studying the transatlantic slave trade following their depth study on the British Empire. Well done to Emily for making some great annotations.



Our Year 9 students have been studying a unique event in Chinese history, the Cultural Revolution. Our students are preparing for the GCSE history course to start in the new year.

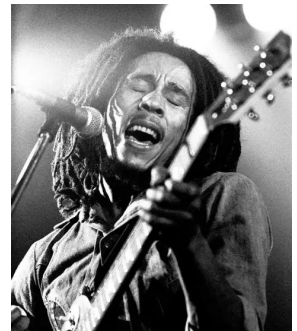


Celebrating our students through music

Our students have taken full advantage of the fantastic new music facilities, which include a spacious classroom and keyboard suite, three practice rooms - each equipped with a brand-new digital piano plus ten computers with dedicated music software. The drama studio is also available as a larger rehearsal space for choir practice and other musical ensembles.

Curriculum focus:

Year 9 students have enjoyed learning about Reggae music through the works of legendary artist Bob Marley. They explored the historical and political context of the genre to develop a deeper understanding of its origins and messages. All students performed either Three Little Birds or Buffalo Soldier on the keyboard, or as part of their own reggae band.



The topic Programme Music has taken **Year 8** students on an exciting musical journey inspired by orchestral works The Sorcerer's Apprentice, Peter and the Wolf, Danse Macabre, and Pictures at an Exhibition. Students were inspired to compose their own descriptive piece of music based on Edvard Munch's painting The Scream.

Year 7 students performed their own compositions based on a scary story narrative. By combining different musical techniques and sound effects on the keyboards, they created some truly spine-tingling and spooky music.



Black History Month

As part of Black History Month, Mrs Groarke-Young chose to focus on the life, musical career, and lasting impact of Billie Holiday. Students learned about the prejudice and challenges she faced throughout her life, as well as the resilience and determination she showed in trying to overcome them. Looking ahead, Year 9 will be studying the topic Protest Music, where they will explore Billie Holiday's powerful song "Strange Fruit" in greater depth and examine its historical and social significance.



Message from Mrs Groarke-Young Breaking News!

I am excited to announce the launch of the Dixons Music Cup 2026 on January 5th. In 2025, DNG had the highest number of entries across the whole trust (despite only having two year groups!). For the past two years, our students have been awarded silver and bronze positions. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the musical talent at DNG, and I look forward to entering even more musicians in 2026.

Extra-curricular activities

to enrich our students' experiences

Timetable

We now have over 14 amazing clubs up and running and Dixons Newall Green Academy! 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!

| | 3.15-4.15pm | Electives Thursday |
|------------------|---|--|
| Monday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework Club Chess Club Geography Film Club (Y9 WK B) Spanish Cooking Year 7 Football (Boys) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Careers Launchpad Debate Science in the media Chinese Culture Pasaporte a Espana Drama El come Espanol Strength & Conidtioning Dodgeball Board Games Warhammer |
| Tuesday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework Club Choir Library Team Open Art Studio Year 8 Football Boys & Girls | |
| Wednesday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework Club Girls Netball Media Cubs Year 8 Football (Boys) | |
| Thursday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework Club Squad Football Training | |
| Friday | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework Club | |

Free Breakfast Club – Every Morning from 7:50am, open to all students!

Enjoy a warm start to the day with free breakfast options - Fridays feature bacon, sausage, and vegetarian sandwiches.

Celebrating our students

through focus and dedication



Maths Sparx 100%

Year 7

Ameya J

Year 8

Aami S

Year 9

Taylor D

Well done to the above students for showing great dedication to their Maths learning on Sparx during Cycle1. The high XP points show that they are not only completing their homework but going above and beyond by completing XP boosts and the "Target" section of the website.

Science Sparx 100%

Year 7

Darcy D

Year 8

Lilly P

Year 9

Bobby L

These students have shown exceptional dedication and achievement in science. They consistently approach lessons with enthusiasm, persistence, and a positive attitude, tackling challenges with determination. Their efforts reflect a strong commitment to learning, with some demonstrating impressive depth of understanding and confidently engaging with advanced concepts beyond their current level.

English Sparx 100%

Year 7

Ameya J

Year 8

Aami S

Year 9

Taylor D



Huge congratulations to the above students for showing great dedication to developing their reading skills through Sparx Reader in Cycle 1. Each week, they go above and beyond to complete over 100% of their assigned points. Deep and thoughtful reading strengthens analytical skills and sparks imagination, allowing readers to think carefully and creatively, having a positive impact on all school subjects.

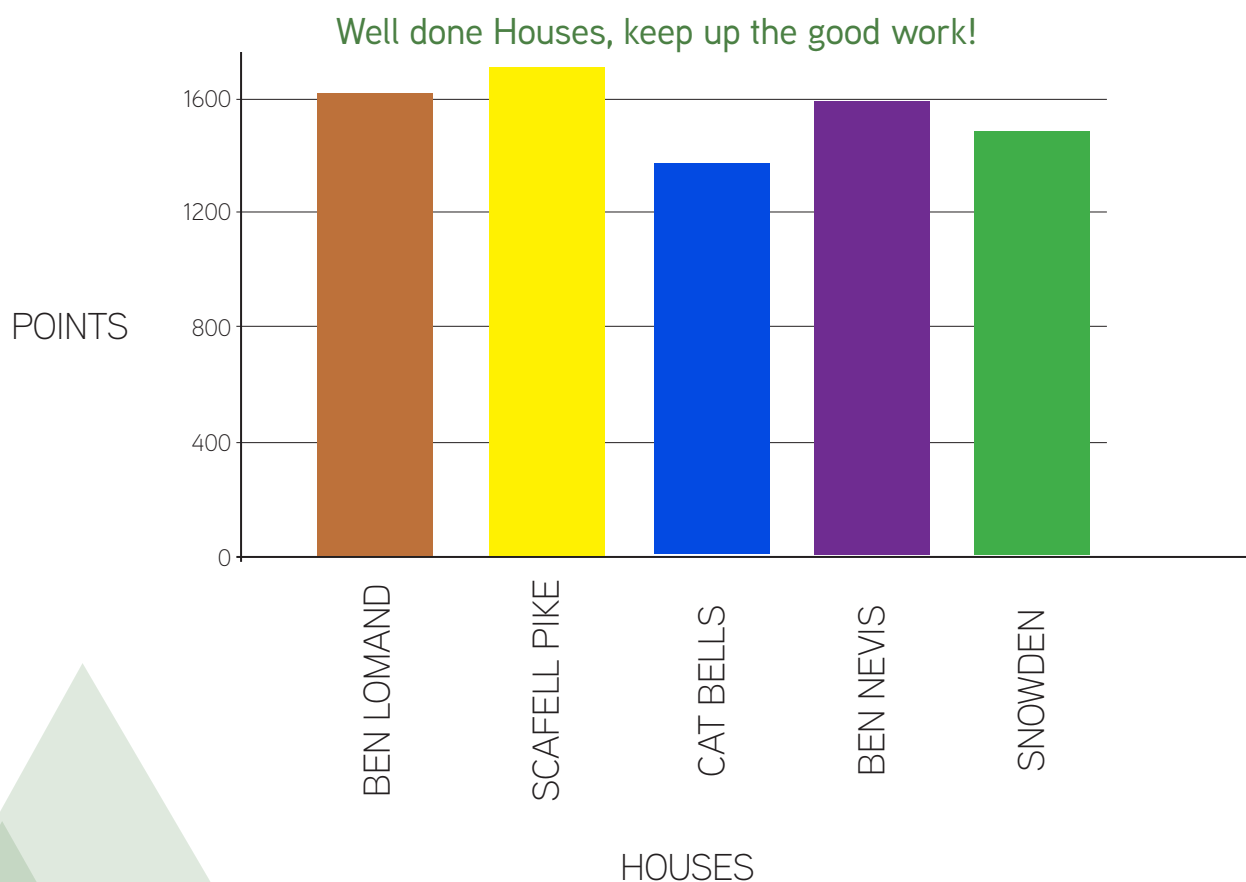
House points leaderboard

Who is in the lead?

Our houses are named after the mountains of the United Kingdom. By early November it was House Ben Nevis in the lead!

However, it has been House Scafell Pike who have overtaken them!

House Points are awarded for high levels of attendance, punctuality, golden tickets, and appreciations. More points are added for the lowest number of corrections. Every individual plays their part and contributes to their house, so make sure that you play yours!



Year 7 Ahmad R

As well as working hard in all his lessons, Ahmad always demonstrates our value of kindness. He is the first student to offer a helping hand to staff and his peers. He is a valued member of DNG and should be very proud of everything he has achieved his first term of year 7!

Year 8 Skyla B

Skyla works exceptionally hard every day to always progress in her lessons. She is a valued member of Year 8 and always looks out for everyone, consistently showing kindness and integrity.

Year 9 Seb S

Lives by our school values, always positive and striving to be the best he can. He is a conscientious and determined young man and I am sure he will continue to make great progress up his mountain.

Attendance

A HUGE shout out to 8BL who are still leading on attendance for Half Term 2! Well done to 8BL for working as a team and showing up to be successful! Can any other advisory rival 8BL?

On Fridays all students who have 100% attendance for Half Term 2 will receive a certificate. Well done to these students!

Students with 100% attendance for the entire of Cycle 1 will also receive a certificate and their bronze attendance badge on Friday! Well done to the below students!

How can you help your child to stay well enough to attend school? Here are the top 5 ways for parents to help.

1. **Maintain a consistent sleep routine:** Make sure children go to bed and wake up at the same time each day so they get enough rest for their age.
2. **Provide balanced, regular meals:** Nutritious meals—especially breakfast—help boost energy, concentration, and immunity. We have a free breakfast club every day and free fruit at breakfast club, break and lunch time.
3. **Encourage good hygiene habits:** Regular handwashing, brushing teeth, and bathing reduce the spread of illness.
4. **Ensure regular physical activity and fresh air:** Daily exercise strengthens the body and supports overall physical and mental well-being.
5. **Prepare school items the night before:** Laying out clothes and packing bags ahead of time reduces morning stress, helping children start the day calm and ready for school.

Health and attendance update

1. While we are aware that winter bugs may have affected your household this half term, children are statistically less likely to fall poorly from January into the spring months.
2. We look forward to students being able to increase their attendance from January onwards.

Who's in the lead so far this academic year?

| 7SP | 8BL | 9SP |
|-------|-------|--------------|
| 94.7% | 95.5% | 93.9% |

What are we doing next half term to improve attendance?

1. On a Wednesday mornings, breakfast club at 7:50am will have American style pancakes! Well done to Y7 who petitioned to Mr Ashcroft to make this happen! These are free for all students.
2. On a Friday mornings, breakfast club at 7:50am will have a selection of hot food available, for free, for all students including bacon and halal sausage sandwiches and hash browns.
3. On a Friday we will also have sausage rolls at break time, free for all students.
4. We look forward to our attendance on a Friday being just as good, if not better, than the other days of the week!
5. The 1% increase club will be launching. Students invited to take part in this initiative will be challenged to attend every to increase their attendance by 1% in two weeks! While 1% doesn't sound like a lot, it could mean that each student is 30% more likely to achieve 5 excellent grades at GCSE!

What's on?

Year 9 Role Model Talk – Exploring AI and Digital Safety

Our Year 9 students recently took part in an inspiring role model talk delivered by a member of staff working with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority. The session focused on the exciting possibilities of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and, importantly, how it can be used carefully and safely.

Students learned about the role AI plays in modern workplaces, the importance of responsible use, and how digital technologies can shape the future while protecting privacy and wellbeing. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to connect classroom learning with real-world applications and hear from someone making a difference in our region.

Student Council Podcast

We are delighted to share that our Student Council members from across all year groups have recorded a podcast. In the episode, students discussed important topics including CAHMS, the Chief of Police Neighborhood walk, and the wider work of the School Council.

This project gave DNG students a unique opportunity to engage with mainstream media and showcase the positive impact of student leadership across our community.

Dental Health Assembly – Festive Season Tips

Last week, students attended a special assembly from the Manchester Community Dental Service, focusing on staying healthy during the festive season. The session included important reminders about looking after teeth, even when enjoying treats like chocolate. Students were reminded of practical tips such as brushing twice a day, avoiding fizzy drinks, and making smart choices to keep their smiles bright and healthy.

Thank you to Manchester Dental Service for helping our students understand how to enjoy the holidays while caring for their dental health!

Dodgeball Tournament – Bringing Our Community Together

On Friday, 12 December, Dixons Newall Green proudly hosted an exciting dodgeball tournament for our six feeder primary schools. The event, run by Edstart, was a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their teamwork and energy while enjoying some friendly competition.

This tournament reflects our commitment to making our new building a hub for the community, providing opportunities for local schools to come together and celebrate sport and collaboration. A huge thank you to Edstart and all the primaries who joined us for such a successful day!

A Huge Thank You for Supporting Wythenshawe Food Bank

We are delighted to share that our recent collection for Wythenshawe Food Bank was a tremendous success. Thanks to the generosity of our families and community, we have been able to provide essential items to support local people in need. Your kindness and commitment truly make a difference, and we are proud to see our school community come together for such an important cause.

Thank you for helping us spread hope and care this season!



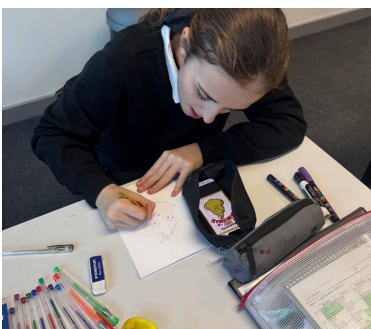
Spreading Christmas Cheer – Student Card Project

This December, our students took part in a special initiative during advisory sessions: creating Christmas cards for members of our community care homes who may be feeling lonely this festive season.

This project is part of our commitment to fostering kindness, empathy, and social responsibility in our students. It's a wonderful way for them to make a positive impact and understand the importance of giving back.

Through activities like this, students develop valuable life skills such as communication, creativity, and compassion—qualities that benefit them personally and professionally in the future.

Thank you for supporting us as we encourage our students to spread joy and make a difference in the lives of others this Christmas!



Last week of term fun!

Exciting Theatre Experience for Year 7!

On Tuesday, 16 December, our Year 7 students enjoyed a special performance of Dick Whittington by a travelling theatre group. The show will take place in the lecture theatre and promises to be a fun and memorable experience for our students as part of their cultural enrichment.



Christmas Lunch – Wednesday, 17 December

We were excited to celebrate the festive season with our traditional Christmas lunch on Wednesday, 17 December. Students enjoyed turkey with all the trimmings, followed by music from our wonderful school choir, creating a joyful atmosphere for everyone. Thank you for helping us make this a special occasion for our school community!



Friday 19 December – Top 10 Students in Each Advisory!

On Friday 19 December we hosted a Christmas Party to celebrate the achievements of the Top 10 students in each advisory. This special event included festive fun and music from our very own DJ, making it a memorable occasion for those who have worked hard this term.

Congratulations to all the students who earned their place at this celebration, it was great fun!

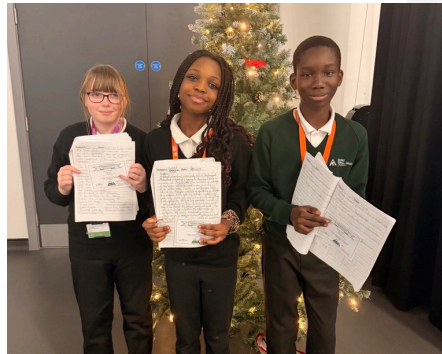
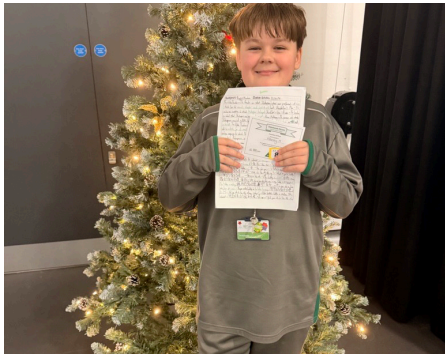
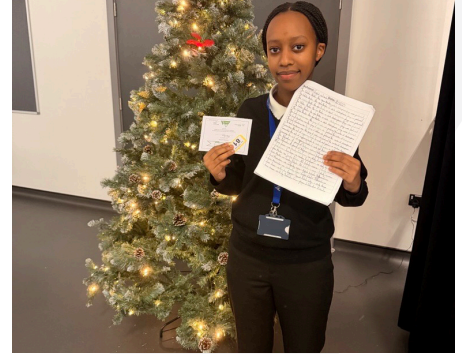


Homework

As the term draws to a close, I would like to say a big thank you to you as families for supporting with homework. As a result of our perseverance through recognition events, and your help at home, we have significantly reduced the number of students not completing this important learning habit each day.

Our Homework Heroes event each Friday has been a real success, along with the Sparx Heroes weekly prize draw. On Friday we will be holding our Homework Heroes Big Prize Draw for all raffle ticket holders.

All students can now enjoy a 2 week break from homework, ready to return refreshed and ready to go again in January!



Upcoming dates for your diary

| | Year group | Description |
|------------------------|------------|------------------|
| Monday 05/01 | All Years | First day |
| Wednesday 07/01 | Year 9 | DTP/ACWY Vaccine |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |