

September 2023

Dear Families,

We hope this letter finds you well. We have some important updates to share with you regarding our academy.

1. Eurio Survey / Student Voice:

Starting on Monday, 2nd October, our students will be taking part in their first-ever Student Voice survey at Dixons Newall Green. Student Voice is crucial because it helps us understand how our students are feeling and address their needs.

Students will complete the survey at school during Robust Reading with their advisors. Please note that these surveys are entirely anonymous and confidential. The responses will be used for analysis purposes.

2. Student Leadership / Ambassadors:

Starting from Monday, 25th September, we are launching our Student Leadership Team. This is a vital role within our school. The Head and Deputy Head Students will lead different areas of academy life and collaborate with both students and staff to implement initiatives for school improvement. The Head Student team will meet regularly with the Principal, and Senior Leadership Team to review progress towards objectives.

For those interested in the Head or Deputy Head Student roles, they will need to write a letter of application to the Principal and present it during Morning Meeting to their peers. Students will then vote for the candidates they would like to represent them. We are looking for 2 Head Students and 4 Deputy-Head Students.

We will also appoint 2 Student Ambassadors from each advisory to support the work of the Head Students. For those interested in this role, they will need to write a letter of application to the Principal (there will not be a speech or vote for the Ambassador roles).

The application deadline for all positions is **Friday, 29th September**. Speeches and elections will take place the week after, and our Student Leadership team will be announced on 9th October.

3. Change to the Timings of Corrections (Detentions):

At Dixons Newall Green, our aim is not to punish students. If a correction is given, students can avoid it by following our 6 simple learning habits: giving a positive response, wearing the correct uniform, completing homework, staying on task in lessons, arriving on time, and having the necessary equipment.

Currently, if students receive a correction, it lasts for 30 minutes. If they receive 2 corrections on the same day, it can extend to 60 minutes. More than 2 corrections on the same day means crossing our 'red line,' and your child may spend the next day in the office with a member of the Leadership Group. Missing a second correction can have serious consequences, including suspension. Families are notified of corrections through the My Child at School App.

In response to your feedback, we will be reducing same-day corrections to 30 minutes during the darker months for student safety on the way home from the academy. For more than 2 corrections on the same day, our red line still applies.

Our system is designed to be simple and fair, and we believe that students should not receive corrections in the first place. Corrections are intended to help students reflect on what went wrong, and every day is an opportunity for a fresh start.



4. Extra Curricular Clubs:

We are excited to announce the launch of our extra-curricular clubs.

Year 7 clubs run from 16:05 (4:05 pm) on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, lasting for 1 hour.

On Friday, they start at 14:20 (2:20 pm) and last for 1 hour.

Here is the schedule for our clubs:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Homework Club	Homework Club	Homework Club	Homework Club	Homework Club
Choir	Mindfulness	Art Club	Sparx Maths and Stretch	
		Football - Boys	Football – Girls	

We hope that your child will take advantage of these opportunities to explore their interests and passions outside of the regular school day.

5. Homework and Stretch

Please visit: <https://www.dixonsng.com/why/homework-and-stretch> to see your child's homework timetable.

6. Free School Meals

If you believe your child is entitled for Free School Meals (FSM), please visit: <https://www.dixonsng.com/about/free-school-meals> for more information on how to apply. Once you have your eligibility confirmed you will receive a code, please provide this to the academy so we can update our records. Our FSM allocation covers Family Dining and Breakfast, but excludes break time provision.

7. Parent Pay

You should now have access to Parent Pay. If you are still struggling to get access, please contact us and speak to one of our admin team. A reminder that the cost of family dining each day includes access to breakfast, but excludes break time. Please ensure your child's account is regularly credited to avoid mounting charges.

Thank you for your ongoing support in making Dixons Newall Green a positive and engaging learning environment for our students. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Garvey
Principal