

8 April 2022

Dear Families,

I hope that my end of term letter finds you in good health. It has been a challenging half term for our students; especially for Year 11 and Post-16 students who have been working hard for their mock exams and in preparing for their final exams in the summer. It has been great to see the way in which the students have been showing a maturity and responsibility that will bode well for the summer; I hope that the hard work and determination continues for all of them in the coming weeks.

Ramadan Mubarak

To all our families observing the Holy month of Ramadan, I wish you well and continue to appreciate our students who are ensuring that they concentrate fully and work hard despite the challenges of keeping their fast all day. Please remember that we intend to close school to all students on Tuesday 3 May and reopen on Wednesday 4 May 2022.

Consultation on proposed changes to the school day

Please remember that you can respond to our proposal to slightly amend the school day, with an earlier start of 8.15am, and some small changes to the structure of the day to introduce pastoral advisory sessions. If you would like to share your views on this, please see my previous letter for information <https://www.dixonsaa.com/news-events/news/proposed-change-to-the-academy-day> and email admin@dixonsaa.com.

Recognition Assemblies

We held our first Recognition assembly for students in Year 7-9 towards the end of this half term. It was wonderful to see so many students present, and to celebrate their achievements and progress. We had a range of awards for students who get things right day in; day out as well as celebrating exceptional academic progress across year groups and subjects. We will continue to hold these events at the end of every cycle and will eventually be inviting families to join us. The Year 10 and 11 event had to be postponed and will be going ahead in the first week back after Easter. We will share photographs and reflections on our Appreciations Bulletin and via our Twitter account.

LIBF Examination – 3 May 2022

There are a number of Post-16 students studying LIBF Finance who have an exam on the proposed EID day – Tuesday 3 May. The exam will be going ahead. We are writing to all students about this as we will be holding the exam and will be encouraging all students to attend. Please respond to this letter if your child is studying LIBF Finance

COVID / Face Coverings

We have experienced a slight increase in COVID cases at the academy; however, this has not yet been on a scale that would mean we need to consider changes to our policies. Face coverings continue to be voluntary in all areas of the academy. We do have some testing kits still available, and students can request these from reception.

Equipment and Uniform Focus

I want to thank all families for their support in ensuring that you help us to ensure that students are arriving to the academy fully equipped and impeccably dressed to allow us to spend more time focusing on the students' learning than organisational habits. The new equipment strategy is working well and is ensuring that students have all they need to be successful in lessons.



Planners

Please remember to check your child's planner for homework, corrections and messages. You can also sign it on a weekly basis. Please ensure that your child looks after their planner and that they avoid graffiti. Students who deface or damage planners will be charged £4 for a new planner.

Social Media and Students' phone use outside of the academy

Please remain vigilant to your child's mobile phone use at home. Thank you to families who have been keeping us informed of issues between students as this has helped us to prevent things escalating when they are in the academy. We will continue to work together in partnership with you to keep all our children safe.

Contact Details

We often send text messages and communications to families through the MCAS app. It is important that we have the correct contact details on file. If you have changed yours recently, please email admindaa@dixonsaa.com or update your details in the MCAS app.

Attendance

Please remember the importance of good attendance and the link between student progress and achievement and high attendance. Please do communicate with the attendance team as early as possible in the morning to ensure the academy is notified of your child's absence in a timely manner. Thank you to families that have been working alongside the directors of achievement and progression towards improving their child's attendance.

Link for Parents Evening Bookings – Year 7 and 11

<https://dixonsallertonacademy.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

School Day and Term Dates 2022-23

Our term dates for 2022-2023 are already on our website (select *Calendar* from the menu): www.dixonsaa.com

Key Dates

- **Academy closes for Easter** – Friday 8 April 2022 at 12.30pm
- **Return to the academy – ALL STUDENTS** - Monday 25 April 2022
- **Year 11 Parents' Evening** - Tuesday 26 April 2022
- **Bank Holiday** – Monday 2 May 2022
- **Academy closed for EID** – Tuesday 3 May 2022
- **Year 7 Parents' Evening** - Thursday 5 May 2022
- **School closes for May half term** – Friday 27 May 2022 at 3.30pm
- **All dates are on our website – select 'Calendar' at www.dixonsaa.com**

Thank you

As always, I feel incredibly blessed to work at Dixons Allerton Academy and to serve our community. I want to thank you for your support and belief in our Journey to becoming an exceptional school at which it is a pleasure to work and study. This is only possible if we work together in partnership to do the best for every child in our care.

I hope that all students have a great break and that you all manage to spend some quality time together as a family.

Yours sincerely



Danny Carr
Principal

