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# INSight

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**28th May 2021**

## A Message From Mr Landers, Principal

After working incredibly hard in their final GCSE assessments, we today said goodbye to our Year 11 learners who will switch to distance learning for the remainder of the academic year. They will still be invited into the academy after half-term for a range of careers and Post-16 activities and will also need to be available for the first two weeks if any assessments have been missed. With the end of restrictions in sight we are all looking forward to celebrating their time here at the Year 11 Prom on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July and again on results day on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August. I would like to thank all Year 11 learners and their families for how they have risen to the challenge of this academic year and wish them all the best in the future.

Hopefully, on June 21<sup>st</sup> the government will announce the end of all restrictions. As an academy we have made the decision to remain in year bubbles until this period and keep the staggered start and finish times to school. Like you, both our staff and learners are

frustrated by the restrictions in place but to ensure our young people and staff are safe we have taken this decision. We are making some changes, now that Year 11 have left us with Year 9 moving to a new bubble in the B Block and Year 10 moving onto the Year 11 floor after half-term.

Finally, a reminder to our Year 10 learners that their first formal GCSE Mock Examinations begin on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June. For many it is their first experience in the exam hall which we need to continually practice between now and the real examinations at the end of Year 11. Hard work and revision will have a direct impact on their success and I urge you to encourage them to work at home for these examinations using the range of resources available. Subject staff will be providing revision materials as well as resources already in our distance learning folders from lockdown.

Have a great half term.

## Attendance

Last week your son/daughter was given a copy of their attendance summary to bring home. Academy expectations are that learners try to maintain high levels of attendance and punctuality.

An 'O' code, shows unauthorised absence. Too many of these may result in a referral to the Local Authority bringing about a warning notice or fine. An 'X' code shows if your child has had to self isolate due to Covid. An 'L' or 'U' code shows the number of times your child has been late to school.

Attendance below 90% shows persistent absenteeism, which is likely to impact on GCSE performance. Our attendance team work closely with families to help make rapid improvements in attendance. If you would like our help please do contact the Academy.

We realise that Covid has had a huge impact on school attendance this year. We are asking for your support over the coming months, as restrictions are relaxed, to help drive standards up again please.

## Dudley College Virtual Open Evening

Registration for Dudley College Virtual Open Evening is now open! This is a great event for our Year 10 learners to start looking at their next steps after their GCSEs. You'll be able to virtually meet their tutors, explore your options and ask any questions you may have. Join them on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June between 4 - 7pm.



Register at <https://www.dudleycol.ac.uk/College-Information/Open-Days/9th-June-2021>

## Star of the Month April 2021

Congratulations to the following students who gained the most merits per form for the month of April.

### Year 7

Thomas Currie, Kayan Kemalov, Ahmad Nasser,  
Mohamed Sanago

### Year 8

Karina Boghiu, Haleemah Iqbal, Daniel Marsh, Simrah  
Rasul

### Year 9

Vlad Crisu, Sophie Wedge

### Year 10

Taylor Croft, Iqra Kauser, Muskaan Khan,  
Khomotso Motlatla, Omar Quayum, Lindiwe Zumbika

### Year 11

Morris Adah, Abigail Berry, Joshua Davies, Isaac Nicklin,  
Kenzie Philips

## Free Kids Half-Term Meals

THE LIGHTHOUSE CAFÉ

Salop Street, Dudley DY1 3EB

Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

12:00 - 1:00pm

Monday: Chicken Strips, Wedges and Mixed Vegetables

Tuesday: Fish Fingers, Chips and Beans

Wednesday: Chicken Piece, Mash, Carrots and Gravy

Thursday: Sausage, Fries and Sweetcorn

Friday: Meatballs, Rice and Broccoli

Vegetarian options available

Text or call to pre-order 07535 750832

Let us know if you have any food allergies

Eat in or take-away



## Dudley HAF

There is still time to register your child for Dudley holiday activity fun (HAF). In the summer holidays eligible children can access a variety of fun sessions. If your child (5 -16) is eligible for benefit related free school meals and would like to attend, please register at <https://buff.ly/3eVOaop>

## Free School Meals Are You Entitled?

Have your circumstances changed due to COVID-19?

Are you now in receipt of benefits such as Universal Credit? If you are, you may be entitled to apply for the Free School Meals entitlement for your child. Even if your circumstances have only changed for the short term, you still have the right to apply.



Are you entitled?

The Free School Meals entitlement can be applied for where the parent's income satisfies the following conditions at the time of applying:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit Run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit (you must have less than £616.67 a month net earned income (after tax - and not including any benefits))

If you believe your child should be eligible for Free School Meals based on this criteria, you can apply now. A paper copy of the application form can be collected from the School office, or applications can be made online via

<http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals/>

Please note, however, this procedure will only currently work via a PC or laptop, not via a phone or tablet device.

If your circumstances subsequently change meaning you are no longer entitled to Free School Meals, your child's school will continue to receive funding to support your child for 6 years.

All matters regarding Free School Meals are treated confidentially, this is supported by our cashless catering system.

# Punctuality Drive

Will your bus/train or plane wait for you?

The obvious answer is no, of course not! It is our responsibility to be on time otherwise there are consequences ... not getting to where we want to be on time!

At Pegasus we emphasise the need to be here on time, or even slightly early, every day. Whilst the vast majority of learners are either never or only occasionally late there are some who seriously struggle with attending school on time. As parents/carers who know all too well that persistent lateness in a work setting would end up with you getting the sack we ask that you reiterate this with your youngsters.

You can support your youngsters to do this by:-

- Ensuring that they have a good bedtime routine (including not staying up too late or having screen time late into the night)

- Ensuring that they have arrangements in place to wake them up (this could be an alarm set or arrangement to be woken at a set time) and have a realistic morning routine
- Ask to see your child's planner to monitor their lateness yourself (encouraging/rewarding them when they are getting it right, ie not getting any late lines or applying sanctions at home for late lines)
- Have a conversation with them and us if you are concerned about what you see in their planner

In school, Miss Griffiths is working with some identified learners to try to improve punctuality by closely monitoring them on a weekly basis, and rewarding learners when they are getting to school on time. Over time it is hoped that they will become self regulating in relation to punctuality by forming new good habits so they change for the long run.

# National Citizen Service

Our Year 11 learners had a great time at the NCS sign up event.

Designed specially for 16 and 17 year olds, the NCS experience will give you a clearer idea of what you want from your future turning all those 'No You Cant's' into No We Can.

NCS exists to engage, unite and empower young people, building their confidence so you can go out there and achieve your dreams, no matter where you are from or what your background is.

Participants spend a few weeks in the summer or autumn mixing with a new crowd, and taking on fresh challenges together. Before you know it, you will be rooting for each other, as you all tackle your own little hurdles.

Along the way, you will also get a taste for independence and pick up skills that will help you smash your future goals. And if that's not enough for you, you'll also be given a platform to get your voice heard and pursue a passion project to create a positive, lasting impact in your local community.

Visit <https://wearencs.com/> for more information.



# Social Media

Do you know what social media platforms your youngsters are using and who they are chatting to?

Do you talk to your youngsters and listen to any concerns they may have about things happening on social media?

If it is time for some changes but you need support with this please contact your youngsters Learning Manager here at school.



# Term Time Holidays

Can we please remind you that if you are planning to take your child out of school during term time for any reason (including for religious festivals), you will need to complete a Leave of Absence Request form providing your intended dates, before your child takes any time off school. This will be given to the Principal for consideration and approval. Note that **term time holidays will not be authorised** and you may be liable to a Fixed Term Penalty Notice if you choose to take your child on holiday during term time.

# Work Showcase

7SDY have been busy producing thank you cards and poems for the nurses at Sandwell ITU to celebrate International Nurses Day. They were handed over to the Senior Sister to share with her colleagues.

Check out some of the AMAZING Creme Patisserie Tarts that have been produced to a very professional standard by our Year 10 Hospitality & Catering Learners. Well done to everyone!



## Coming Up Summer Term 2021

28th May	Learners break up for half term
7th June	Academy re-opens
28th June	Year 6 transition week
2nd July	Year 11 Prom
16th July	Learners break up for the Summer holiday
19th/20th/21st July	INSET days (academy closed to learners)

## Every Mind Matters

Better mental health helps us at work, at school, at home and in the way we feel about ourselves. Visit [#EveryMindMatters](https://buff.ly/3tjyMGI) and take the Mind Plan Quiz to discover more ways to feel better. <https://buff.ly/3tjyMGI>



## Scotty G's Summer Term Menu

Why not come and try out some of the delicious meals we have on offer. Our split lunch system means that there are rarely queues so you can spend your lunch time relaxing.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	Chicken Balti	Pork Sausage	Pepperoni Pizza	Beef Tacos	Fish With Optional Tartar Sauce
WEEK 2	Hunters Chicken (fillet with BBQ sauce and cheese)	Quorn Chilli Con Carne	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Chicken Burger	Fish With Optional Tartar Sauce
WEEK 3	Spaghetti Bolognese	Sweet & Sour Chicken	Pepperoni Pizza	Cottage Pie	Fish With Optional Tartar Sauce

CHICKEN JOES, VEGETARIAN AND HALAL OPTIONS AVAILABLE DAILY  
JACKET POTATOES WITH A CHOICE OF FILLINGS, CHEESE AND BISCUITS, DESSERTS, FRESH FRUIT AND SALAD AVAILABLE DAILY