

08 July 2020

Dear families,

As you know, schools are opening to all scholars from the start of the autumn term. Over the summer break, all of our sites will be having a full deep clean and all annual safety checks will be completed. All our schools will be following government guidelines when students return regarding:

- minimising contact with those who are unwell
- cleaning hands thoroughly and more often
- ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- enhanced cleaning
- minimising contact between individuals

To support with this, for now we would ask that all communication from families is through telephone or email rather than a physical letter or note.

Although we will need to make adjustments to how the school days will run, we are fully committed to ensuring each of our scholars will still experience the full range of curriculum subjects which underpin a Dixons education.

In order to ensure that all of our staff and students are fully ready for the start of the academic year and are following current government guidance, please find the start dates for the new academic year below for each cohort:

- Year 7 Class of 2027: **Tuesday 1st September**
- Year 8 Class of 2026: **Thursday 3rd September**
- Year 9 Class of 2025: **Thursday 3rd September**
- Year 10 Class of 2024: **Wednesday 2nd September**
- Year 11 Class of 2023 will have **one induction day w/c 24th August** and will start full time on **Tuesday 1st September**.

The Year 11 induction day are in Advisories and are as follows:

- 11A Induction Day: Tuesday 25th August
- 11B Induction Day: Thursday 27th August
- 11X Induction Day: Friday 28th August
- 11Y Induction Day: Wednesday 26th August

We look forward to seeing scholars in their full academy uniform on their first day back and fully equipped, including the compulsory academy jacket. This is particularly important given the current situation as scholars will be spending more time outdoors and we would not want students sharing pieces of equipment. Please see the family handbook for further details: <https://www.dixonsma.com/admissions/family-handbook>

Over the next week, I will be writing to families about specific arrangements for each year group including staggered start and end times, PE uniform arrangements and further amendments which we will be making in line with government guidance.

In the first few days, we will be working hard to repurpose and reconnect with our scholars after such an extended period of time away from usual school life, these activities will be vital if we are to engage the students as quickly as possible back into the curriculum and learning. If you have any questions or queries, please do contact the academy by emailing info@dixonsma.com before the end of term Thursday 17th July.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your flexibility and positivity through what has been a challenging year. I know our families have been working hard at home to balance home-schooling along with other commitments. I do hope that you all have some well-earned rest over the summer break.

Laura Senior



Principal
Dixons Mc Millan Academy