



Welcome back

I hope this message finds you and your families well. As we conclude our first week of the new academic year, I wanted to take a moment to extend my deepest thanks for your support and partnership as we begin another exciting chapter at Dixons Croxteth Academy, as we move into the 'reinvent' stage of improvement.



Mr Duggan
Principal

We saw a huge increase in results for the outgoing Year 11 cohort in the summer and I am expecting GCSE results to again improve this year as we continue on our journey in achieving our mission of: ***“ensuring all students succeed at university, or a real alternative, thrive in a rewarding career and have a purposeful and happy life”***. I have included information about the Summer results in this letter.

Regular school attendance is a key factor in academic achievement and this was clear in our GCSE results as all students with +90% attendance made incredible progress and attainment. When students attend school consistently, they are able to fully engage with their lessons, participate in classroom activities, and build upon their knowledge day by day. I am pleased to say that this week attendance has been very strong with Year 7 achieving 99.7%.

We want all students to be successful at Dixons Croxteth and this week has been about reacclimatising ourselves back into the routines of Dixons Croxteth. We have completed a student induction program, over communicating the messages. Next week, after school corrections will begin for students who break the learning habits. Corrections are an essential part of helping students develop responsibility, discipline, and accountability. By taking the time to reflect on the broken learning habits, students learn valuable life lessons about perseverance, making better decisions, and meeting expectations.

I would like to thank parents and carers for the cards and gifts sent in at the end of the last academic year. It is your support that motivates the staff here at Dixons Croxteth and we are looking forward to continuing to work with you this year.

Iain Duggan
Principal

Class of 2024 Results

On Thursday 22 August, our outgoing cohort of Year 11 students collected their GCSE results. Students attended bright and early (some an hour before the academy opened) to receive results.

Results are not finalised yet and I will share the validated results with you in October. However, we have seen a significant improvement in student outcomes. Some headline figures at the moment are:

- Basics (Maths and English) grade 5+ have doubled in one year
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- Students achieving a 5+ in Maths increased from 12% -to 23%
- Students achieving a 5+ in Art and design increased from 31% to 58%
- Students achieving a 5+ in Science increased from 9% to 24%
- Students achieving a 5+ in Geography increased from 4% to 21%



Results day was a joyous occasion and the students should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved. As an academy we are clearly moving in the right direction.



We constantly want to improve and will work tirelessly this year to continue to get better.



Uniform

We have given all students a week to ensure their uniform is perfect and meets our expectations. The majority of students have returned looking incredibly smart and proud to be at Dixons Croxteth.

When touring the building with visitors they often comment on how well presented students are and in discussions with the Student Council they feel the uniform gives us a sense of belonging.

Our uniform; promotes equality and fairness, creates a sense of belonging, encourages discipline and focus and reinforces the school values.

Next week any student wearing trainers will be placed in the reflection room until contact home has been made and the situation rectified.

Equipment

Every lesson, students have to have the correct equipment. Not having equipment disrupts the lesson and prevents learning. Students can purchase equipment in the morning from the equipment shop. If a student does not have the correct equipment they will be issued with a correction.

Last year we spent a significant amount of money giving students equipment. We want students to become more responsible for their learning this year and be equipped everyday ready to learn

Website and Twitter / X

We post regular updates about life at the academy on both our website: **www.dixonscr.com** and our Twitter / X account: **@Dixonscr**

Please like and share our positive article

Summer School

We have built a great partnership with Liverpool Football Club through their outreach programme. This Summer they led the transition camp for students joining us in year 7. The days consisted of team building, personal development, communication skills and sport. The students had a great time and they helped to take away any anxiety and worry for students joining 'big school'

We will continue to work with Liverpool Football Club this year with attendance and careers programmes.

Open Evening

We will be hosting our Open Evening for next years Year 7 students (2025-26) on Thursday 26 September. This is an opportunity to see the developments at Dixons Croxteth and I would welcome all families with students in Year 5 or 6 to attend.

This year we had a record number of allocations for Dixons Croxteth and it is important that families visit us so that we can support with the application process.

If you know of any families that cannot attend please contact the Academy and we will arrange for a tour and meeting at another time.



**Come along to our
open evening for girls and boys at
Dixons Croxteth Academy**

Thursday 26 September, 4.30-6.30pm

We want Dixons Croxteth Academy to be your school of choice.
Come and find out why we believe it's an exceptional place to learn!

Video Blog / Newsletter

Thank you to all families that provided feedback last year. It was clear that the newsletter was well received and this will continue to be created fortnightly.

We will also introduce a short video every other week to showcase what we do at Dixons Croxteth. This will start next week.

Literacy / Reading Tests / Fresh Start

We aim to foster a love and passion for reading at Dixons Croxteth and at the end of last year, we relaunched our School Library. The attainment gap is the literacy gap and we want to all students to confident in all areas of literacy.

Next week we will begin reading test for all year groups this will enable us to put in place interventions for students and support them to become more confident in their reading.

We have invested heavily in literacy and will be using a nationally recognised program to support us in supporting your child. This program is called Fresh Start—Ruth Miskin Literacy and I am excited to share the progress that students make using this program with you. You can find out more information [here](#)

You will have seen the launch of the Literary Lounge last year. We have had some fantastic feedback on this from visitors to the academy and this year will be using our Year 11 students to act reading partners for year 7 and 8.



Anti Racism Focus Group

As part of our ongoing efforts to challenge educational and social disadvantage in the North, at the end of last year we hosted a series of student focus groups aimed at exploring experiences related to race and racism within our schools. These sessions were an important step in our mission to foster high-performing, non-faith academies that prioritise attainment, diversity, character development, and cultural capital.

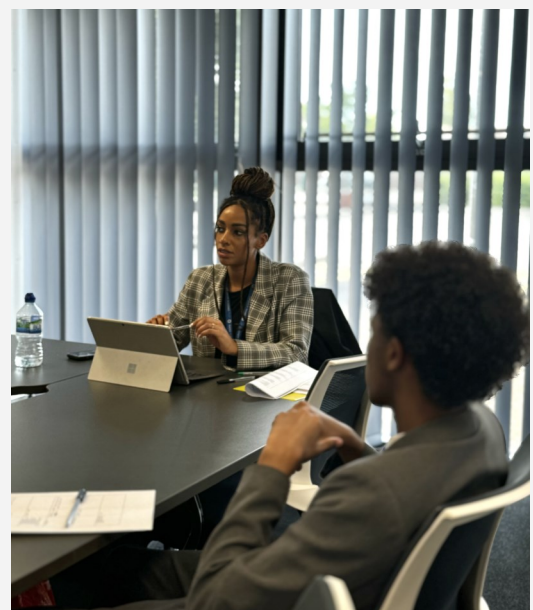


The focus groups, organised by ethnicity and spanning a range of year groups, provided a platform for students to share their personal experiences and perspectives on race-related issues. Led by Funmilola Stewart, our Trust Assistant Principal for Research & Development into Anti-Racism, the sessions were conducted in a supportive and non-judgemental environment. Ms Stewart, who has extensive experience in anti-racist practices and safeguarding, ensured that students felt

comfortable and respected throughout the discussions.

Each group, consisting of up to seven students, engaged in open and informal dialogue for up to 30 minutes. The feedback gathered will be instrumental in refining and advancing our Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (ED&I) strategy across the Dixons Academies.

We extend our gratitude to all the students who participated and contributed to these important conversations. Below, you will find photos from the event, capturing the essence of these meaningful discussions.



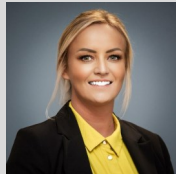
Academy Leaders

As mentioned in the final newsletter of last year I have refined the Senior Leadership roles here at Dixons Croxteth.

Iain Duggan Principal



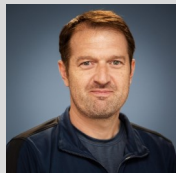
Jacqui Varkulis Vice Principal—Behaviour and Culture



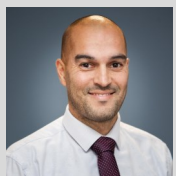
Anish Morgan Vice Principal—Teaching and Learning



Ian Makin Vice Principal—Student Experience



Mark Little Assistant Principal— Designated Safeguarding Lead



In the next newsletter we will be sharing more information with you about our staff though a 'Staff Spotlight' where you will find out about our motivations and commitment to Dixons Croxteth

Safeguarding Team

If you are worried or have a concern please speak to one of the members of staff below or [email: dcr_safeguarding@dixonscr.com](mailto:dcr_safeguarding@dixonscr.com)



Mr I Duggan
Principal



Mr M Little
Assistant Principal
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr I Makin
Vice Principal
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Ms J Varkulis
Vice Principal
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss R Bowers
Safeguarding officer



Miss L Cox
Safeguarding officer



Ms T Redmond
Safeguarding officer



Mr R Owen
Safeguarding Officer



Mrs C Watson
Safeguarding Officer