



**GEORGE
DIXON
ACADEMY**

October 2018

George Dixon Academy
Portland Road
Birmingham B16 9GD

Headmaster:
Mr Anthony Hamilton BA (Hons), NPQH

Chair of Academy Trust:
Sir Robert Dowling

Tel: 0121 566 6565 | **Fax:** 0121 566 6566
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Dear Families,

As we approach the half-term break once again, I can say with huge pride, that our children and the whole academy staff community have responded so magnificently to the challenges, both academic and pastoral, that they have faced.

For the 4th year in succession, our children at the Academy have achieved a Positive GCSE Progress 8 Score (The Department of Education's measure for gauging School success) placing us in the top 30% of schools nationally. In addition, although not yet published, our A-Level students will also gain a positive score. This is a tremendous achievement and reflects well on all of us.

However, I write to make the academy position clear on the following matters:

- 1. A safe and orderly exit for all students at the end of the academy day.**
- 2. Consumption and sale of food and beverages on the academy campus.**
- 3. High standards of academy uniform every day.**
- 4. Severe weather procedures.**
- 5. Mobile phones.**

A safe and orderly exit for all students at the end of the academy day

We are increasingly concerned about the safety of students at the Academy gates with the volume of traffic combined with the volume of students arriving & leaving at the start/end of the day. I urge you, once more, not to park on the yellow lines directly in front of the Academy.

I have also spoken to all students about how they cross the road safely at the designated traffic lights. Please reinforce this message and ensure, when possible, that they wear clothing that be seen on dark nights.

Consumption and sale of food and beverages on the academy campus

Over recent weeks we have found students bringing in food and beverages to sell. Apart from the obvious Health & Safety concerns that arise, students with sums of money upon their person can be more vulnerable. Should we catch any student selling food or drink, their goods will be immediately confiscated and thrown away. Additionally, families will be informed.

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from possibility to reality





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Our Ref: ACH/AB10102018

26th October 2018

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Dear Families,

HAPPY, SAFE HALLOWEEN/BONFIRE NIGHT – REMINDER FROM WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

With the darker nights fast approaching, it is important that students are reminded what we, as a academy community, expect of them in terms of behaviour. Whilst we hope they will enjoy socialising with friends and family during the half-term break and the upcoming Halloween/Bonfire Night activities, we also want to ensure they feel confident to keep themselves safe and away from danger, crime and anti-social behaviour.

Parents/carers and students should already be aware that as part of our safeguarding arrangements, the academy has a two-way information sharing agreement in place with West Midlands Police, and we are active members of the local Police & Schools Panel. This joint-approach helps us to intervene early to prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour involving our students, and provide support and up-to-date safety messages.

In partnership with the police, we would like to remind our students about the following:-

- **Anti-social behaviour:** Halloween can be a scary time for people who don't like surprises or callers at their door. Think about how your actions and behaviour affect others; elderly and vulnerable people may be frightened by 'trick or treat' so look out for signs in windows that people do not want callers at their door.
- **Personal Safety:**
 - Be aware of your surroundings, take care of friends and family members and keep valuables such as phones out of public view whenever possible
 - Don't drink alcohol, take illegal drugs or unknown substances; they can have a big impact on your health and safety, behaviour and your ability to do well at school and enjoy other interests and activities. They can also be addictive and have unpredictable side effects, including sudden death!
 - West Midlands Fire Service recommends that you go to an organised display; it's the smart way to stay safe. You'll see a lot more fireworks and it's a lot cheaper. Information about firework safety is available at www.saferfireworks.com
- **Weapons in public places:** carrying a knife will get you a criminal record which can have life-long effects on travel and job prospects. Those who carry knives are also much more likely to be injured by them.

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