

December 2023

Dear families

At Dixons City Academy our purpose is excellence. We focus on being the best version of ourselves to change our world for the better. We will consistently be in the top 1% of schools nationally. As an academy we will work tirelessly to ensure that your child achieves the best that they are capable of.

As we are approaching the end of term 2, we are putting plans in place for changes to break and lunchtime to make the experience safer and better for all students. We will be doing a trial next week from Monday 11 December. This will give us the opportunity to make any necessary refinements and will give the students the chance to get used to the new timings. I want to share with you the details of the changes and the rationale for implementing these.

Currently, although we have split lunches, we have only one break. Over the past few years, the number of students in the academy has increased; we currently have over 930 students on roll. With all these students going to break at the same time it means that there are long queues for food, drinks and for the toilets. Students must also wait to access their lockers. We have several areas where students can spend break; they can use the canteen, silver tables area, mall, library and playground. However, when there is adverse weather and students are unable to go outside it can get very congested inside. Even though we have increased the number of staff on break duty, when we have nearly a thousand students in the mall, with so many students in a small area there are times when ensuring student safety is challenging.

After considering the above and taking recent student feedback into account, we have decided to go to a split break system. This is outlined below:

	Year 7, 9 and 11		Year 8 and 10
Arrival and Morning Meeting	8.15 am	Arrival and Morning Meeting	8.15 am
Lesson 1	8.50 am	Lesson 1	8.50 am
Lesson 2a	9.45 am	Break 1	9.45 – 10.05 am
Break 2	10.40 – 11.00 am	Lesson 2b	10.05 – 11.00 am
Lesson 3	11.00 am	Lesson 3	11.00 am
Lesson 4	11.55 am	Lesson 4	11.55 am
Robust Reading / Study Prep	12.50 pm	Lunch 1	12.50 pm
Lunch 2	1.20 pm	Robust Reading	1.20 pm
Lesson 5 onwards	1.50 pm	Lesson 5 onwards	1.50 pm

- Break for Year 7, 9 and 11 will remain unchanged. Year 8 and 10 will go to break earlier.
- So that all students have a similar time gap between break and lunch:
 - Year 8 and 10 will switch to first lunch (12.50 pm – 1.20 pm).
 - Year 7, 9 and 11 will switch to second lunch (1.20 pm – 1.50 pm).



These changes will allow for students to have a much-improved experience during break. They will spend less time queuing for food and the toilets. They will be able to access their lockers a lot easier and all the communal areas will be less congested as well. Most importantly, these changes will improve student safety.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries. We are always happy to hear from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raouf Mohammed', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned to the left of a vertical line.

Raouf Mohammed
Principal

