

NEWSLETTER

DIXONS CROXTETH ACADEMY



The Dixons Croxteth newsletter keeps our community, including parents, students, staff, and the public, informed with updates on school events, policies, student achievements, opportunities for community involvement, and available educational resources.



Academy's values:

Hard Work: we never give up. We remain positive so that we have the strength to persevere with even the hardest work. We do what it takes for as long as it takes.

Integrity: we do the right thing because it is the right thing to do. We do this even when people are not watching.

Fairness: we play by the rules. We are respectful, polite, and courteous at all times. We treat others in our diverse community as we wish to be treated. When we help others, we help ourselves.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Dear Families

I hope this newsletter finds you well. As we conclude our first week back from the half-term break, I am pleased to report that our students have returned with a renewed sense of purpose and dedication to learning. It has been a joy to observe lessons, discuss the holidays and be back into the routines at DCR.

Most students returned in the correct uniform. I would like to emphasise that trainers are not part of the uniform policy and any student wearing trainers will be removed from lessons. Generally, this week students demonstrated remarkable adherence to our rules and routines, which has greatly contributed to a smooth and productive transition back. Their commitment to maintaining the high standards we set at Dixons Croxteth is truly commendable and making us so successful.

We are having a big focus this term on the fantastic enrichment opportunities that we provide for your students. We believe that participating in these activities will greatly enhance their school experience and personal development.

Our enrichment offer includes a variety of clubs and activities such as: Chess Club, Football, Music Options, Literacy Lounge, Origami Club to name but a few. We encourage all students to take advantage of these opportunities. These clubs not only provide a fun and engaging way to spend time but also help in building essential life skills. Please encourage your child to speak with Mr Makin for more information.

I must stress that at Dixons Croxteth Academy, we believe that corrections play a crucial role in maintaining a positive and productive learning environment. The school has been transformed over the last two years with the introduction of learning habits and the corrections. Corrections are an important part of our behaviour management system, helping to reinforce the high standards we set for our students which has made us the third most improved school in the country, and I make no apology for having such high standards.



Mr Duggan
Principal

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

We appreciate your support in reinforcing the importance of corrections and reflecting on broken learning habits. Corrections will disrupt and be an inconvenience for families at times but, it is essential that corrections take place so students understand (on the same day) that they can improve tomorrow. Together, we can ensure that our students continue to excel and uphold the principles of our school community.

Finally, this term I am looking forward to the start of the GCSE exams for year 11, watching Year 10 take part in the semi-finals of a national football competition, welcoming Merseyside Fire Brigade into the academy to work with our female cohort and supporting our new cohort of students in Year 6 who will be joining us in September.

Have a great weekend.

Mr Duggan
Principal



Mr Duggan
Principal

INTRODUCTION TO LEARNING MODES

At Dixons Croxteth our focus is teaching and learning. We have embedded the learning habit of 'On Task'. We expect in the classroom for students to be on task and learning which we know is hard but, learning is hard and have exceptionally high standards.

We are constantly reviewing teaching and learning and thinking of how we can get better. We have visited the highest performing schools in the country and invite them into the academy to observe our lessons and give feedback.

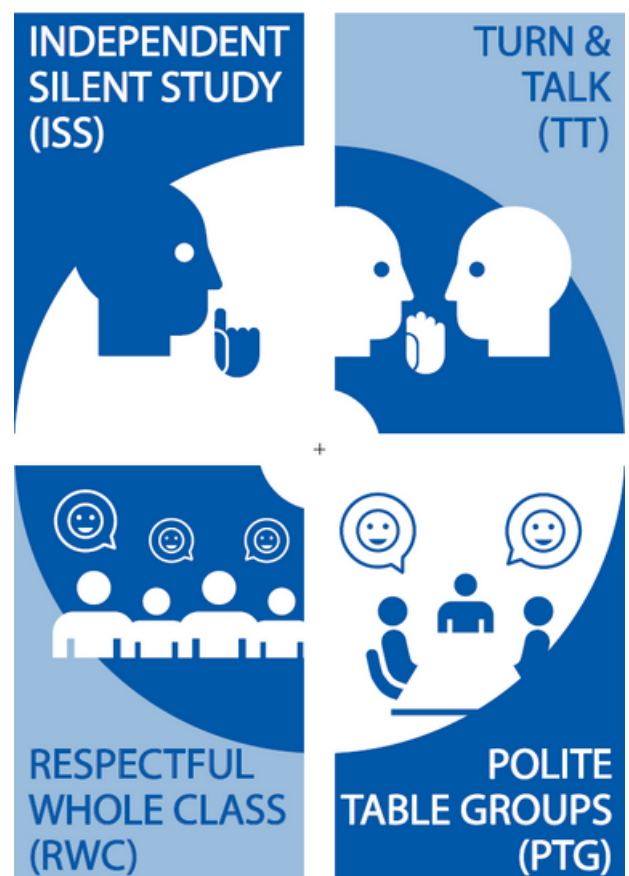
Based on our observations and discussion with other schools we have decided to implement 'Learning Modes' into the classrooms.

Learning Modes will support how we manage our classroom environment to ensure that teachers can teach, and students can learn. They indicate the method of working to ensure that students and staff are clear about expectations this will help our most vulnerable students. There are no grey areas, and we are expecting an increase in the short term in off task behaviour.

THE FOUR LEARNING MODES ARE:

- INDEPENDENT SILENT STUDY
- TURN AND TALK
- ORGANIZED AND POLITE TABLES / GROUPS
- RESPECTFUL WHOLE-CLASS

Mrs Morgan is leading on the implementation of this and it will be launched next term. We will continue to share information with parents and students over the next few weeks with a full launch after easter.



MICRO AGE II MISSION PATCHES

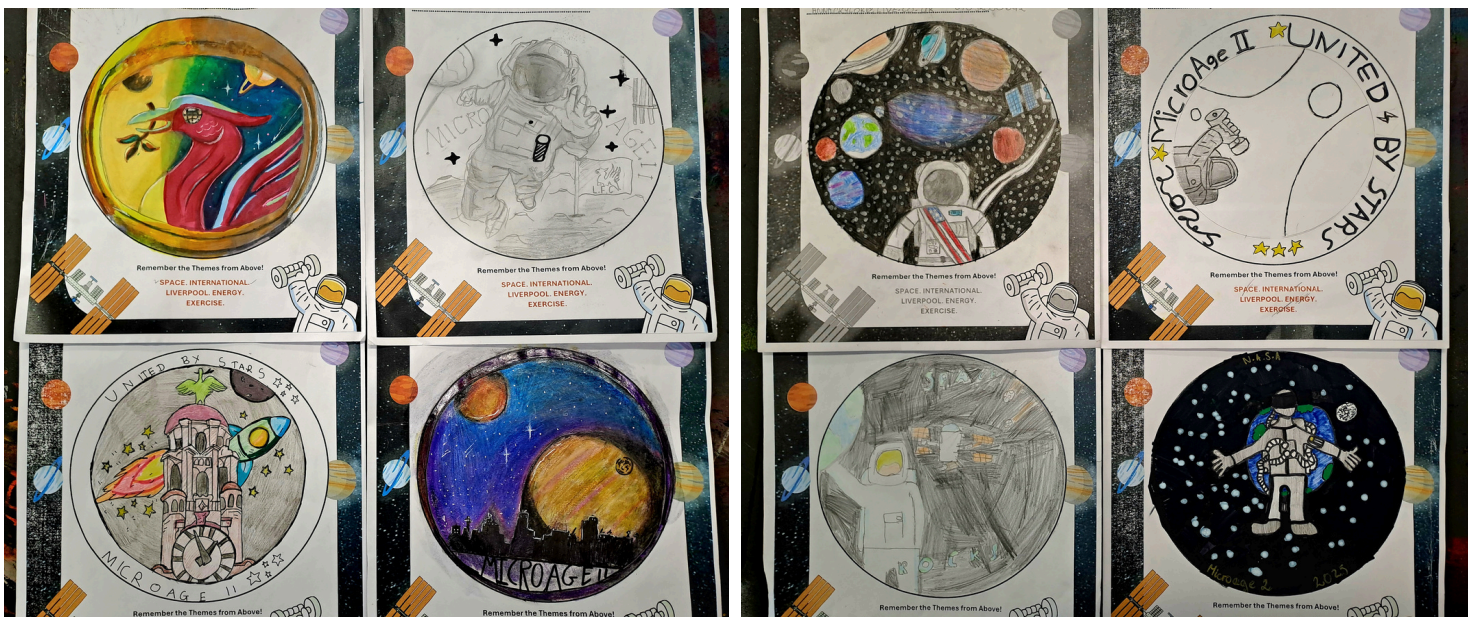
SCIENTIFIC CREATIVITY TAKING US TO NEW HEIGHTS

Due to launch in mid-2025, the MicroAge II mission aims to build on our understanding of how muscles change in microgravity and during aging whilst on earth. The study will look at how the muscle mitochondria change in shape and distribution in microgravity and how they compare with humans on earth.

This exciting mission, launched in partnership with Liverpool University and the UK Space Agency, offered some of students to be part of the ground-breaking world of humans in space. Students in Liverpool took part in designing the mission patch that will become the logo for promotional materials for the MicroAge II mission. Those who make it into the top 12 within the city, will have their patch created and flown into space for the duration of the mission.

When the mission ends, the successful candidates will receive their designs back meaning they own something that has not only been to space but been part of ground-breaking science.

All of our students entries were fantastic but we felt some of the images here really captured the brief and demonstrated creative effort and ability when designing their own patch.



CITY OF SPORTING EXCELLENCE



A group of our year 8 students took part in the City of Sporting Excellence event hosted by Liverpool FC, Everton FC and The Jockey Club held at Aintree Racecourse.



The students thoroughly enjoyed taking part in some leadership and teamwork activities as well as some educational sessions about the grand national at Aintree.

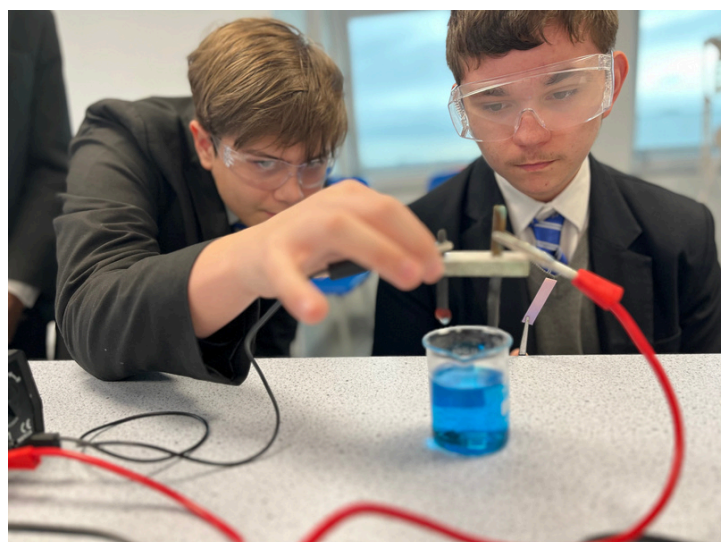
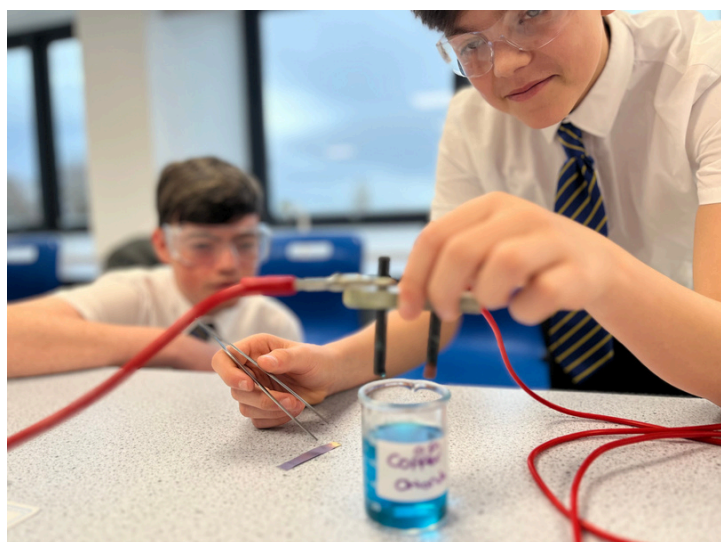
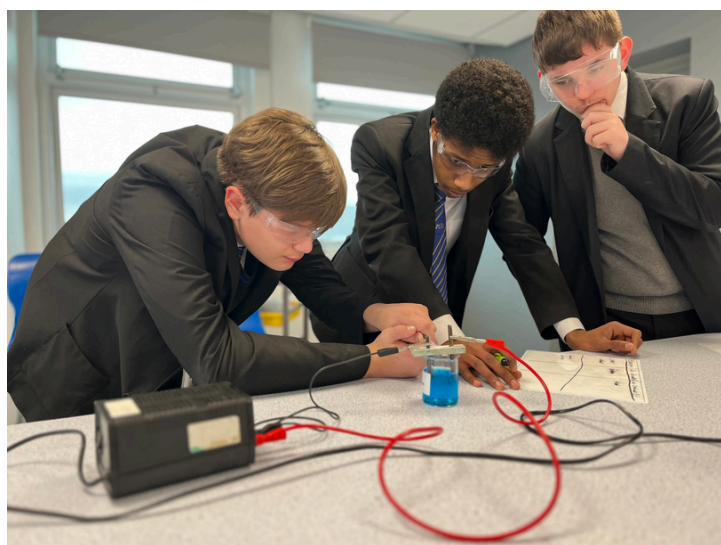
It was a great day and focused on the aspirations of the students for the future.



SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS

Mr Owens' Year 10 GCSE Science class were investigating what happens when aqueous solutions are electrolysed using inert electrodes.

The boys were fascinated at seeing copper being formed at the negative electrode, as a result of electrolysis.



MERSEYSIDE YOUTH ASSOICATION



On Thursday 27 February, 150 students from across the Academy completed listening sessions and surveys with Merseyside Youth Association to help support them gain insights and contribute ideas to developing an intervention programme for children experiencing issues with sleep hygiene.

The facilitator commented that 'The insights from the students has been so valuable and will be incredibly useful as we start building the training programme!'

We are extremely proud our students are helping in developing an intervention programme that will help so many children develop positive sleep hygiene around Merseyside.

Well done to all involved.

YEAR 6 TRANSITION

Year 6 students will be allocated a secondary school place on Monday 3 March 2025. We understand this can be a very stressful time for families and would like to reach out and support anyone who is feeling anxious and worried about this.

We are pleased to announce that Dixons Croxteth Academy is predicted to be full for the upcoming academic year. However, we understand that there may still be families who wish to send their child to our academy.

We will be holding tours and working closely with families who are interested in joining our school community. If you know of anyone who wishes to send their child to Dixons Croxteth, please encourage them to contact the academy as soon as possible.

We have started the transition process much earlier than last year having taken feedback from Year 7 parents about the information sharing between schools. We have already visited several local primaries and are beginning to contact families.

If anyone would like more information about transition, please contact Ian Makin, Vice Principal.



HOME LEARNING AT DIXONS CROXTETH

At Dixons Croxteth Academy, we build a partnership between carers, students, and teachers that puts learning first. We help our students value learning by teaching them to take ownership of their own success. Home learning activities play a significant role in a pupil's educational journey and wider development.

Why is Home Learning so Important?

When our long-term memory is altered, we have learnt something. However, when we are exposed to new information, we instantly begin to forget it. Over time, the amount of original information retained significantly reduces unless it is revisited often.

Our home learning strategy is designed to allow students to frequently revisit powerful knowledge, interrupting the forgetting process.

There are three strands to our Home Learning Strategy:

Read. Cover. Write. Check. (RCWC): This is a paper-based task.

Sparx Maths: Online.

Seneca Learning: Online.

Expectations – Y7 and Y8

Up to 60 minutes per day of:

Seneca

Sparx Maths

RCWC

Expectations – Y9 and Y10

Up to 90 minutes per day of:

Seneca

Sparx Maths

RCWC

Completion of past GCSE examination questions

Expectations – Y11

A minimum of 90 minutes per day of:

Seneca

Sparx Maths

RCWC

Completion of past GCSE examination questions

Accessing revision sites

Excellent additional resources can be found at:

Learn Dojo

BBC Bitesize















Save My Exams

Oak National Academy















Free Science Lessons

LUNCH MENU

Below are the lunch menus for Dixons Croxteth.

   					
Week 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MENU					
	Salt & Pepper Chicken Singapore Noodles Broccoli	Beef Chilli con Carne Rice-Nachos Chips	Pepperoni / Cheese Pizza Potatoes Fries	Italian Meatballs Pasta Garlic Bread	Chicken Tikka Naan Bread New Potatoes
	Assorted Baguettes or Wraps CHICKEN-BACON-TUNA-MEATBALL				
	Salt & Pepper Veggie Singapore Noodles-Broccoli	Beans Chilli Rice-Nachos Chips	Mix Vegetables Pizza Potatoes Fries	Veggie Roasty Pasta Garlic Bread	Veggie Tikka Naan Bread New Potatoes
	Selection of Salads / Chef's Homemade Soup (Twice a Week) Selection Sandwiches: CHEESE-HAM-TUNA				
	Ice-cream	Apple Cake	Brownies	Yogurt	School Cake

Any special order or allergy than the main menu please ask the kitchen before 10:30 am

   					
Week 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MENU					
	Roast Chicken Yorkshire Pudding-Veg and Gravy	Chicken Chinese Rice Spring Rolls/ Prawn Crackers	Chicken Burger & Chips	Hungarian Goulash Spaghetti / Pasta Garlic Bread	Pepperoni / Cheese Pizza Potatoes Fries
	Assorted Baguettes or Wraps CHICKEN-BACON-TUNA-MEATBALL				
	Roast Roots Yorkshire Pudding-Veg and Gravy	Veggie Stir Fry Chinese Rice Spring Rolls	Beyond Burger & Chips	Veggie Stew Spaghetti / Pasta Garlic Bread	Mix Vegetables Pizza Potatoes Fries
	Selection of Salads / Chef's Homemade Soup (Twice a Week) Selection Sandwiches: CHEESE-HAM-TUNA				
	Ice-cream	School Cake	Brownies	Yogurt	Apple Cake

Any special order or allergy than the main menu please ask the kitchen before 10:30 am

ACADEMY LEADERS

Senior Leadership roles at Dixons Croxteth



Mr 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

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



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 Owens
Safeguarding Officer



Mrs C Watson
Safeguarding Officer