



18th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope this letter finds you well. We wanted to inform you of some changes to our College's policies that will be effective from the new academic year. These changes include uniform expectations, a change to the PE kit policy, a reminder of our mobile phone policy and the new lunchtime arrangements. Additionally, we also want to highlight the new red-line behaviours that will now result in detentions or further sanctions.

We understand that these may be significant changes in culture and wish to prepare students and yourself. We also appreciate that in the case of uniforms and equipment, we need to ensure that you have an early notification to prepare you and your child over the summer period. This will also help ensure expectations are understood and enable you to speak to your child about the changes.

Uniform Expectations:

From next academic year, we will be implementing stricter uniform expectations for all students. It is important that students dress appropriately for school as it fosters a sense of pride and belonging. Therefore, we kindly request your cooperation in ensuring that your child adheres to the following guidelines:

- All students must wear the correct school uniform, which includes the appropriate colours, styles, and insignia.
- Blazers must be worn at all times, except during PE lessons or other specific activities where different attire is required.
- Skirts must be of an appropriate length and worn in accordance with the manufacturer's guidance. Skirts are **NOT** to be rolled at the waist.
- Hairstyles and accessories should be modest and suitable for a school environment. Hairstyles need to be natural in cut and colour.
- Students should wear the correct shoes, which must be smart and practical for everyday wear. Shoes are to be professional, leather (or leather look shoes), not sports brands such as Nike, Adidas, Puma, Converse, New Balance or Umbro etc.
- No fake, acrylic or false nails (including colouring) and no fake eyelashes are permitted in school.
- If the student is wearing trousers, they need to be tailored, not skinny fit.
- No piercings are permitted on the school site other than two studs, one in each ear.
- Other jewellery including bracelets, necklaces and rings are also not permitted. A watch may be worn (Please note, a smartwatch is not permissible).

Details of the exact uniform expectations and what is acceptable including acceptable footwear can be found here:

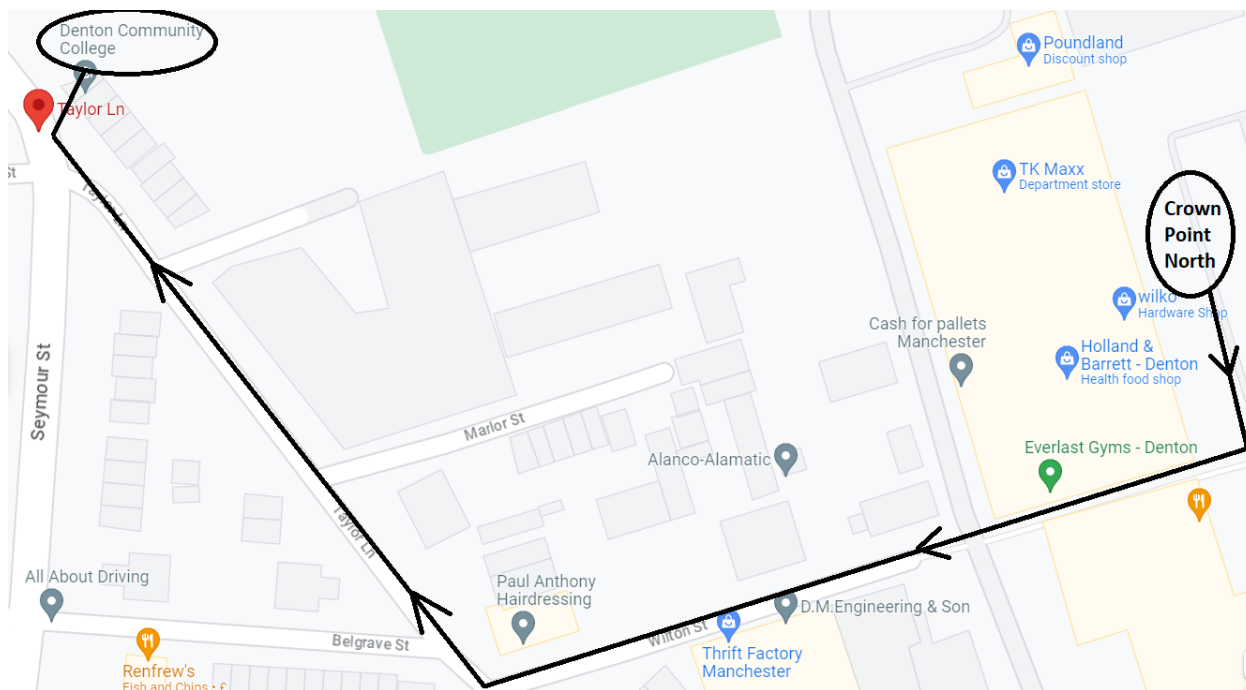
<https://cdn.realsmart.co.uk/41a351b21d8d99ddc6c9a5375c6317e6/uploads/2022/07/11085837/DCC-Footwear-2022.jpg>

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<https://cdn.realsmart.co.uk/41a351b21d8d99ddc6c9a5375c6317e6/uploads/2022/07/11085845/DCC-Uniform-2022.jpg>

Entry and Exit to College From September

Please be aware that from September, entry to the college site **will only be permitted** through the front entrance gate. Parents should continue to use the Crown Point Area for Drop off's and Pick Up to avoid congestion. Students should allow time to walk along Taylor Lane, please see the walking route below. Exit routines will remain the same and students will be permitted to leave from the back gate as well as the front gate.



The Denton Way - Expected Equipment

Students are now required to carry the necessary equipment for all lessons with them, including:

- **an appropriate bag (big enough to hold an A4 book and all their equipment)**
- their school planner and timetable
- stationery - pens, pencil, ruler, rubber (as a minimum)
- the exercise books needed for that day
- other learning resources eg calculator on Maths days
- PE kit for days they have PE or dance lessons.

This change will allow students to transition smoothly from one lesson to another and make sure they are prepared for learning. A planner will be supplied to students on the first day. Students who do not have the correct equipment will be subject to sanctions.

Change to PE Kit Policy 2023/24

From September, students will not have a specific PE day and therefore must **not** come to college wearing their PE kit. Instead, all students will be expected to arrive in their regular school uniform and change into their PE kit when it is time for their PE class or Dance lesson. We understand that some students may need support during this transition, but it is a simple change and one I am sure you will want to explain to your child.

The PE kit itself has not changed and we continue to have the same high expectations that students bring the correct kit. Students are expected to have either DCC branded or plain black PE kit. In the event that a student forgets their kit, the PE department will provide the necessary items for borrowing, ensuring that valuable learning time in PE is not lost. Please talk to your child about this so that they understand they will have to borrow a kit if they do not bring it. It is not a choice and, I am sure, that all parents will support us in ensuring

HEADTEACHER: Mr G Rule

students wear the kit and participate fully in PE. However, we must emphasise that if students refuse to borrow the kit when needed, we will follow our behaviour policy.

Details of acceptable PE Kit can be found here:

<https://cdn.realsmart.co.uk/41a351b21d8d99ddc6c9a5375c6317e6/uploads/2022/07/11090744/DCC-PE-Dance-Kit-2022-2.jpg>

Mobile Phone Policy - Gate to Gate:

Effective from the new academic year, we will be implementing a strict "**gate to gate**" policy regarding the use of mobile phones. This means that students are not permitted to use their mobile phones anywhere on the school premises, from the moment they enter the school gate to when they leave at the end of the day. We understand the importance of staying connected, but we firmly believe that this policy will create a more focused and conducive learning environment for all students.

Change to Detentions - Red Line Behaviours:

To maintain a safe and respectful learning environment, we have updated our Detention policy to address "red line behaviours." These behaviours include, but are not limited to, physical aggression, bullying, verbal abuse, and repeated defiance of school rules. Furthermore, incidents of swearing and use of discriminatory language (including racism, homophobia and sexism) as well as refusal to comply with an instruction of a member of the staff. Students who engage in such behaviours will face immediate detention, as well as further disciplinary actions if necessary such as seclusion in the RESPECT room or suspension.

Detentions will be either be:
Level 1 - detention = 30 minutes. 2 or more in a day = 1 hour
Level 2 – detention = 60 minutes. 2 or more in a day, 2-hour Detention
Breaktime or Lunchtime Detentions.

Detentions will be conducted the same day, and parents/carers will be informed through class charts. If there are any issues please contact the relevant Year team. We believe that this change will help maintain a positive, safe and inclusive atmosphere for all students.

Courteous Dining - New 45 Minute Lunch

From September after consultation with parents/carers, students and staff and after listening to concerns we will be creating a 45-minute courteous lunchtime experience. The implementation of a 45-minute lunch break will significantly contribute to a positive school culture by fostering social interaction, healthy habits, reduced stress levels, improved relationships, and increased engagement in extracurricular activities. This will be part of a five-period day with 1-hour lessons. The morning break will continue.

We appreciate your support and thank you for your cooperation in helping us implement these changes effectively. By working together, we can create a productive and nurturing environment for our children's education. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. On behalf of the Pastoral team, we wish you a happy, safe and enjoyable summer

Kind Regards



James Haslam
Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral