



4th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this message finds you well and that you and your loved ones had a rejuvenating summer break. As we warmly welcome you back to Denton Community College, we want to take a moment to revisit information shared with you last academic year about new changes to our policies and procedures. Our unwavering commitment towards creating a safer, happier, more productive, and nurturing environment for all students remains at the forefront of our mission. With the collective efforts of our dedicated staff, we have implemented various innovative initiatives to further enhance the educational experience and well-being of every child in our care. Allow us to provide you with an overview of these transformative developments which we believe will greatly benefit our entire college community. We hope this letter provides you with an overview of previously communicated policies and procedures which will help prepare your child for a smooth start to the new academic Year.

First Day start times

To ensure a seamless beginning, we will have a staggered start time for the first day back on Wednesday, September 6th, 2023.

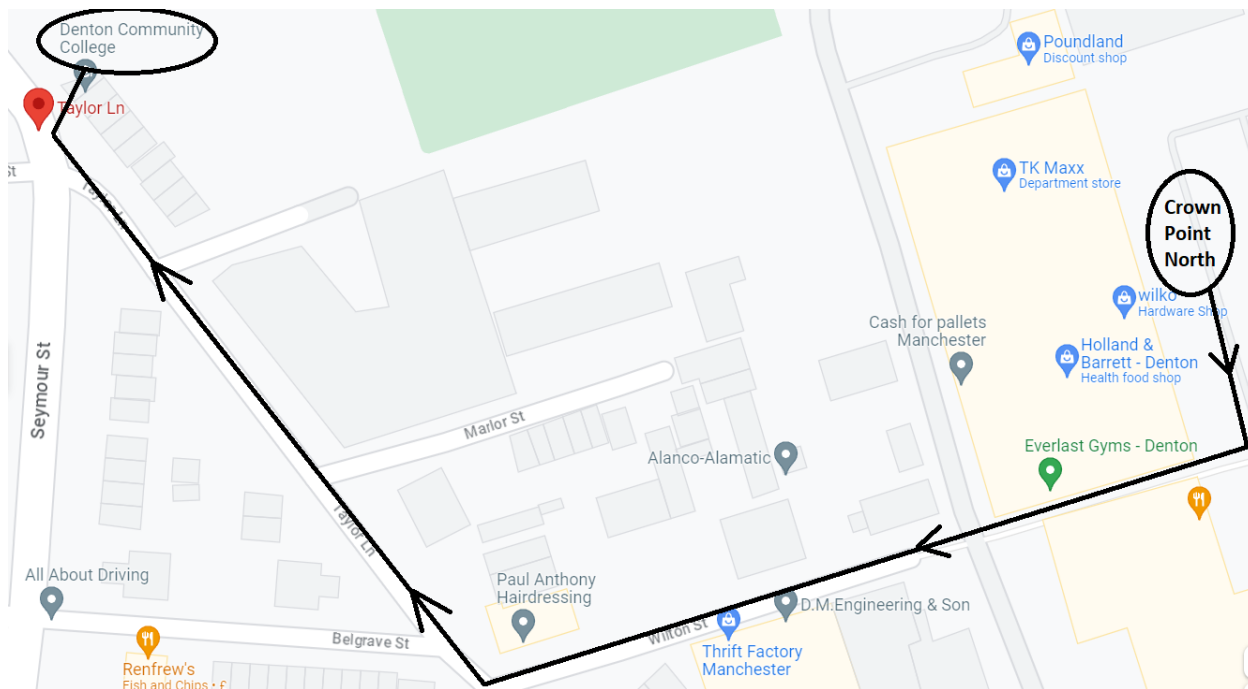
Year 7 - must arrive through the front gates and line up on the playground in uniform and with their equipment in their bags for 8.30 am.

Year 8, 9, 10 & 11 - must arrive through the front gates and line up on the playground in uniform and with their equipment in their bags for 9.45 am.

Please be aware that these arrangements are for the first day only. The normal start time for all Pupils is 8.40 am and all students should be seated in form by this time. Students are advised to arrive at least 10 mins before the start time.

Entry and Exit to College from College

As previously stated 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.



Uniform Expectations

We will be implementing stricter uniform expectations for all students. Students must 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 following 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 false 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 lobe.
- 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>

&

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

- The PE kit remains unchanged 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. If 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 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/DC-C-PE-Dance-Kit-2022-2.jpg>

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
- stationary - 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.

Please note that regular uniform and equipment checks will take place at the entry gate. Any student wearing an incorrect uniform will be offered a uniform and if they do not choose to change will be sent home and expected to return in their complete full uniform. This includes students who arrive in PE Kit.

Mobile Phone Policy - Gate to Gate

College implements 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.

Sanctions - 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.

Below are included some examples of the type of classroom behaviour that may lead to a Sanction. Please be aware this is not an exhaustive list of behaviours and sanctions. The full behaviour policy is available on the college website.

Classroom Behaviour	Sanctions/Strategies/Behaviour Management Dialogue
Late to Class	Level 1 detention
Missing Equipment	Level 1 detention
Chewing Gum or Eating	Level 1 detention
Off Task (talking while the teacher is teaching, talking during a silent task, not working hard on the task set, any behaviour which could distract other students)	1 st time – Correction “NAME, you are off task – correct this by...” 2 nd time – Level 1 “NAME, you are off task again so you are on now Level 1; now it is time to work hard by...(redirect the student to the task)” 3 rd time – Level 2 and move to a different seat in the classroom. “NAME, you are still off task and so now you are on Level 2 – you need to... If you cannot correct your behaviour then you will be removed from this lesson.” 4 th time – MBWA - removal from the lesson and MBWA detention.
Answering Back (not speaking politely to the teacher, making any comment when a sanction or correction is issued, questioning or challenging a correction or sanction)	1 st time – Correction “Correction – do not answer back.” 2 nd time – Level 2 detention* 3 rd time – MBWA - removal from the lesson and MBWA detention *CONTINUING TO ANSWER BACK AFTER A CORRECTION IS SERIOUS AND ESCALATES TO A 1 HOUR LEVEL 2 DETENTION STRAIGHT AWAY
RED LINE BEHAVIOUR Swearing Use of discriminatory language (including racism, homophobia and sexism) Aggression or violence Refusal to comply with an instruction of a member of staff MBWA	Removal from the lesson using the MBWA system, placed in RESPECT pending a decision which could include SLT detention, an extended time in RESPECT or Suspension from College. Parent/Carer contacted by telephone on the same day and invited into College where appropriate. Where appropriate the college will engage students with a restorative process once the sanction is completed.

Classcharts

To track the behaviour of your child, can I remind you to sign up for **ClassCharts** this will enable you to keep track of your child’s behaviour, access their weekly timetable, view assigned homework tasks and track scheduled detentions. We will also post announcements through Class Charts with important reminders and

information. All parents and carers will have a unique login for their child. If you have more than one child, you can access Class Charts information about your children from a single, centralised parent account. Class Charts for parents can be accessed via our website, or through our iOS and Android apps.

The College Day and Courteous Dining

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. This will be supported by a 5-period day with one-hour lessons and a 20 min break time. 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.

The College Day:

Time	Event
	Free Breakfast Club available
8:30 am	Students on site (8:35 Movement to Learning Bell)
8:40-8:55	Form time
8:55-9:55	Lesson 1
9:55-10:55	Lesson 2
10:55-11:15	Break
11:15-12:15	Lesson 3
12:15-1:15	Lesson 4
1:15-2:00	Lunchtime: Courteous Dining
2:00-3:00	Lesson 5
3:00	End of Formal School Day
3.00 to 4.00 pm	Co-Curricular – Clubs, Societies, Extended Study

As we eagerly anticipate the return of our students to college, we want to express our sincere gratitude for your continued support and trust in our institution. Our staff have been working diligently to ensure a safe and enriching environment for all. We can't wait to welcome your children back with open arms, fostering an atmosphere of growth, learning, and camaraderie. We genuinely hope that the information and experiences

HEADTEACHER: Mr G Rule

they encounter here prove to be both useful and transformative, empowering them to embark on their academic journey with confidence and curiosity. Together, we strive to create an educational experience that nurtures their potential and ignites their passion for knowledge. Thank you for being an essential part of this collective endeavour, and we look forward to a successful and fulfilling academic year ahead.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a cursive name.

James Haslam
Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral