



# Denton Community College

## Information for Parents and Carers

2024 - 2025



Outcomes Focused, Child Centred



# Denton COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GOOD SCHOOL



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# Vision and Values

## Our Vision

We constantly focus on standards as we understand outcomes are paramount. Our decision-making is driven entirely by what is best for children. By doing this we enhance the life chances of the children and young people in our care.

## Our Values

- We care passionately about the education and welfare of young people.
- We believe that all young people, irrespective of background or ability will be successful in our school (please refer to the Equality & Diversity Policy).
- We are not and will never be selective. We believe that local schools are for all children.
- We are always inclusive. Our mechanisms to support the most vulnerable child to succeed and overcome barriers to learning are a key aspect of our work.
- Our approach to education recognises that outcomes are paramount and also allows children to gain experiences and values which prepare them fully for life in modern Britain. This includes workplace skills and appropriate advice for future progression.
- We have high expectations of behaviour.
- We adopt the local authority admissions protocol and work closely with them.
- We would always wish to act in such a way that has a positive effect on a neighbouring school or community. We care passionately about children in our school.
- That all employees act with integrity and embrace the values of our school.

# Welcome from the Acting Headteacher



I am delighted that you have chosen Denton Community College for your child for September 2024. We look forward to working with you over the next five years to ensure they maximise their potential both academically and socially.

Here at Denton Community College our vision and values underpin all of the work that we do.

“We constantly focus on standards as we understand outcomes are paramount. Our decision making is driven entirely by what is best for children. By doing this we enhance the life chances of the children and young people in our care.”

Denton Community College is an inclusive school and values the contribution made by students, staff, governors, parents and members of the local community. Our commitment to collaborative learning to achieve success will lead to enhanced life chances for students can be summed up with the phrase ‘Outcomes Focused, Child Centred’. We know that to students and parents, high quality qualifications and strong levels of support mean everything in continuing on in the next phase of further education, and the world of work and employment.

I know I speak for all students, staff and governors when I say that we are incredibly proud of the hard work and achievements of all of our students and we look forward to welcoming you to contribute to this as all our students are the most important people in our academy.

Our focus on learning is a driving force behind all that we do and students experience a rich and challenging curriculum, both inside and outside of the school, providing opportunities to continue to excel in the wider community.

Enrichment opportunities outside of the classroom allow students the chance to make new friends, and experience opportunities based on interest. We have regular clubs including sports, music, drama and art, to name a few as well as trips and charity events too!

I feel very privileged to be the Acting Headteacher here and I hope your child thoroughly enjoys their next 5 years with us. I look forward to seeing them achieve their potential and aspirations and being part of the Denton Community College community. If you have any queries please contact Mrs S Graham, Assistant Headteacher:  
[s.graham@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk](mailto:s.graham@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk)

Donald Cumming  
Acting Headteacher  
Denton Community College

# Attendance and Punctuality

We are always striving to continually improve standards and raise achievement and good attendance has a large part to play in this, as education is too important to miss.

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring that their child attends school. There is the expectation that all students will attend the school when it is in session.

Absence from the school will have an effect on progress. The responsibility for deciding if an absence is authorised or unauthorised lies with the school.

## Leave of absence

The Attendance officer has leave of absence request forms which must be completed as far in advance as possible, eg for medical appointments. Appointment letters must be provided as evidence, or the leave of absence will not be authorised.

Holidays should only be taken during school holidays, and the Headteacher cannot grant holidays during term time unless there are highly exceptional circumstances.

## Medical appointments

Where possible medical appointments should be made outside of school hours.

## Late to school

Punctuality is as important as attendance and is highly regarded, not just by this school but by employers and post 16 educational establishments.

Frequent lateness can add up to a considerable amount of lost learning and can seriously affect your child's progress.

Minutes late each day during the school year equals lost learning throughout the year:

<b>5 minutes late = 3 days lost</b>
<b>10 minutes late = 6 ½ days lost</b>
<b>15 minutes late = 10 days lost</b>
<b>20 minutes late = 13 days lost</b>
<b>25 minutes late = 19 days lost</b>

## Reporting Absence

Parents/carers of students will be contacted, by text message and a telephone call, on the first day of absence unless we have already been informed of the reason.

This will help us to monitor attendance closely and also identify any students who have not reached the school safely.

The success of this system depends upon the co-operation of parents/carers and we request that:

- The school should be informed of a student's absence by telephoning prior to 8.25 am on the first day of absence. There is a 24 hour answering machine service available.
- All absences must still be confirmed by providing an absence note for the student's Tutor, ideally using the school planner.
- Parents/carers must contact the school and inform us of any change of address, email address and contact telephone number.

### Action for you to take:

- Call the school on 0161 337 3838 or email [attendance@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk](mailto:attendance@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk)
- Choose the Student Absence line option
- Put a note in your child's planner to explain the absence on their return to school



## Term Dates

Term dates are shown below. All dates are inclusive.

In addition to the dates below, the school will be closed to students on Monday 5th May 2025 (Bank Holiday).

Two days within the terms below are to be used for professional development for staff.

AUTUMN TERM 2024		
START OF TERM	HALF TERM	LAST DAY OF TERM
Tuesday 3rd September 2024	24th October – 1st November 2024	Friday 20th December 2024
SPRING TERM 2025		
START OF TERM	HALF TERM	LAST DAY OF TERM
Monday 6th January 2025	17th February – 21st February 2025	Friday 4th April 2025
SUMMER TERM 2025		
START OF TERM	HALF TERM	LAST DAY OF TERM
Tuesday 22nd April 2025	26th May – 30th May 2025	Friday 18th July 2025

## Timing of the School Day

Timing of the School Day	
8:20 am	Students need to be on site
8:25 am - 9:25 am	Period 1
9:25 am - 10:25 am	Period 2
10:25 am - 10:40 am	Break 15 minutes
10:40 am - 11:00 am	Tutor time
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Period 3
12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	Period 4 (Year 7 Split period)
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch (Year 7 only)
1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Period 4 (Year 7 Split Period)
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Period 5
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Enrichment



## Enrichment

The school offers a varied enrichment programme. The sessions are held at lunchtimes and after the school day. After-school activities take place between 2:30pm - 3:30pm, although with prior arrangements sporting fixtures may go on longer than this.

All students have the opportunity to participate in their choice of enrichment activities, although throughout the academic year they may be required to attend booster or intervention sessions.

### Examples of some of the activities that have taken place:

- Homework club
- D&D Board games club
- Football club
- Volleyball/badminton club
- Rounders club
- Cricket club
- Art club
- Chemistry club
- Sports Leaders
- Netball club
- Fitness Suite
- Trampolining club
- Basketball club
- Duke of Edinburgh (Year 9 onwards)
- Keyboard club
- Darts Club
- Drama Club
- Chess Club



## Support and Achievement

The school's aim is to provide a safe and secure environment for your child to develop and below, who will support your child in their transition to secondary education.

Education Welfare  
Officer (EWO)

SLT member

Learning Manager

Tutor Group

SEND Co-ordinator

Inclusion  
Co-ordinator

Attendance Officer

Safeguarding Officer

The school will monitor your child's welfare, progress, engagement for learning, attendance and punctuality. In the first instance you should contact the Head of Year, who will be happy to meet with you if you wish to discuss any of these matters.

### Inclusion Department

The Inclusion Department is a nurturing environment to support students to achieve their aspirations. We work closely with parents/carers, the students and their primary school to ensure transition to the school is as smooth as possible.

Please contact the school if you would like to discuss the provision offered on 0161 336 2219 or by email [send@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk](mailto:send@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk)

## Catering at Denton Community College

We have a cashless system of school meals administration in operation at the school, using a biometric system (based on a computer code derived from a finger scan). This system enables students to pay for their meals more quickly, reducing the amount of time spent waiting to be served and students cannot use someone else's card to pay for their meals.

### Payment methods

Parent Pay: Parent Pay allows you to pay for your child's school meals online and gives you more control and greater visibility over the food choices they are making. We will provide all parents and carers with an individual username and password alongside full instructions when your child starts in September.

For the dinner payment system we need to obtain a finger scan for each student. This will take place during the transition day in July.

Specific consent is required from parents and/or carers of students under the age of 18 for the use of this information. You can give your consent when you complete the admissions form. We cannot scan your child's finger print until this form has been signed.

## Reading at Denton Community College

Developing a love of reading is something we are passionate about at Denton Community College, and this is woven throughout our curriculum.

All KS3 students participate in our Reading Route programme and we expect parents to support this at home. The purpose of the programme is to explore different genre of books along different routes such as comedy central, adventure, explorer and international globe trotter. Over time, students develop their ability to compare related texts for differences and similarities across themes.

Each Reading Route contains 5 books and takes place over a half term. Students are praised and rewarded each time they complete a book, but some students have already managed to complete a full route, and read all five books!

Many students in Year 7 complete their reading route books each half term and as a reward this year they were given tokens to use in our new book dispensing machine – this was a real hit!

### Pop Up Library

We have a 'pop up' library which runs on our Boulevard during lunchtimes, whilst we develop our new Learning Resource Centre. Students can exchange books, speak to our librarian about new books to discover and have their passion for reading celebrated. We also run reading catch-up sessions with trained staff during lesson times.

### Drop Everything And Read

Reading is one of our daily activities. Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) lessons form another strand of our reading programme. These are weekly lessons where teachers use the DEAR workbooks to develop fluency and confidence with their classes. Your child will be given a reading route book and a DEAR workbook in September, and will be expected to have them in school every day.

We hope that you will continue to encourage reading at home and look forward to rewarding your child for completing their reading routes next year.



# Uniform

Only the items listed below should be worn. It is impossible to list all of the items not to be worn in school. However, if you are in any doubt please contact the school before you make a purchase.

A uniform supplier for Denton Community College is:  
Monkhouse School Wear  
217 Chestergate  
(on the corner of Hardman Street)  
Stockport  
SK3 0AN

Telephone: 0161 476 7210

Emails: [stockport.shop@monkhouse.com](mailto:stockport.shop@monkhouse.com)

Online store: <https://www.monkhouse.com/school/denton-community-college-urn-135122>

## Uniform List Year 7 - 11

- Plain black shoes that are polishable. Boots, trainers, converse, vans or similar. Backless, suede or cloth footwear are not allowed. All footwear must be completely black with no logos, decorative elements or piped areas.
- A white school shirt (not tight fitted) with a top button that fastens.
- Denton Community College tie.
- Denton Community College blazer – to be worn at all times around school, it can be removed in lessons with the permission of the teacher.
- Charcoal Grey trousers for boys.
- Charcoal grey trousers for girls OR a DCC pleated knee length skirt for girls approved design only. To be purchased from the school's designated supplier. Girls who choose to wear a skirt must wear black tights 60 denier.

## Optional

- Denton Community College jumper



# Physical Education Uniform

The PE uniform supplier for Denton Community College is:

Monkhouse School Wear

Email

web@monkhouse.com

Telephone number

0161 476 7216

## PE Uniform

- Denton Community College T-shirt or plain black T-Shirt.
- Denton Community College PE shorts or plain black shorts.
- Black or White short socks/ankle socks.
- Appropriate trainers - no converse or pumps.
- Denton Community College tracksuit bottoms or plain black tracksuit bottoms.
- Sports leggings/tracksuit bottoms with a small sports logo only (no written logos).
- Denton Community College hoodie or plain black hoodie.
- A bobble is required for hair that is longer than shoulder length.



# General Information

## Expectations

- Jewellery is not allowed in the school. A single watch may be worn (no smart watches). Any jewellery confiscated will be placed in an envelope and only returned to students at the end of the day from reception.
- Students are only allowed to have natural hair colouring. Elaborate hair colours are not allowed. Inappropriate fashion hairstyles are not allowed. Students will be removed to the supervision room and only allowed back in mainstream lessons when the style is appropriate.
- Make up is not allowed
- Nail varnish, fake tan and acrylic nails are not allowed
- No mobile phones

## Parents Evening

There are three Parent Consultation Evenings each school year, for Years 7-11. Dates will be confirmed at the beginning of the year.

## School travel support

Students who reside a substantial distance away from the school can seek additional support. Terms and conditions will apply.

## IGO Bus card

Transport for Greater Manchester have an concessionary price IGO bus card, more information can be found at: <https://tfgm.com/tickets-and-passes/igo-pass>

Parents and carers are advised to seek further guidance and visit: <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/Education>

Tameside Council  
Tameside One  
Ashton-under-Lyne  
OL6 6BH  
tel: 0161 342 2284

## Equipment

All students should have:

- A planner, Need To Know book, black pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, protractor/angle measurer and compass in their pencil case. Students will be given a planner on their first day in September. Replacement planners can be purchased from the within school. Students will be expected to carry their reading book with them every day
- All students must have a bag big enough to hold an A4 folder
- Handbags are not acceptable

## Stakeholder Views

Testaments about Denton Community College:

### **Peculiar O - Year 9 student, Student Voice President and Chair of the Cultural Enrichment Committee:**

"Transition day is an awesome experience to have the opportunity to familiarise yourself with your teachers and other students joining year 7 just like you. Since I started Denton Community College, I have enjoyed the experience of taking part in enrichment activities, The Scholars Program, Won the Black History Month competition, being the Chair of the Cultural Enrichment Committee and being Student Voice President."

"The school offers lots of praise to students for example, PROUD Thursday, Postcards home, Vouchers, Applause Moments and fantastic trips. Within my role as Student Voice President I aim to ensure inclusion and support to all students, enrichment to enhance the students wellbeing and celebrating all cultures within our school community. We cannot wait for you to join us and be part of our community!"

### **Chandice D - Year 8 student and Vice Chair of Cultural Enrichment:**

"Since starting at Denton Community College, I have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in enrichment opportunities and representing the school as a member of the Student Voice Council. During this time I have been provided with an abundance of opportunities to make memories and enjoy new experiences. I have also been able to attend exciting trips and so far my experience has been great!"

### **Lydia P - Year 10 student and Student Voice Vice President:**

"Transition day is a fantastic opportunity for you to meet your new teachers, as well as other students who are joining Year 7 like you. It is a brilliant chance for you to learn all about Denton Community College, so that when you start in September, you do not feel as nervous about starting at secondary school!"

"Denton Community College is a welcoming and friendly school where staff and students support each other and want the best for each other. Within my role as Student Voice Vice President, I aim to ensure all students feel included, supported and happy within their time at school. The school does this through lots of things such as well structured lessons, high quality teaching, pastoral support and a fantastic praise culture."

### **Andrew Gwynne, Local MP:**

"As a Member of Parliament for Denton it really is a pleasure to continue to work closely with Denton Community College. I have seen first hand how the staff and pupils alike work together to make sure every single child reaches their potential. With the commitment of everyone involved I know the school will continue to thrive."



**Acting Headteacher: Donald Cumming**

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[info@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk](mailto:info@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk)



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