

School Update, Uniform and equipment standards

Friday 22 May 2026

Dear Families,

In our drive to create a successful learning environment where all children can thrive, we are writing to address some basic expectations relating to all students being “ready to learn.”

To support this, we will be revisiting our six learning habits to ensure a strong foundation for success, starting with uniform and equipment.

Introduction of Expectations

This resetting of expectations is designed to ensure that all students return as one community following May half term with the same, fair, and consistent expectations. By focusing on uniform and equipment, we aim to spend less time discussing organisational issues and more time on learning.

In the first week back after May half term, we will be checking all students uniform and equipment. Please ensure your child has their tough bag containing: a black pen, green pen, whiteboard, whiteboard pen, whiteboard rubber, glue stick, highlighter, rubber, and ruler.

Students are expected to maintain this standard of equipment in every lesson. They should place their pencil case, scientific calculator, knowledge navigator, and planner in their tough bag. Student equipment “shops” will be open before school from 7:45AM to support this expectation.

Uniform Expectations

At Dixons Cottingley, we take pride in our school uniform. It looks professional, smart, and appropriate. Our dress code is practical, clear, and the same for all students, helping avoid issues relating to appearance. It applies both within school and on the journey to and from school. Students should recognise that conflict over the dress code is not appropriate.

Please ensure your child wears full academy uniform, including:

- Their school blazer, tie, school branded jumper (optional), white shirt, plain black formal school trousers (no jeans, leggings, flared leggings, ribbed leggings, stretch, skinny trousers, or skirts), black socks (not trainer liners), and plain black school shoes (not trainers or shoes with logos/branding).
- Has no earrings, nose or facial piercings, or extreme hairstyles (no shaved designs or coloured hair – hair must be a natural colour).
- Makeup and lashes are not permitted (a small amount of discrete make up is allowed in the upper phase).
- Students are welcome to bring a coat; however, these must be removed before they enter the building and stored in their locker with any bags (that are not PE kits on PE days) prior to the start of Morning Meeting.
- Full uniform is expected both in school and on the journey to and from school.

Suppliers & Support: Natasha's School wear (Bradford) and second-hand uniform available via the Family Engagement Centre.

Further information: [Dixons Cottingley Academy | Uniform and equipment](#)



Equipment Expectations

All students must arrive to Morning Meeting by 8:18am in full school uniform and fully equipped to ensure they are ready for the day.

Equipment can be purchased at the academy equipment shops before school from 7:45am. Students without full equipment will receive a correction.

Students can buy most equipment for less than 50p-£1, a tough bag is £2.50, and a full pencil case is £5.

Lanyards and Locker Keys

- Available at the academy shop before school, school cards can be purchased via reception (these must be clean and free from graffiti).
- Lost locker keys cost £5; lost ID badge & holder cost £5

Sanctions & Support

- Students not in correct uniform or without equipment will be given corrections or placed in Reset until compliant.
- As Eid approaches, please ensure no shaved hair designs, lash extensions or acrylic nails are present following Eid celebrations.

Proposed change

From the next academic year, we plan to finish at 14.30 rather than 15.25 on a Thursday as well as a Friday. Feedback has been that the earlier finish on a Friday alleviates traffic build up and this would also help families on Thursdays too. Should the changes be approved, they will take effect from 2 September 2026 for the new academic year. We believe that this change will improve the quality of the culture of the academy. Your feedback on this proposal is important to us. To listen to the views of our community, we are offering you the opportunity to provide feedback and respond to the proposal. Feedback can be shared by emailing the DCO information email info@dixonsco.com. The feedback window will close on Friday 12 June 2026. Following the closure of the feedback window, we will review and consider all responses before finally reaching a decision. This decision will be communicated to all families by the end of week commencing 18 June 2026.

Wildlife

If you collect your child, you may have seen an increase in the number of baby goslings that have been born on site this year. This is something wonderfully unique about Dixons Cottingley that we all co habit on our site together. Please can we all be mindful of these babies, as we have experienced an unfortunate event with one baby gosling, and we would like to be able to keep all the wildlife on site safe. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Key Reminders

1. Uniform must be worn correctly, including plain black school shoes and formal school trousers.
2. Jewellery is not allowed apart from a plain watch.
3. Heavy makeup, including lashes, piercings and false nails are not allowed.
4. All students must bring required equipment daily.

Thank you for helping your child return ready to learn and ensuring a positive start to the term.

We appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,



Miss F Hitch
Principal