



PARENTAL SUPPORT

Dear Parents/Carers,

The support that we gain from parents is very important to us. We recognise that without it your sons/daughters would not be able to make the progress that both you and we desire.

In the last newsletter we published a range of ways to contact the school. I would like to remind parents of the "Drop In" sessions that run every Wednesday from 3.30 to 4.30 p.m.

Do you wish to raise an issue with a Senior Member of Staff? Then why not drop in.

In addition, we would like to be able to contact you in a wide variety of ways. We already use letters, text, telephone calls and newsletters.

At present, we do not make the full use of email.

I would ask all parents to provide us with a current email address so that we can rectify this. A reply slip is included at the end for your convenience.

We find that information we hold on the school system is sometimes out of date. Telephone numbers, for example, often change and we occasionally have problems in contacting parents. It would be very helpful if you could let us know (on the same reply slip at the end of this newsletter) of any changes, particularly telephone numbers in case of an emergency.

Doe Quarry Lane
Dinnington
Sheffield
S25 2NZ

Phone: 01909 550066
Fax: 01909 550170
Email: info@dcsch.co.uk

(please check with reception for personal email addresses of staff)

Inside this issue:

- Parental support
(Reply slip for completion)
- Contact details update
- Mobiles & electronic equipment
- School Uniform
- Attendance
- Specialist School Day

MAIN RECEPTION

OPENING TIMES

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday:
8.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Wednesday:
8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Friday:
8.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

MOBILE PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

A reminder to all students that mobile phones and electronic devices should be SWITCHED OFF and kept out of sight during learning time. This enables everyone to concentrate on the important business of teaching and learning rather than time being spent sorting out problems which can be avoided.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We continue to work on encouraging our students to wear the school uniform in the correct manner and are grateful for the support of parents.

We hope that we can move through this term without having to waste time and energy having to badger the small minority who lower the standard as the term progresses.

A reminder that students should be wearing the school blazer, shirt and tie and black trousers. A plain black v-neck jumper may be worn underneath the blazer. Students should wear sensible, plain, black footwear but should not be arriving in school in trainers or fashion boots, such as 'Ugg' boots.



ATTENDANCE

At Dinnington, we are proud that overall attendance is currently at it's highest for 15 years.

The number of students with attendance problems is falling rapidly.

We know from our exam data that students with high levels of attendance get the best exam results.

The school target for attendance is set at 96%. This is because the average attendance of students with 5A*-C GCSE grades last year was 96%.

We offer support in school for students with attendance related issues.

The Attendance Team can be contacted in Student Welfare on 01909 552408

Mrs. Bloor (Attendance Officer)
Mr. Caunt (Attendance Improvement Officer)
Mrs. Whittaker (Education Welfare Officer)

We're on the web:
www.dcsch.co.uk

NOTE FOR DIARY:
23rd & 24th March -
"Evening of Gym & Dance"

(Please speak to PE staff for further details)

SPECIALIST SCHOOL DAY

The second Specialist Schools Day of the year will take place on Friday 5th March. The aim of the day is to give students the opportunity to work and learn in different ways and study topics in more detail.

In March, the **Year 7's** will all be going to the National Coal Mining Museum to look at the history of mining and experience at first hand life below ground. This is in preparation for the cross curricular day on the July Specialist Day.

Year 8 are having a 'Group Challenge' day – building medieval ballistas and working together to solve the Egg Drop Challenge.

For **Year 9** it is a day at Eden Camp as part of their history studies.

Year 10 are developing new skills spending the day studying an activity of their choice, ranging from Sports Coaching, the Creative Arts to Construction or Outdoor Pursuits.

With exams just around the corner, **Year 11** will be spending the day finishing off Technology coursework to get the highest possible grade and completing the final piece of Science coursework.

Our **Post 16** students have a carousel of activities, including a visit by a helicopter (*weather permitting*) by the Royal Marines.

March 10th 2010
6pm – 7 pm
Woodsetts Village Hall

Mr. Paul Blackwell will be present to answer questions you may have about Dinnington Comprehensive School

DROP IN SESSIONS
EVERY WEDNESDAY
3.30 – 4.30 PM

NO APPOINTMENT REQUIRED - JUST COME TO THE MAIN RECEPTION

The Rt Hon Ed Balls MP - Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families - wrote to school at the beginning of the year. He wrote:

"I would like to thank and congratulate you and everyone at your school for the commitment, hard work and persistence that led to the GCSE results that your pupils achieved in 2009."

He also said:

"The efforts to increase attainment at your school, reflected in the improved exam results, are something that you should be

proud of and I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the good progress that you have clearly made".

"First and foremost it is the pupils who have benefited from the improvements made. They have clearly absorbed the changes, studied hard and shown determination to succeed. The results that they have achieved will hold them in good stead for the future whilst also demonstrating to younger pupils what can be achieved at your school."

Rt Hon Ed Balls MP



PARENTS EMAIL DETAILS

I can confirm that we have an email address for home, as follows:-

Email address (as it should be written)

Parent name Relationship to child

Children(s) names at school Form group

..... Form group

..... Form group

PARENTS CONTACT DETAILS - RECENTLY AMENDED OR NOT ON THE SCHOOL SYSTEM

Telephone (home) Telephone (work)

Mobile Mobile

If you make any future changes to your contact details, could you please ensure the school is made aware by contacting the Assessment Team on 01909 550066. Thank you.

**ONCE COMPLETED, PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO RECEPTION.
THANK YOU.**