

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

DROYLSDEN ACADEMY JUMPS UP 32 PLACES IN THE LEAGUE TABLE WHICH COMPARES ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AGAINST OTHER SIMILAR SCHOOLS ACROSS THE COUNTRY!

Hot off the press, from the Department for Education in London, is the news that **Droylsden Academy's** academic record has improved sharply in one year. Each year, the Department for Education studies the academic scores of students attending the school. It then ranks schools in a National League Table who have the same profile of children (students arriving in Year 7 with the same performance from Primary School). They call this the Table of Similar Schools (schools with similar intakes of children).

In the past, Droylsden Academy would come in the bottom 10% of schools with similar intakes for how well it brought academic progress to its students. **In 2015-16 we are now in the top 35% in the country.** The students, teachers, support staff, parents, carers, governors and key partners should be pleased with this improvement. This news comes on the back of a much more favourable Ofsted report (in October) where the school was awarded Good for both Leadership and for Behaviour, Personal Development & Welfare, and a much more encouraging set of GCSE results, particularly in English, which allowed more students than ever to take up post-16 study at Level 3 (A-Level or equivalent).

Our current students are perfectly capable of doing even better if they take PRIDE, are polite, hardworking (in school and at home) and are honest. We need our parents to continue to support our school and our teachers in parental messages to their children at home, if we are to be really successful. Our success will make your son or daughter's life chances that much better.

The headteacher, staff and students know only too well that there is much more we can do to continue to improve so that our learners get the best possible chance of a brighter future, but it is always good to take a moment to celebrate improvement and recognise our progress so far, especially when the good news comes from the Department of Education in England.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to, and continue to contribute to, the improving academic performance of students at Droylsden Academy.

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Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

LETTER FROM MR WILSON

Dear Parent or Carer

All parents and carers should have received a letter about attendance last week. The letter was personalised to include details of each child's attendance and I hope that all parents had the opportunity to read it. I know that some of you may think that we harp on about the importance of good attendance constantly but **it is so fundamental to a child's progress, development and well-being** that I make no apologies for reinforcing this important message again.

The majority of our students have good or excellent attendance but, unfortunately, we do have some parents who allow their child to stay off for no good reason.

Some students, routinely, have one or two days off each week; their learning is continually broken up, they miss important pieces of information and are constantly playing catch-up. If one of these students has attended from Monday to Thursday, we know that he or she will probably be off on Friday. We can only assume that these parents allow their child to have a day off every week.

Attendance is always down at the Academy on mornings when it is cold and wet. We can only assume that some parents allow their child to stay off because the weather is bad.

Some children will take a full day off for a routine dental or medical appointment.

Children with poor attendance are rarely in on the last day or two before we break up for a holiday or before and after a bank holiday. We can look at a child's attendance record and predict who will be in and who will be absent.

Children with poor attendance do badly in their GCSE examinations and have limited opportunities when they leave school. Children with poor attendance are, statistically, far more likely to become long term unemployed. **The Government argues that parents who allow their children to stay off for no good reason are guilty of neglect; they are putting their child's future prosperity and life chances at risk.**

If you are doing everything you can to ensure your child's attendance and progress then we would like to thank you for your support. In due course, your child will also thank you for ensuring that he or she had every opportunity to learn and succeed.

Thank you for reading Newsflash and, as usual, I hope you have a good weekend.

Best wishes

Mr P. Wilson
Headteacher

GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 13 school weeks left, just 65 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

Year 11 GCSE Music coursework recordings will take place on Thursday 28th January.

There is an important workshop for Year 11 Geography students on Friday 29th January from 2.45pm to 5.15pm. The session will be led by the Chief Examiner for Geography and will be invaluable. Please encourage your child to attend.

Students all now have timetables which include the evenings and subjects that they are required to attend for lesson 6. If a lesson 6 is on your child's timetable, then the lesson is compulsory and he or she must attend. Please look at your child's timetable over the weekend to check which days they will be staying late after school next week.

Day	Lesson 6 subjects that run on each evening
Monday	French and Spanish
Tuesday	Maths and Catering
Wednesday	Computing and Science
Thursday	English, Catering, Product Design, Business Studies, Photography, PE and Health & Social Care
Friday	Geography, History, Textiles and Art

Staff are currently submitting their latest assessment data for all Year 11 students as part of the Academy standardisation and moderation week.

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Students watch the production of 'A-Bomb on Broadway' at the Home Theatre.

Students taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme start training for their expedition. Further information about the Award can be found later in Newsflash.



P.E. students visit the Manchester Climbing Centre to continue with their GCSE practical assessments.

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HEADTEACHER'S CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to the following students who were invited to attend this week's Headteacher celebration of achievement:

Taliya Nash	Dareene Khashman	Sian Halkyard	Callum McKenna	
Emily Abram	Emily Hughes	Callum Holmes	Lucy Cryer	Lily Wilson

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD



Students involved with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme will begin their expedition training this week. Students who are not involved as yet, but would like to find out more, should speak with Ms Hutchinson, the Academy DofE Co-ordinator, or come along to room M15 on Tuesday after school. Alternatively, you can visit the DofE website at www.DofE.org or see the notice board in MAKE. Taking part in the DofE Award really does provide some wonderful opportunities for our students and plays a really important part in supporting a student's personal development.

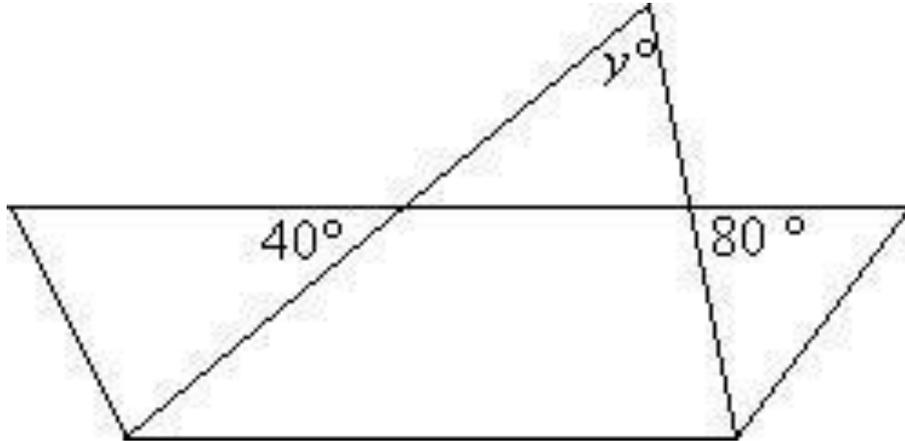
As this is a special year for the Duke of Edinburgh Award, the Diamond Jubilee, parents, carers and staff can get involved too! All you have to do is sign up at <https://dofediamondchallenge.org/> and then challenge yourself to do something; conquer your fear of flying, skydive or perhaps do something a little more sedate like reading for an hour a day or organising your extensive shoe collection! Please let Ms Hutchinson know if you do get involved so that we can follow and celebrate your success too!



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MATHS PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

Calculate angle y and explain how you came to your answer!



REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Year 9 examination week will take place during the week beginning Monday 8th February. **All school exams are important and the results of the Year 9 exams will help to inform possible option choices and Year 10 GCSE groups and sets.** Please encourage your child to start preparing and revising now.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 10 Parent Teacher Consultation Evening will be held on Thursday 11th February. Letters will be posted out to parents and carers next week with further information about the evening and details about how to make appointments with staff.

The Academy will break up for the Spring Half Term Holiday on Friday 12th February. The Academy will re-open on Monday 22nd February.

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