

## Droylsden Academy is a good school

### A MESSAGE FROM MR WILSON

It is with profound sadness that we report on the tragic death of Declan McNally, a Year 10 student from the Academy. Most of you will be aware, from the local news and media, and from talking to your own children, of the tragic accident on Wednesday night and of the terrible consequences. Our hearts and thoughts are with Declan's family and friends at this terrible time.

It is times like these that communities come together and we hope that the support, care and understanding provided by our pastoral team have helped. The emotional well-being of our students is, of course, our top priority and our hearts go out, in particular, to those who knew Declan well and who have been deeply affected by his death.

We will, in the fullness of time, and with the permission of the family, set up an appropriate and lasting tribute or memorial to Declan's life and, in the meantime, we will continue to reflect on the friendship and happiness that he brought to our school.

Finally, I am sure I speak for us all when I say that our thoughts and prayers are, of course, with Declan's family. We cannot begin to understand the pain and sadness that they must now feel. We are told that the passing of time does help and we can only hope that, eventually, they will be able to look back on Declan's life with pride and happiness.

### **Declan McNally 2005 - 2019**

If students or their families would like to leave a tribute to Declan, the local Police have made arrangements for this to be done in front of the Clock Tower near the Concord Suite in Droylsden Town Centre. For safety reasons, you are asked not to leave any tributes at the canal.

### A visit to the Lowry

Year 11 students visited the Lowry last week to watch an evening performance of 'An Inspector Calls'. They are studying the text for their GCSE English course and the opportunity to watch and discuss a live performance of the play was invaluable. Everyone had a really enjoyable evening at the Theatre, behaviour was impeccable and, as always, it was a pleasure to accompany the group on an evening out.



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

## The 'Scholars Programme'

A group of Year 7 students enrolled on the Scholars Programme this week and attended the launch at Sheffield University. The aim of the programme is to give outstanding students from State Comprehensive Schools across the country, the opportunity to visit and experience life at one of the UK's prestigious 'Russell Group' Universities and take part in a research project with an Academic Tutor. Over the coming weeks, the students will work with a PhD Tutor from the University back at the Academy and complete their own 1500 word dissertation on the topic 'Art History - Power, Personality and Portraiture'.



Good luck to the students involved in this year's programme. We hope that you will enjoy the research with your Tutor and that you will graduate from the programme at the end of the course.

Ilir Caka	Adam Feeney	Isabel Murphy	Eric Bayo-Vergara	Tom Cronshaw
Jackson Gaskin	Violet Hodges-Blackshaw	Angelo Moraru	Ella Kay-Blackwood	
	Ellie Lucas	Quyên Nguyen	Chemen Omar	

## Drugs Education and Safety

# LIFESKILLS

Last week, Year 8 students took part in a workshop aimed at delivering important aspects of Drugs Education and Safety. The workshop covered the use and misuse of cannabis, alcohol and nitrous oxide, and safe behaviour, and was facilitated by 'Change Grow Live', an external agency and a national charity with a branch in Tameside, which focusses on education and intervention. The workshop was very useful and the facilitators from Change Grow Live were extremely complementary about the approach, behaviour and attitude of our students. The next 'Lifeskills' Day will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February when Year 8 students will be attending workshops on First Aid.

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

### Working with our Partners

The Head Boy and Head Girl of the Academy, Vandis Akukwe and Tracy Nwanze, met with their counterparts from Mossley Hollins High School this week to look at ways in which students from both schools can work together.



### Macbeth

The 'Manacto' Drama Company staged a performance of Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' for Year 11 this week to support their understanding of, and revision for, their upcoming GCSE English Literature Exam. The students really enjoyed the performance and found it a very useful part of their exam preparation.



### Thank you

A local resident came into the Academy Reception this week to tell us how three of our students had helped her to get off the bus. She'd been to a hospital appointment and their offer of help was really appreciated. The lady didn't know the names of the boys but wanted us to know how kind and helpful they had been.

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

## Leadership Celebration

Members of the Academy Leadership Team meet with students each week in recognition of their achievements, skills, personal qualities or contribution to Academy Life. This week, Miss Wood had a breakfast of Hot Chocolate and French Pastries with a group of students who are demonstrating outstanding progress or attainment.



Tom Cronshaw	Jackson Gaskin	Ahmad Chikhmous	Lamech Asamoah-Tannor
Jamie Arora	Aisha Sadiq	Zak Albajouri	Devon Johnson

## GCSE COUNTDOWN

**Year 11, there are only 15 school weeks left, just 75 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.**

Your forthcoming Pre-Public Examinations which will start on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. The timetable for your Pre-Public Examinations can be found below.

<b>Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Combined Science/Triple Science Chemistry Paper 2 11.20am: Computer Science and Drama 1.40pm: History (Germany/Health)
<b>Tue 4<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: English Language 11.20am: Maths Paper 1 (Non Calculator) 1.40pm: DIT and Statistics
<b>Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Maths Paper 2 (Calculator) 11.00am: French and Spanish (Writing) 1.40pm: PE (Written Exam)

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

<b>Thur 6<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: English Literature 11.20am: French and Spanish (Listening and Reading) 1.40pm: Religious Studies Paper 1 (Religions) and BTEC Dance (Written)
<b>Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Health & Social Care 12.05pm: Geography (Geographical applications)
<b>Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Combined Science/Triple Science Biology Paper 1 11.10am: Maths Paper 3 (Calculator) 1.40pm: Drama
<b>Tue 11<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Geography (Content Paper) 11.10am: Religious Studies (Philosophy)
<b>Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Art (Group 11C) 1.30pm: PE (Practical)
<b>Thur 13<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Art (Group 11B and some students from Group 11C), Photography and Dance

Speaking tests for French and Spanish will take place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February. Students will be given individual appointment slots by their Languages Teacher.



## THE DROYLSDEN ACADEMY HOUSE SYSTEM

The week commencing Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February will be a historic one for the Academy as we will be launching our new 'House' system!

### What is a House System?

Our House system involves splitting the school population (staff and students) into four different groups or Houses. No changes will be made to Form Groups or Year Groups; each Form Group will simply be assigned to a House so that each House has a mixture of Form Groups from across Years 7 to 10. Each of the four Houses will be in direct competition with each other; students will be able to win House Points for their particular House through competitions, extra-curricular activities and for upholding the four Character Pillars of Learning, Service, Leadership and Participation. Year 11 will not contribute directly to the House system but will instead become 'House Alumni' as they move up from Year 10 at the end of an academic year.

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

## What is the House System for?

We hope that our House system will:

- Provide our students with a broad and balanced education by **encouraging participation** in many learning areas;
- Encourage and enable students to **recognise and value their gifts and talents** and to develop these in appropriate ways;
- Build **healthy competition and resilience**. The aim is for students to take an active part in all that the Academy can offer, including **enrichment and extra-curricular events**;
- Actively provide opportunities for students **to acquire cultural capital** (that is, the experience of cultural events which will broaden their life experiences); and
- **Inspire students, staff and the wider community.**

## What are the House names?

The town and community of Droylsden has a long history of being industrious and having a commitment to achieving success through hard work and perseverance. It is no surprise that the town's motto is 'By Concord and Industry'. The town of Droylsden grew rapidly during the Industrial Revolution due, in part, to the construction of large factories and cotton mills and the influx of workers who moved there from the surrounding areas. The mills of Droylsden were instrumental in turning a small farming community into the town we know today.

As you are aware, one of Droylsden Academy's key values is 'Hard Work'. As such, we felt it was important to tie the values of the school to the history of the town and its present community. The Houses are therefore named after four of the town's historic factories, 'Saxon', 'Albion', 'Victoria' and 'Oakfield'. These names still endure today through many of Droylsden's street names such as Saxon Drive, Saxon Street, Albion Fold, Albion Drive, Oakfield Avenue and Victoria Gardens. The fabric of the town is linked to the powerhouses of the past, and now, so is the Academy.

The crests for each house, as shown below, have been designed by our students whose talent and creativity will now be entwined with the Academy and will remain part of its legacy long into the future.



The crest for Saxon House was designed by Harry Hoban.



**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**



The crest for Albion House was designed by Maria Bundache.



The crest for Victoria House was designed by Molly Nash.



The crest for Oakfield House was designed by Ella Kay-Blackwood and Taylor-Louise Wilson.



There will be more about our new House system in next week's edition of Newsflash!

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Character Awards Evening will be held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

Year 8 students will be attending a 'Drop-Down Day' on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February when they will be attending workshops on First Aid.

A group of Year 11 students will depart for a GCSE Residential Revision Weekend at Borwick Hall on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

The Academy will break up for the half term holiday on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

## JOB VACANCIES AT THE ACADEMY

### Higher Level Teaching Assistant (Level 4): Literacy

<b>Pay Scale:</b>	Grade F (Point 17 - 22), Actual Salary Pt 17 £20,052, Pt 22 £22,140
<b>Contract:</b>	Permanent, Term Time Only
<b>Hours:</b>	36 hours per week
<b>Closing Date:</b>	Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2020
<b>Start Date</b>	As soon as possible

We are looking for a dedicated and passionate Higher Level Teaching Assistant to join our Learning Support Team.

As a Higher Level Teaching Assistant you will independently tutor and supervise individuals and groups of children in order to accelerate their progress and learning in English and Literacy, working in close liaison with teaching staff and leaders to plan and deliver accelerated tutoring to ensure students catch-up with their learning, enabling them to do well and access the full curriculum.

You will also work with the Curriculum Leader Learning Support to lead the TA/Curriculum Tutor Team in planning and delivery of the Key Skills and Catch-Up group work-shops and support teachers to ensure such students develop good and great attitudes to learning.

### Teaching Assistant (Level 2): Literacy

<b>Pay Scale:</b>	Grade D (Point 7 – 10), £10.41 - £11.04 per hour
<b>Contract:</b>	Fixed Term subject to funding (due to end 31/08/2020), Term Time Only
<b>Hours:</b>	32.5 per week
<b>Closing Date:</b>	Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2020
<b>Start Date:</b>	As soon as possible

We are looking for a dedicated and passionate Teaching Assistant to join our Learning Support Team.

As a Teaching Assistant you will supervise individuals and groups of children in order to accelerate their progress and learning, working in close liaison with teaching staff and leaders to ensure students catch-up with their learning (enabling them to do well and access the full curriculum).

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

You will also work with the Faculty Leader Learning Support to assist with the planning and delivery of the Key Skills and Catch-Up group work-shops and support teachers to ensure such students develop good and great attitudes to learning.

### **Technology Technician (Food)**

**Pay Scale:** Grade D (Point 7 – 10), £10.41 - £11.04 per hour  
**Contract:** Permanent, Term Time Only  
**Hours:** 36 hours per week  
**Closing Date:** Monday, 10th February 2020  
**Start Date:** As soon as possible.

We are looking for a dedicated and passionate Technology Technician (Food) to join our Art & Technology Faculty.

The post holder will be responsible for the co-ordination and maintenance of practical resources and facilities within the Food Technology area and provide assistance and advice in meeting the practical needs of the food and nutrition curriculum.

This is a key role in supporting the development, implementation and maintenance of the strategic vision, ethos and plans for the faculty area to ensure outstanding outcomes, working closely and pro-actively with the faculty leader.

**For more information and details on how to apply for any of these posts, please visit:**

<http://www.droylsdenacademy.com/work-at-droylsden-academy/3527.html>

Completed applications should be returned by email to:

[hr@droylsdenacademy.com](mailto:hr@droylsdenacademy.com)

or posted to:

Human Resources Department, Droylsden Academy, Manor Road, Droylsden, Manchester, M43 6QD

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**