

Dinnington High School



Parent Guide

2023/24

Making the leap!
**The
Dinnington
way**

Kindness

Respect

Excellence

Part of
LEAP
Multi Academy Trust

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Doing things the Dinnington Way with kindness, respect and excellence.

Welcome

It is an exciting time as we welcome you to Dinnington High School. The Dinnington Way is at the heart of everything that we do, with kindness, respect and excellence.

Developing strong and positive relationships with our students, parents, families and community is the foundation of our nurturing approach towards the offer at Dinnington High School.

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities including football, rugby, trampolining, drama, music and Harry Potter club. We work with RotherFed to offer boxing with a professional boxer after school each week and have a range of performances such as the Big Show and various sports and drama presentations. There are activities and opportunities for all students and for all interests.

Students are well-supported through the pastoral system and will be in a form with a form tutor who will know your child well and work closely with you to support your child through transition up to their GCSE and A levels. There are two year leaders per year group who are there for you and students. Form time is a very important part of the school day and is the opportunity to get ready for the day ahead, seek support if needed and to enjoy the start to the school day.

We have an excellent student leadership programme whereby there are 2 student leaders per form group who attend meetings and will be part of community projects such as tree planting, volunteering programmes, litter-picking and developing the environment. Student leaders meet with Senior Leaders to share their student voice and represent the student body.

Rewards are embedded across our whole curriculum and students are recognised for good attendance, uniform, kindness, effort and progress in lessons and around school. There is a range of rewards including text messages, phone call Friday, badges, cinema afternoons and rewards trips at the end of the year.

The health and wellbeing of our students is paramount as we believe that happy students achieve their full potential.

I hope that you feel as excited as we do to be welcoming your child to our Year 7 cohort and look forward to a long and positive journey together.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Mr S Grenham
Assistant Principal



Ms J Perkins
Head of Achieve & Transition Lead



Term Dates

Half Term 1: Monday 4th September - Friday 20th October 2023

Half Term 2: Monday 30th October - Friday 22nd December 2023

Half Term 3: Monday 8th January - Friday 9th February 2024

Half Term 4: Monday 19th February - Friday 29th March 2024

Half Term 5: Monday 15th April - Friday 24th May 2024

Half Term 6: Monday 3rd June – Friday 19th July 2024

INSET Days: there will be 4 further staff training days through the year, and we will inform you as soon as these dates are confirmed.



Transition Days: Monday 17th July
Tuesday 18th July
Wednesday 19th July

The timings of the school day are as follows:

Form Time	8:35am – 9:00am
Lesson One	9:00am – 10:00am
Break	10:00am – 10:15am
Lesson Two	10:15am – 11:15am
Lesson Three	11:15am – 12:15pm
Lunch	12:15pm – 12:45pm
Lesson Four	12:45pm – 1:45pm
Lesson Five	1:45pm – 2:45pm
End of School	2:45pm

Some students may want to stay behind after school to join our extra-curricular clubs, these usually last up to an hour. Further details will follow in September.

Top Tip

Students could have up to 5 different subjects a day, many will require students to have an exercise book or specific equipment.

We therefore advise parents to ensure their child organises their school bag the night before. You can encourage them to check their timetable, a copy can be found in their planner.



Attendance

Regular attendance is not only vital in the development of good learning and maximising student attainment, it also helps the development of a sense of community and of personal and social skills. Our school's minimum expectation is 96% attendance, those that meet this expectation ultimately reach their full academic potential.

What do I do if my child is absent from school?

- Contact the school each day your child is unable to attend by ringing the school's main telephone number: **01909 550066** or emailing us on **attendance@din.leap-mat.org.uk** before 9am where possible.
- Contact the Form Tutor/Year Leader, in confidence, if ever a problem occurs that may affect your child's attendance.

Advice to parents:

- Wherever possible arrange appointments outside of the school day or seek authorisation in advance from the Form Tutor, Year Leader or the Attendance Team.
- Ensure the continuity of your child's education by taking holidays during the school holiday period. In exceptional circumstances where this is not possible parents/carers are asked to request leave in term time by completing a holiday form at least 2 weeks in advance of the holiday. Authorisation will be subject to the Principal's written approval.

What should my child do if they are late to school?

We want students to be on time to school each day, arriving late can have a negative impact on your child and cause unnecessary anxiousness resulting in a lack of performance.

If your child is late they must:

- Sign in at student reception as soon as they arrive at school

How will I know if my child is doing well?

At Dinnington High School we are proud of the positive relationships we create with parents and families through regular updates. These will include the following:

- Two assessment points with progress reports sent home to parents throughout the year.
- Phone calls home/celebration and rewards events.

Our assessment points will include information from each subject area and will provide information on your child's behaviour for learning and engagement with homework as well as whether they are meeting expectations in terms of academic progress. You are encouraged to contact the form tutor or year leader should you wish to discuss your child's performance.

Who do I contact if I need to discuss my child?

There are lots of people who can help depending on your need:

The **form tutor** is the member of staff who you are most likely to have contact with. Your child will see their form tutor every morning in form time and will be the person who knows your child best. We encourage you to telephone or email tutors if you have any questions, or if you would like to discuss your child with them.

Year 7 Form Tutors 2023/24

Form	House	Form Tutor	Contact details
7E	Segrave	TBC	TBC
7G	Segrave	TBC	TBC
7H	Segrave	TBC	TBC
7B	Segrave	TBC	TBC
7O	Segrave	TBC	TBC
7S	Segrave	TBC	TBC
7A	Segrave	TBC	TBC
7T	Segrave	TBC	TBC
7R	Segrave	TBC	TBC

If you have a question about a particular subject we would ask you to contact reception in the first instance. Then, they will be able to direct you to the specific subject teacher. You can contact us by telephoning the school number or by email. See below for details:

Who to contact	Contact details
Main School	01909 550 066
Reception	info@din.leap-mat.org.uk
Attendance	attendance@din.leap-mat.org.uk
Finance Team	finance@din.leap-mat.org.uk
Year 7 Leader	Mrs C Paling c.paling@din.leap-mat.org.uk
Year 7 Leader	Mr S Ebbs s.ebbs@din.leap-mat.org.uk



All year 7 students will be given homework from almost all of their subjects. To help them manage this and to develop crucial organisational skills, the school uses Microsoft Teams which is linked with student's school account. At the start of the year students will receive their school logins and will be given demonstrations on how to access their homework. Parents will get the information sent to them with instructions on how their child can access their homework account from home, as well as information on how to monitor and support their child with their homework. Further information will follow in September.

School Trips, School Food Information & Payment System

At Dinnington High School, we use a cashless system for parents to pay for school trips and food. The system allows you to access details on school trips being made available to your child, to make payments for them, and to add money to your child's school food account.

Access to the online system can be followed by completing 7 simple steps. Your child will receive a unique 'Online Link Code' in September. You can link any siblings to this account.

The system is quick, efficient and provides also on-line access to enable parents and carers to top-up their child's account. On-line access will let you see what your child buys and also pay for educational visits. We strongly encourage parents to top-up their child's food accounts using the on-line system but students can add cash to their account in school. The system reads information from each student's fingerprint.

The system uses measurements from the child's fingerprint, not the fingerprint itself. No use will be made of the measurement, apart from the cashless school food system.

In order to enable your child to make use of the system, we need your consent for the collection of the fingerprint information, which is collected from the admissions information you provide.

If you do not provide consent your child would be allocated a PIN code which does not have the same level of security and it will be your child's responsibility to remember it. The benefit of the biometrics system is that nobody else can use your child's account. The information will only be used by Dinnington High School as part of an automated biometric recognition system for the cashless catering system.

At any time, consent can be withdrawn in writing.

And finally, we thank you for your support with your child's successful transition to Dinnington High School and look forward to seeing you again.

Don't forget to join our Facebook and Twitter feeds to ensure they are up to date with school news and students' achievements.

 @dinningtonhigh

 Dinnington High School



'We have the opportunity to talk to teachers whenever we want to get support. There is always support when we need it.'

Y7 Student



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www.dinningtonhigh.co.uk

 **DinningtonHigh**

 **@DinningtonHigh**

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