

Parent/Carer Update Sheet

May 2026/June 2026

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May 2026

Welcome back to what is now our Summer Term 2026! Where is the timing going? We hope you all had a great Easter Break.

Please be aware that Summer polo shirts and tailored shorts can now be worn. If you do wish your child to wear a Summer polo, don't forget to consider using FODC's #Pre-Loved Pop Up Shop if you want to save some money along with the planet!

As we enter GCSE Exam Season we wish all our Year 11s the very best of luck! We appreciate this can be a stressful time for students, so please ensure your child is getting plenty of rest alongside all their revision and that they continue to attend school regularly and take part in some stress relieving after school activities or non school based activities which they enjoy.

Years 7 - 10 also enter their exam season in June. This experience will stand them in really good stead for when they come to take their GCSEs in Year 11 and will also give us an accurate understanding of where they currently are in terms of their potential future grades.

Don't forget, all parents/carers, staff and students are invited and encouraged to share their success stories with us by emailing kotton@dormston.dudley.sch.uk.



Learner of the Month

April 2026

Our Learner of the Month Winner for **April 2026** was **Sophie Duncan - 10TX** for her outstanding effort in English.

Congratulations and well done also goes to all of our other students who were nominated recently!

You did it!
Congratulations



What's Happening

Year 11 Final Exams Commence - May 2026

Year 11 final written exams begin from Friday 1 May 2026. These exams are the culmination of five years of hard work and it is important that pupils are fully prepared. Exam timetables have been shared with pupils already and can also be found on GO4Schools. Pupils must remember that they need to follow all rules and regulations within the exam hall. It is vital that pupils attend school for each exam and turn up on time. We are unable to provide a time to 're-do' an exam if a pupil misses it because they are absent from school or turn up late. Please ensure your child knows when their exams are and that they attend school well prepared and with all correct equipment. GCSE results day is on Thursday 20 August 2026.



Year 10 Work Experience - WC 11 May 2026

Work Experience will take place for Year 10 students who have secured a placement WC 11 May 2026. Students should contact their placement to confirm first day arrangements such as time of arrival, who to ask for upon arrival and if any dress code applies. We also recommend that students do a 'dummy run' to make sure of their route and how long it will take to get there. If students are unwell and unable to attend their placement on any day, please make sure that the employer and the school are notified as early as possible. Students will be given their log books in school beforehand. All students without a placement need to attend school as usual. The week will comprise of careers related activities and GCSE lessons.



Year 8 HPV Vaccinations - Tuesday 12 May 2026

Year 8 pupils will be offered the opportunity to receive their HPV vaccination on Tuesday 12 May 2026. There will be a further Catch Up Session on Friday 26 June 2026. An email with a link in has been sent to all Year 8 parents/carers direct from Vaccination UK. It is very important that you fill the link that has been emailed **even if you don't want your child to have the vaccination**. If you have already filled in the link you have already registered your child and therefore there is nothing else for you to do.



Year 10 King Edward VI Trip - Thursday 21 May 2026

On Thursday 21 May 2026 we will be running a trip for selected students to King Edward VI College Stourbridge to have a day of A-Level tasters and a tour of the campus. Further details will be sent out to parents/carers in due course.



May Half Term - WC Monday 25 May 2026

School will be closed for May Half Term WC Monday 25 May 2026. Students should return to school on Monday 1 June 2026 to a Week 1 Timetable. Wishing you all a great May Half Term!



What's Happening

PSHE - Monday 8 June 2026

On Monday 8 June 2026 students from Years 7 - 10 will be taking part in PSHE as follows:

Year 7 will be having a PSHE double on self-image and media.

Year 8 will be taking part in a charity initiative. They will be working on this during form sessions and then finishing the project in the PSHE double.

Year 9 - Active Citizenship: In groups, pupils will be creating their own campaign on a topic of their choice. Pupils will have had time to discuss and think about their campaigns during form time sessions prior to PSHE. Pupils will then present their campaigns to each other in tutor groups. All pupils will then be given an opportunity to vote for the campaign they found most convincing and compelling. The purpose of this activity is to gradually introduce pupils to the democratic process and to foster a sense of active citizenship, teamwork and collaboration in tutor groups.

Year 10 - Financial Literacy: Pupils will be looking at cryptocurrency and financial exploitation. The purpose of this PSHE session is to provide pupils factual information that enables them to recognise and protect themselves from scams, understand and manage modern financial risks and to prepare them for financial decision making later in life.



Bronze DofE Expedition - Sunday 14 June & 15 June 2026

2 days/1-night walking expedition - Location: Bewdley - Sunday 14 and Monday 15 June 2026. Camping overnight at: Frank Chapman Outdoor Education Centre. This expedition is being overseen by Miss Dolan and Mrs Pajaj. Further details to follow via letter in due course.



Year 10 Mock Exams Start - WC Monday 15 June 2026

Year 10 Mock GCSE exams will start WC Monday 15 June 2026 and continue into WC Monday 22 June 2026. These exams will reflect GCSE exam procedures and will take place in the Sports Hall under full exam conditions. High expectations will be in place for pupil's behaviour and conduct during these exams. Prior to the start of these mocks, pupils will have had an assembly on the rules and regulations set out by the JCQ which we will be adhering to during the mock exams. It is vital that pupils attend school for each mock exam as there may not be a chance for pupils to 'catch up.' The results of this first set of Mocks will play a major role in staff generating their first 'predicted grades' for students outlining where we would expect them to be by the end of Year 11. This data will be the first set of data pupils can use to start applying to college in Autumn 2026. Timetables will be shared with pupils and put on GO4Schools and the school website. Please ensure your child is revising for these exams and attends school well prepared and with all correct equipment.



Year 11 Leavers' Assembly - Friday 19 June 2026

Just a reminder that Year 11 Leavers' Assembly will take place on Friday 19 June 2026 at 9.00am until approximately 10.00am. We are looking forward to reuniting the year group for this lovely event. This is an opportunity for shirt signing and fond farewells as well as the chance to collect any purchased Leavers' hoodies. Pupils should attend wearing full school uniform and bring in a second shirt for signing.



What's Happening

Tie Reward Presentation - Tuesday 23 June 2026

We are delighted to announce that our next Tie Reward Morning will take place on Tuesday 23 June 2026. This special event celebrates students who have demonstrated exceptional effort, attendance, and contribution to extra-curricular activities. Pupils who have achieved 300, 600, 900 or 1200 house points will be invited, along with their parents/carers, to receive their bronze, silver, gold or platinum tie in recognition of their hard work and dedication. Invitation letters will be sent out shortly to those eligible - well done to all our pupils for their continued commitment and achievements!



Years 8 - 10 Vaccination Catch Up Session - Friday 26 June 2026

If your child is outstanding any vaccinations they will be sent a link from Vaccination UK. Vaccination UK will be coming into school on Friday 26 June 2026 to do any outstanding vaccinations.



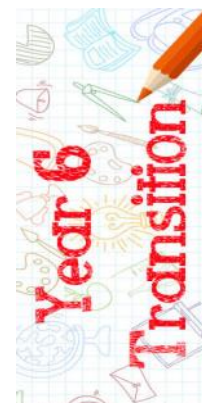
Year 7 & 8 Exams - WC Monday 29 June 2026

Year 7 & 8 exams will start from WC Monday 29 June 2026. Exams will only take place in core subjects (English, Maths & Science) and will take place in classrooms during timetabled lessons. A finalised timetable will be sent out when available and teachers will let pupils know what the exam will cover. Please ensure your child is revising for these exams and that they attend school well prepared.



Year 6 Induction Evening - Monday 29 June 2026

On Monday 29 June 2026 there will be a Parents'/Carers' Evening at 6.30pm in The Dormston Theatre. During the evening, NEW Year 7 Parents/Carers for September 2026 will have the opportunity to meet key members of staff associated with Year 7 where further information will be shared regarding induction days and their start to Dormston. Please note that the evening is only for parents/carers so children do NOT need to attend. Induction for Year 6 students due to start in September 2026, will take place on Tuesday 30 June and Wednesday 1 July. Letters with further information will be sent out to our new Year 7 Parents/Carers for September 2026 shortly.



Year 9 Exams - WC Monday 29 June 2026

Year 9 exams will start from WC Monday 29 June 2026. These exams will take place in classrooms during timetabled lessons. A finalised timetable will be sent out when available and teachers will let pupils know what the exam will cover. In **Year 9** all pupils will sit exams in the compulsory subjects (English, Maths and Science). However, for all other subjects, students will only sit exams for the subjects they have chosen for GCSE if they currently study the subject - for 'new' subjects (and a few others) these exams will not be possible. Please ensure your child is revising for these exams and ensure that they attend school well prepared.



Our Successes

REAL SUCCESS STORIES



We know we have many brilliant students who deserve a mention but here are a few stories that have been shared with us, which we thought we would share with you! **Don't forget, ALL parents/carers, staff and students are invited and encouraged to share their success story with us by emailing kotton@dormston.dudley.sch.uk.**

Football Success - Alex Turner - 8SY

We just wanted to share with you Alex Turner's achievements and how well he is doing in his football this season. On 22 March 2026 he got his 1st hattrick!! He did actually score 4, but one was disallowed (offside)! Both school and his family are all incredibly proud of him. He's also an amazing captain for his Sunday team and also made his first school debut recently after being asked by Mr Biddlecombe! Check out his stats! Congratulations Alex on all your success!

PLAYER STATS

SEASON 2025-26

KEY STATISTICS



Alex Turner's Stats



Joby Turner 7TX

Darts Success - Joby Turner 7TX

Congratulations to Joby Turner - 7TX who recently played in the Friday night dart league double and his partner was none other than professional PDC player Tom Bissell! Joby checked out 103 to win the match and also had the highest checkout that night out of all the players (who are adults!!). Both school and his family are absolutely bursting with pride for this amazing achievement. Well done Joby!



Jensen Fellows - 7TX

Amateur Dramatics Success - Jensen Fellows - 7TX

A BIG well done goes to Jensen Fellows - 7TX who completed a show recently at Stourbridge Town Hall with The Tab performing in Oklahoma. Jensen fully enjoyed taking part in the show and did brilliantly every night Tuesday through to Saturday and never once moaned about getting up for school the next day! Well done Jensen for your dedication and resilience!



Amelia Parkes-Simpson - 8TY

Roller Skating Success - Amelia Parkes-Simpson - 8TY

Well done to Amelia Parkes-Simpson - 8TY who recently passed Stages 1 - 6 in her artistic roller skating basic skills. The instructor said it's the fastest that anyone in their club has completed it and he is super proud of how she listens and takes instruction. Both Amelia's parents/carers and us here at Dormston School are super proud of Amelia. Congratulations on this great achievement!



Evie Johnson - 8SY

Ballet Success - Evie Johnson - 8SY

Well don to Evie Johnson - 8SY for her recent success as she performed in 4 full length ballet productions with Ballet Britain (formerly known as Midland Theatre Ballet). Evie successfully auditioned in 2025 and completed an intensive ballet course with training at Elmhurst Ballet School before performing in the 4 shows at the Crescent Theatre. In November she also received a distinction in her grade 4 ballet exam taken with her local school

Our Successes

REAL SUCCESS STORIES



Easter School Ski Trip to Les Deux Alpes - A Week to Remember

Our recent school trip to Les Deux Alpes in France proved to be an unforgettable experience from start to finish. The coach journey to the resort seemed to fly by, and before we knew it, we had arrived, collected our skis and boots, and were fully prepared for our first day on the slopes. We were incredibly fortunate with the conditions, as the resort experienced record snowfall for that time of year. Over the course of the week, we encountered an impressive variety of weather, from challenging white-outs and continuous snowfall to stunning blue skies. Temperatures dropped as low as -17°C at the top of the mountain, but the breath-taking views more than made up for the cold. All students, regardless of their starting ability, made fantastic progress throughout the week. Whether beginners finding their feet, intermediates building confidence, or advanced skiers refining their technique, everyone rose to the challenge. The instructors were outstanding, providing encouragement and pushing pupils to improve more each day. The fun didn't stop when we left the slopes. Evening activities included exploring the town, enjoying delicious crêpes, bowling, curling, and laser tag. There was even a memorable (and enthusiastic!) karaoke session that brought plenty of laughter. Perhaps most importantly, the trip was a wonderful opportunity for students to form new friendships and create lasting memories. It was a week filled with achievement, adventure, and plenty of smiles. A huge thank you goes to Mr Amos, Mrs Amos, Mr Rodgers, Mr Parr, and Mrs Palmer for giving up a week of their Easter break to make this trip possible. Their dedication and support ensured that the trip was such a success. We look forward to many more adventures like this in the future!



Here is what the students thought about it.....

Francesca Cummings - Year 7

"I recently visited the French Les Deux Alpes, where we skied for five days. My favourite activity was skiing and making new friends. Skiing was something I couldn't do before I went so when I arrived in France and started I found it challenging at first but with the assistance of my instructor I learned how to ski. On this ski trip, I learned how to ski and created many unforgettable memories. Overall, it was an amazing experience. It is something I would highly recommend."

Olivia Summers - Year 9

"I recently went on a school trip to Les Deux Alpes where we learned to ski. This trip allowed me to make so many good memories which will last forever, I spoke to a lot of people in all years which I thought I'd never do as I'm actually shy. I never once felt shy. Everyone was so nice and made me happy. I laughed the whole way through it. I was the only girl in my group but I made so much progress because the ski instructors gave me all the attention I needed and was so funny and friendly. Overall I'm 100% coming back. Best ski trip ever. I recommend it."