

Parental Communication & Engagement



☎ 01384 816395 ✉ info@dormston.dudley.sch.uk 📧 @DormstonSch 🌐 <http://www.dormston.dudley.sch.uk>

Message from Headteacher

Well, we've made it! What an amazing year it has been. There have been so many brilliant achievements throughout the year and our students, staff and parents/carers have just been incredible! This week of course has been all about celebration!

On Monday, we held our Sports Day. After last year's cancellation due to hot weather and 2 postponed days this year, both students and staff were looking forward to a fantastic day of competition. Students proudly represented their houses and forms in a variety of track events, while also competing as teams in Dodgeball, Football, N-Zone and Benchball. After all the points had been calculated, the winning forms for each year group were:

- **Year 7:** 7SX;
- **Year 8:** 8TY;
- **Year 9:** 9DY;
- **Year 10:** 10TY.

Congratulations to all the winning forms. The overall House winners were **Derwent**. A huge congratulations to everyone who took part and helped make the day such a success. A big thank you also goes to Mr Biddlecombe who worked incredibly hard, in ever changing circumstances, due to the warm weather yet again!

On Sports Day, some of our students who are part of the Year 8 Mentoring Scheme also organised a charity bake sale raising £28.25 for Cancer Research.

On Wednesday, we held our Summer Fayre where students got to enjoy fun in the sun, with a bouncy castle, football, picnic blankets, ice creams, face painting, glitter tattoos, snacks, bubbles, music and summer games!

On Thursday, we held our annual karaoke sessions. A massive shout out to Mrs Downie who leads and organises our End of Term Celebrations.

Today, we held our Whole School Assembly where we celebrated individual and school achievements all together before breaking up for the summer holidays!

We are really sorry to see 2 wonderful members of staff leave us this year. Mrs Oseland retires after 9 years at Dormston and Miss Legge is off to Hagley RC School as fulltime teacher of History. We wish them both well in their new ventures.

Just a reminder that our Year 11 GCSE Results Day will take place on **Thursday 20 August 2026**. Students can come and collect their GCSE Result from the Gallery area between 9.00am - 11.00am. If your child wishes for somebody else to collect their results on their behalf, they need to

provide a signed written letter from them personally, giving permission for us to hand over their results. Whoever is collecting on their behalf, must also have some photographic ID on them. Our Careers Leader, Miss Froggatt will also be available for any next steps queries.

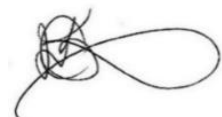
Please note that school is closed for INSET on Tuesday 1 September 2026 to all students. Our New Year 7 students return to school on Wednesday 2 September 2026. Our Year 8 - 11 students return on Thursday 3 September 2026. All students will return to a Week 1 Timetable. Students do not need to worry about bringing PE kit on their first day.

As you may know, there has recently been some new legislation regarding Mobile Phones in schools. Please read the information in our Update Section carefully. Can we please ask that you fully support us with this in September.

Don't forget that we also switch back to our Winter uniform from September!

Thank you for all your support this year. Wishing you all a wonderful summer break!

Best wishes.



Mrs Sutton
Headteacher

Key Letters/Information Sent Out Recently

- Completion of DofE Award Letter;
- Year 8 End of Year Letter;
- Year 9 End of Year Letter;
- Year 10 End of Year Letter;
- New York Trip - July 2026 Update Letter.

Updates

Work Experience Update - Current Year 9 Students

For the parents/carers of students currently in Year 9, next year's work experience dates will be the W/C Monday 17th May 2027. There will be a Work Experience Launch evening on Wednesday 9th September 2026, which will give you chance to find out more about the processes and key dates for your child's work experience journey and ask any questions. If you would like to begin contacting businesses over the summer holidays to get a head start on securing places, then please feel free to do so. Employers will need to complete a Microsoft form for us, details of which will be shared at the launch evening.

Mobile Phones in School: New Statutory Guidance

The government issued statutory guidance that came into effect on 29th June to help schools create calm, safe and focused learning environments by restricting mobile phone use during the school day.

Mobile phones may be useful before and after school, but they can disrupt learning, reduce concentration, increase the risk of bullying and online conflict, and make safeguarding more difficult.

In line with this guidance, mobile phones must be switched off and out of sight throughout the school day unless a member of staff has given permission for a specific educational or medical reason. As the school has a confiscation policy, any mobile phone seen or heard during the school day may be confiscated in line with school procedures. This helps keep lessons focused and pupils engaged.

We ask parents/carers to support this expectation by speaking with your child at home. We also ask parents and carers never to communicate with students or answer their calls during the school day. This expectation has been written into our home-school agreement for next academic year. Working together helps us maintain a positive environment where pupils can learn, socialise and thrive.



Statutory guidance
Mobile phones in schools
Updated 29 June 2026

Applies to England

Confiscated if Seen

It's the law

Contents
About this guidance
Prohibiting the use of mobile phones in school

This guidance became statutory on 29 June 2026.

This means from when you come into school, until **you have left through the main exit**.

Staff will enforce this during tutor time, at the start of each lesson and at the end of the day.

All schools should be mobile phone-free environments by default; anything other than this should be by exception only.

All schools must have a [behaviour policy](#) that is aligned with the school's legal duties and standards relating to the welfare of children. This is essential in establishing and maintaining high standards of behaviour ensuring that the school is a calm and safe environment for all pupils and staff. As part of this policy, schools should develop a mobile phone policy that prohibits the use of mobile phones and other smart technology with similar functionality to mobile phones (for example, the ability to send and/or receive notifications or messages via mobile phone networks or the ability to record audio and/or video) throughout the school day, including during lessons, the time between lessons, breaktimes and lunchtime.

Fostering

Please see the below Fostering leaflet that we have been asked to share with our parents/carers.



We foster...

YOU can too

Dudley Council needs new foster carers - have you got what it takes?

Fostering in Dudley offers a rewarding career, training, guidance and 24 hour support 365 days a year

Visit our website for more information and drop-in session dates

www.fosteringindudley.org.uk
call 01384 815833
or email fosteringrecruitment@dudley.gov.uk



Dudley Fostering offers a rewarding career. 24 hour support, training and guidance 365 days a year

Dudley Council's fostering service is looking for new foster carers to provide homes for looked after children in the borough.

It's easy to find out more on our website www.fosteringindudley.org.uk or we're always happy to have a chat over the phone or at one of our drop in sessions.

The team is interested in hearing from anyone who has an interest in fostering children of any age, but in particular from people who would consider caring for teenagers, children with disabilities or those who could take more than one child so brothers and sisters can stay together.

To find out more visit www.fosteringindudley.org.uk
email fosteringrecruitment@dudley.gov.uk
or call 01384 815833



On-Line Safety Parental Controls Booklet

As part of online safety, please find a link below to a Parent Online Safety booklet
[Parental Controls booklet 2026](#)

Events/Reminders

- INSET Day - Tuesday 1 September 2026;
- Year 7 Return to School - Wednesday 2 September 2026;
- Year 7 Photographs - Wednesday 2 September 2026;
- Years 8 - 11 Return to School - Thursday 3 September.

Congratulations/Well Done

Headteacher Commendations

Congratulations go to the following students who received Headteacher Commendations this week.

Faith Lloyd	Dylan Atkinson	Jessica Hobley	Ava Mills
Zak Shah			