

26th March 2026

End of Spring Term 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we prepare for the clocks to change and enjoy the occasional sunshine, we find ourselves approaching the end of another busy term. I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on our achievements and share some important updates.

Last Day Arrangements

School breaks up on Friday 27th March. Students will finish at the usual time of 1:10pm. Students return to the academy on Monday 13th April.

DPA Values

Our values of Determination, Pride and Ambition remain at the heart of everything we do at DPA. This term, numerous students have been rewarded each week for demonstrating these values throughout the school day. I wrote to you last term regarding the importance of oracy for our students and this remains an area of focus across our academy. Along with our reward systems runs our behaviour policy and this term has seen suspensions and placement break downs for a very small number of students. As a school community we are proud of our high expectations and will continue to be sanctioned accordingly where students speak to staff or students using foul and abusive language.

Attendance

Overall school attendance remains positive and is well above the national average for similar schools. A key area for improvement continues to be punctuality. Again, we ask for your support and partnership in working together to support our students getting to school on time. As a reminder, students are welcomed on to site from 8.40am but are marked as late if they arrive after 9am.

Social Media

Please follow Derby Pride Academy on our social media platforms on Facebook and Instagram (@derbypride_academy), where we regularly post updates of our students' work and enrichment activities.

Arbor

Arbor is our main method of communication. Please can we ask all parents/carers to download the Arbor Parent App to your smart phone and contact reception if you require any support with this platform.



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📅 Year 11 Exams

When students return on Monday 13th April, there will be just one school week before Year 11 begin their first GCSE exam. A copy of the full GCSE exam timetable is shown below:

Mon 20 th April	Tue 21 st April	Wed 22 nd April	Thurs 23 rd April	Fri 24 th April
	GCSE Art All day	GCSE Art All day		
Mon 27th April Normal lessons	Tues 28th April Normal lessons	Wed 29th April Normal lessons	Thurs 30th April Normal lessons	Fri 1st May Normal lessons
Mon 4th May Bank Holiday	Tues 5th May INSET Day	Wed 6th May Normal lessons	Thurs 7th May Normal lessons	Fri 8th May Normal lessons
Mon 11th May AQA English Lit 8702, Paper 1, 1hr 45min, AM	Tue 12th May AQA Biology 8461 Paper 1 1hr 45 min, PM	Wed 13th May	Thurs 14th May Pearsons Maths 1MA1 Paper 1, 1hr 30min, non-Calc AM	Fri 15th May
Mon 18th May	Tues 19th May AQA English Lit 8702, Paper 2, 2hr 15min, AM	Weds 20th May	Thurs 21st May AQA English Lan 8700 Paper 1 1hr 45 min AM	Fri 22nd May
Half-Term Holidays				
Mon 1st June	Tues 2nd June	Weds 3rd June Pearsons Maths 1MA1 Paper 2, 1hr 30min, Calc AM	Thurs 4th June	Fri 5th June AQA English Lang 8700 Paper 2, 1hr 45 min, AM
Mon 8th June AQA Biology 8461 Paper 2 1hr 45 min, AM	Tues 9th June	Weds 10th June Pearsons Maths 1MA1 Paper 3, 1hr 30min, Calc AM	Thurs 11th June	Fri 12th June CONTINGENCY DAY



🌟 Year 11 Post 16

Students who have not yet secured a post-16 destination must submit applications as soon as possible. Students should be applying for their desired course as well as a plan B; these can be at different colleges or training providers. Please contact Mrs. Hopkinson at the school if you or your child need support with this.

If your child has already applied, please keep an eye on the college portal and emails for updates on the application status. Support at school can also be offered for preparation for interviews. Below are some useful websites to help you with applications:

[Post 16 options | National Careers Service](#)- Government support

[School Leavers How to Apply - DCG](#)- Derby College

[Apply Now](#)- Burton and South Derbyshire College

[Top Training Courses and Apprenticeships in the UK](#)- Juniper Training

[YMCA Derbyshire Key College | Vocational Courses](#)- Key College

[16 - 18 courses | Nottingham College](#)- Nottingham College

🌟 Key Dates

Thursday 26th March	Student reports issued
Monday 13th April	Students return to DPA
Monday 4th May	Bank holiday
Tuesday 5th May	INSET Day
Friday 22nd May	Students break up for half term
Monday 1st June	Students return to DPA
Monday 29th June	INSET Day
Thursday 23rd July	Students break up for summer

🗨️ A Final Word

Thank you for your continued support throughout what has been a successful term. It remains a privilege to lead such a fantastic and caring school. We look forward to seeing students return on Monday 13th April. Have a fantastic Easter break and fingers crossed we see some sunshine!

Yours sincerely



Mark Hatton



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