



مدرسة الدوحة البريطانية
DOHA BRITISH SCHOOL
AIN KHALED



Secondary Newsletter

7th September 2023

Our Purpose

Is that every young person should gain as much as possible from our school, based on our belief that all learners can, need and want to achieve

Our Vision

Is to be a vibrant, welcoming international school that provides a first class education enabling pupils to thrive within a dynamic, global environment

Our Mission

Is to prepare all pupils through a relevant, challenging curriculum and well-resourced facilities, to become lifelong learners contributing to a global community



SECONDARY WEEKLY NEWS



Dear Parents,

It was a pleasure to meet with so many of you who could attend the Secondary Information Evening, yesterday. It is so important for me as Head of Secondary to open up clear lines and forums of dialogue and communication, and I know our first Friends of DSB was a “sell out” in terms of numbers and interest. We all share a common goal of providing the best education we can to our students and I look forward to building upon the trust and partnerships that so clearly exist.

As you will hopefully be aware, I am very keen to foster an ethic of excellence in terms of our collective aspirations, both academic and pastoral in nature. We are echoing this message in our Form Time, our Assemblies and in our Classrooms and please help reinforce the key tenet that we can all get better not because we are not good, but rather we can all improve. We want to scaffold the necessary supports and challenges to afford our students the experiences to realize the dreams and aspirations they all have.

I wish everyone a restful and relaxing weekend and look forward to the opportunities ahead that we will have together as the community and family of Doha British School, Ain Khaled.

Mr. Mark Healy, Head of Secondary



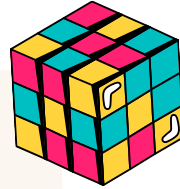


A very warm welcome to new and returning parents, I hope you all had a restful summer vacation and that your children are excited to return to DBS.

I am very excited to embark on a new journey this year. My role within the school is to instill an ethics of excellence in staff and students alike to achieve the best possible outcomes. I believe that in education, communication and feedback are vital to success. Part of my role ensures effective data collection, reporting and ensuring that there is clear communication between the school and parents in the Secondary school.

We will be releasing the new reporting calendar in the next few days, if you have any questions regarding this please feel free to reach out to me.

Nicholas Taylor, Assistant Headteacher



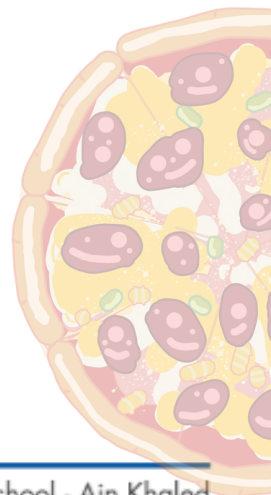
Learning Lunch

This week saw the first of our staff's "Learning Lunch". This initiative is being delivered primarily by Mrs Dearden with the support of Mr Walles, and the aim is to create a positive, vibrant space in which to share new ideas and research, and discuss different ways of implementing strategies with the sole aim of enhancing our student's learning.

In our first session, we looked into the importance of a quality learning environment and classroom displays – looking at ways in which they could be useful and facilitate learning, rather than be "Instagram-worthy" or distracting to students. A variety of research and ideas were shared with staff, and we hope to share some positive changes and results from the challenge set to staff in our next Learning Lunch in two weeks time.

A positive space was created and enjoyed by all, a lot of discussion was had, and a lot of pizza was eaten – and well deserved!

Mr. Andy Walles, Assistant Head Teacher





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Mr. Salam, Deputy Head of Secondary





ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Here at Doha British School Ain Khaled we are committed to maximising educational opportunities and achievement for all students. For students to gain the best from their time at DBS, it is vital that they maintain excellent attendance and punctuality. We strive for 100% attendance for all students and we actively promote good attendance and discourage unjustified absence.

We would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to all our families who consistently work hard to ensure their child's attendance and punctuality is of a high standard. It is no secret that there is a direct correlation between student attainment and student attendance. This is easy to see especially when we focus on the facts. The grid below highlights the amount of individual lessons lost through poor attendance, and indicates the difficulty students may endure catching up on lost lessons.

Doha British School Ain Khaled
Attendance Matters: Make every day count!

0 DAYS OFF 184 DAYS ATTENDED	100%	PERFECTION EXCELLENT ACHIEVEMENT
3 SCHOOL DAYS OFF EACH YEAR 181 DAYS ATTENDED	98%	21 Lessons missed
7 SCHOOL DAYS OFF EACH YEAR 177 DAYS ATTENDED	96%	49 Lessons missed
10 SCHOOL DAYS OFF EACH YEAR 174 DAYS ATTENDED	94.5%	70 Lessons missed CONCERN
12 SCHOOL DAYS OFF EACH YEAR 172 DAYS ATTENDED	93%	84 Lessons missed CONCERN
18 SCHOOL DAYS OFF EACH YEAR 166 DAYS ATTENDED	90%	126 Lessons missed SERIOUS CONCERNED
26 SCHOOL DAYS OFF EACH YEAR 158 DAYS ATTENDED	85%	182 Lessons missed SERIOUS CONCERNS

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO ENCOURAGE EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE:

- Make school attendance a priority.
- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your child to maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework, eating healthily and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- If your teens must stay home because they are sick, make sure they ask teachers for resources and materials to make up for the missed learning time in the classroom.
- Check-in with your child regarding how they feel at school – are they engaged in classes, do they feel safe and comfortable in school.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students struggling with friendship groups can feel isolated.
- Communicate concerns and absences directly with the school.





Friends of DBS is launching a special initiative to collect old school shirts and jumpers from the previous uniform.

The collected shirts will be transformed into unique handmade bears and we're open to your creative suggestions for upcycling the red jumpers.

To contribute, simply drop off your old shirts and jumpers at the main reception. Friends of DBS will collect them from there. Your participation in this initiative will also promote sustainability and creativity within our community.

Thank You

for your support, and let's make this initiative resounding success together!





Thank You