



DOHA BRITISH SCHOOL  
RAWDAT CAMPUS

## Secondary School Weekly Information Letter Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents,

Please find below, key dates and information pertinent to the Secondary section of DBS Rawdat Al Hamama

### Dates for you Diary

Date	Event
Monday 12th September - 6pm	Deadline for confirming ECA choices
Sunday 18th September	Extra Curricular Activities start
Wednesday 21st September	Year 7 Settling in/Meet the tutor evening.
WB Sunday 25th September	Languages Week

### ECA - Extra Curricular Activities

I am pleased to confirm that we are resuming our ECA programme which was cancelled as part of the COVID control measures. You should receive today (Thursday 8th September) information from Mr Diaz regarding the programme available and details of how to sign up. We will start the ECA programme the week beginning Sunday 18th September. The ASA programme is very much part of our value added approach to your child's education and is a key avenue through which we support character development. ASA's that are run by staff are free and do not carry any additional charges; if an ASA is being offered through a third party, then it will incur an additional charge.

ECA's on offer will fall into one of the below categories

- **Sports:** We offer experiences in a variety of sporting areas for all age groups and abilities.
- **STEM:** Science, Technology and Maths departments working in alignment to provide additional project-based learning experiences outside of the classroom, getting pupils to understand how STEM subject areas link together.
- **Creative Community:** Allowing pupils to develop lateral thinking, and creativity
- **Language and Literacy:** extending the use of dialogue and increasing the exposure our pupils have to further reading in a range of creative ways through Spanish, French and English.
- **performing Arts and Music:** Opportunities to explore an array of musical genres and instruments that pupils do not to explore within a classroom setting.
- **Well-being:** Taking part in activities that develop the mindfulness of our pupils.

Please discuss with your child what they would like to participate in.

### **Key dates**

- Thursday 8th September - ECA choice letter/form sent home We will let parents know by
- Monday 12th September, 6pm - Deadline for submission of choices
- Thursday 15th September - Confirmation of whether choices have been allocated.

**Please note that some ECA's can only run with a certain minimum number whilst others will have a maximum number. If they do not meet a prerequisite number, then the ECA may not run.**

### Star of the Week

As a school and in line with the 'DBS way' our core purpose is to ensure that every child or young adult, who comes through our doors, gains as much from the experience of being here as possible. We base this on our belief that all learners can, need and want to achieve. We will, therefore, provide the highest standards of teaching and learning together with substantive support for character development. We want our students to complete their education here as well-rounded individuals.

Whilst students are at DBS, we aim to develop and instil the following values:



Character development does not happen in isolation, for it to be effective, it needs to permeate all layers of your child's education at DBS. Within the classroom we aim to develop and recognise many of the facets of character development. One of the ways we recognise this is through our 'Star of the week'. Each week teachers nominate a student in their class that they feel has exhibited one or more of the character traits we aim to develop. The student(s) who receive the most nominations are awarded our star of the week. Although we normally only have one or two students in each year group who are awarded the Star of the week, many other students are nominated. To celebrate all our students' success, we will share with you through the newsletter all the nominations. If your child has been nominated or has been awarded the Star of the week, then please recognise their success with them.

## **Star of the Week**

Year 7: Sayali Pore

Year 8: Maya Adel Ghobrial

Year 9: Zaki Akif

Year 10: Mukaddes Yagmur Ulugmayan

For a list of all students who were nominated please click the following link. [2\\_08/09 SOTW nominations.pdf](#)

**Paula Lorente**  
**Assistant Headteacher - Pastoral**

### **MAP - Most Able Programme**

Last academic year, I had the pleasure of watching students at the Ain Khalid campus who were involved in the MAP programme. This year, we will offer the same opportunity to students on the Rawdat and Wakra campuses.

The programme is aimed at students who are academically able and/or talented and would thrive with an extra challenge, that will explore topics outside of their curriculum or in more detail than they would in class. The programme will be offered to students in Year 7 to Year 9 and aims to give them an insight into post-16 courses and Higher Education, by becoming more independent, more inquisitive and more self-confident. This programme is also aimed to:

- Develop the students research skills
- Develop students to be resilient, open-minded, thinkers, innovators and collaborators
- Give the students an idea of what skills will be expected of them beyond just the academic
- Give a forum for students to express their opinion and explore new ideas
- Stretch students' academic skills by challenging them in their thinking

Mr Thomas has been reviewing the data from the students CAT 4 tests (admissions tests) to identify those students who meet the prerequisites to be considered for the MAP programme and will be contacting students and parents to offer them the chance to participate in the programme.

### **School Uniform**

As a British school, school uniform forms part of the expectations of students. Uniforms create a sense of unity, belonging and identity. So far we have been very pleased with the appearance of our students and the efforts they have made to follow the policy. As mentioned a few weeks back the only area identified as needing some remedy was shoes (very small group). I would like to thank all those parents who have taken steps to resolve any issues that have been raised with them. We would appreciate it if you can ensure that your child is in full uniform at all times. Ultimately as educators we would like to utilise our time to focus on ensuring the best educational outcomes for your child. Any distraction from this objective, such as uniform checks, contacting parents to resolve uniform issues takes time away from this primary objective. If for any reason your child is not dressed in line with the DBS uniform policy then you should notify Ms Lorente ([paula.lorente@dbsrawdat.com](mailto:paula.lorente@dbsrawdat.com)).

### **New Uniform v Old Uniform**

A reminder that students who still have the DBS school uniform from last year, do not need to change it to the new one until the start of the 2023-24 academic year. The only aspect of the new uniform that we have been encouraging students to purchase if they still have the old uniform is the school tie, this is because it is associated with the house that students have been assigned to. Please note that we are only encouraging and that this is not compulsory.

### **PE Kit**

As previously mentioned, students should come to school in their PE kit on days that they have PE. As with the normal school uniform the PE kit is also standardised. For both boys and girls, they should wear the PE T-Shirt and Shorts/track pants. The only exception to this is for the girls, should they wish to, they can wear plain black leggings/skins under their shorts. Please note they cannot wear leggings/skins by themselves.

### **Bring your own device (BYOD)**

As we complete the third week of school, we are still experiencing some issues with the stability of our temporary internet. We have been informed that it could take up to 3 weeks to resolve. In the vast majority of lessons any negative impact on teaching and learning is negligible. The subject that is impacted the most is ICT/Computer Science. To help resolve some of the issues we would ask that if your child has a data package on their device/phone can they bring this to school along with any laptop or tablet. This is only for the ICT/Computer science lesson.

### **Pick up/Drop off**

A reminder from last week:

- Please keep the pathway to the gates on both entrances clear. Pulling up so students can quickly get out of their vehicles is fine but there should be no one waiting in this area as it could be required for emergency services to access the building.
- There is plenty of space around the perimeter of the school for parking so please avoid waiting in the road for extensive periods of time.
- It has been noticed that some cars need to u-turn to go back towards Leawaina Road, this has caused some traffic issues. Can we please request that if you need to do a u-turn, please can they perform the manoeuvre away from the school gate.

As the number of students increases, pick-up and drop-off routines are something that will require continuous monitoring and adapting. We appreciate everyone's patience and ongoing support in adapting to any changes so that all students and parents can remain as safe as possible.

**Marcus Thomas**  
**Assistant Head - Curriculum and Operations**

Kind Regards



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