DEAN TRUST Ardwick

NEWSLETTER

Head of School Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to welcome back all our pupils this week, including our new cohort of Year 7 pupils.

This academic year, the school will continue to empower your child to find their purpose and thrive as a citizen of the world, so that they are provided with:

- Choices over their future.
- The opportunity to make a positive contribution to society.
- The character required to overcome the challenges they will face throughout life.

At the start of this academic year, we have been reminding pupils that they do not decide their future, they decide their habits and their habits determine their future. This is why, on a day-to-day basis, the school will continue to teach your child the right and successful way to do things with the intent that they develop the habits for success.

Our staff will do everything within their powers to support your child to be the best version of themselves. However, pupils need to take responsibility for their own personal success by subscribing to, and habituating, 'the DTA way'. Please support your child to this by encouraging them to:

- Developing and maintaining a positive mindset.
- Be respectful, ready and responsible at all times.
- Be disciplined and doing the simple things right every day, every lesson.
- Commit to their learning and become as knowledgeable as possible so that they have a choice over their future.
- Recognise that the staff are the experts and they should follow what they say 'first time, every time'.
- Reflect upon where they are on their personal journey and are considering how their experiences in school shape their future.
- Contribute to Dean Trust Ardwick's culture of kindness.

We all deserve a really successful 2025-26. Let's make that happen together, as the brilliant school and team we know ourselves to be – thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards,

Mr. S Worthington
Head of School

Follow us on X (Twitter) and Instagram, @dt_ardwick for regular updates!

Diary Dates

18th September: Post 16 Evening
25th September: Open Evening

DEAN TRUST Ardwick

Welcome from Jane O'Brien, CEO

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, a warm welcome back to all our children at the start of this new school year. Staff are really excited to see them back this week and have our schools filled again with the buzz of learning. Our support staff teams have been hard at work over the summer break making sure everything is ready for their return. I hope you've all enjoyed the exceptionally fine weather we've had this summer. We have had some good news from our schools in relation to external exam results recently and I look forward to sharing more information about that with you very soon. I am delighted for our students that so many of them have achieved what they needed for their next steps and we really look forward to hearing their news in the future as they progress on in their lives.

Secondly, I'd like to introduce myself as the new Chief Executive Officer at The Dean Trust. I have returned to the North West after working in the Midlands as a CEO for another multi-academy trust. I was born in Salford and went to school in Manchester, and then went on to university in Liverpool. I understand my great-grandparents lived in Wigan, so I do feel very well aligned to the geography of The Dean Trust and it is great to be back working in the North West again. It was an absolute pleasure to visit all of the schools with Mr Kapur last term and meet some of the staff and students. Mr Kapur is remaining with us this year as Commercial Director, working on a range of existing projects, to help ensure a smooth transition for the Trust.

The start of a new school year always fills me with optimism and hope. There is so much we have to
achieve together in our school communities and such a lot to look forward to and celebrate together over the course of the year. I have had a small snapshot of the talent we have amongst our students in my office in Manchester where there is an exhibit of their art work on my wall, and they really have done some amazing work. I would like to thank the students from all our schools who sent their work over for display. I feel incredibly proud and it is wonderful for visitors to the Trust to see what our fantastic students can achieve.

With best wishes,

Jane O'Brien
Chief Executive Officer

Dean Trust Ardwick: 10 Year Anniversary

The 2025–26 academic year marks a very special occasion in the life of our school: the 10-year anniversary of Dean Trust Ardwick. This milestone gives us the opportunity to reflect on how far we've come, celebrate the achievements of our pupils and staff, and recognise the incredible support of our wider community.

Since opening our doors in 2015, Dean Trust Ardwick has grown into a thriving school where young people are nurtured, challenged, and inspired to achieve their very best. Over the past decade, we've built strong foundations and made lasting progress, both in the classroom and beyond.

This anniversary year is a chance for everyone connected to the school to come together and celebrate that journey. Through a range of exciting events and activities, we will:

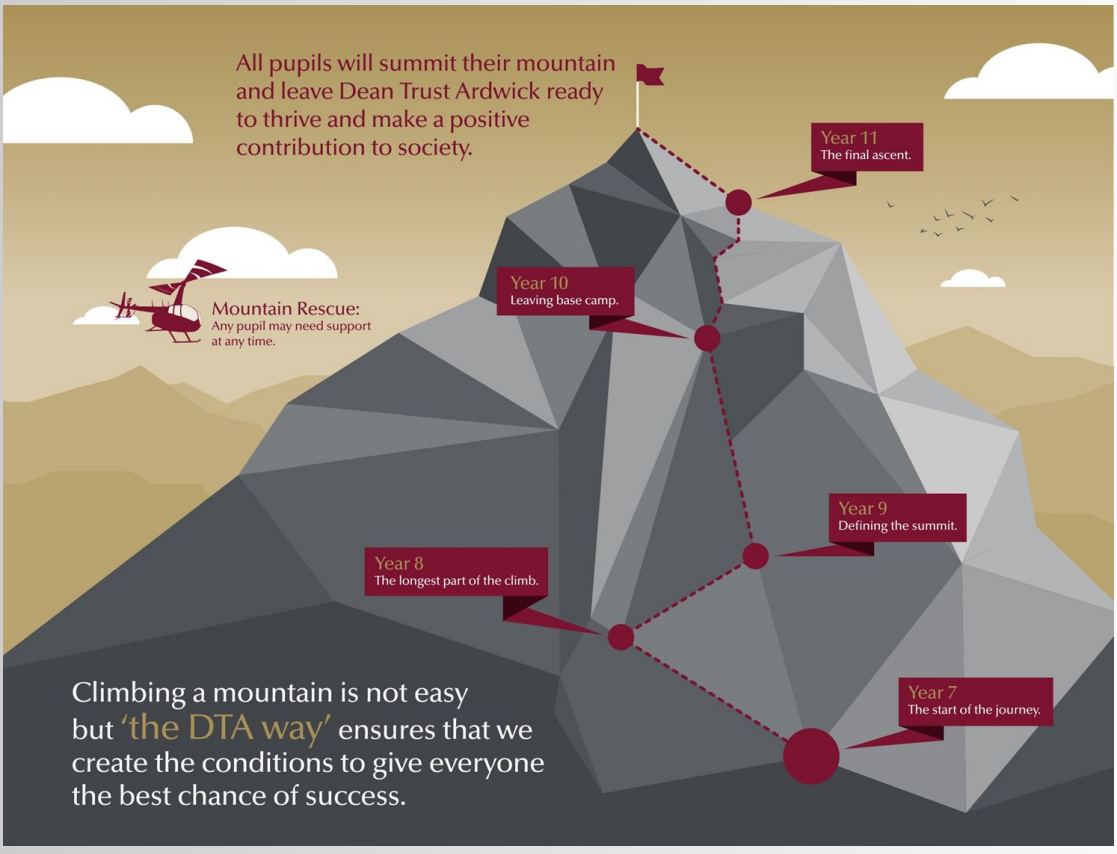
- Look back and celebrate our story so far
- Recognise the achievements and contributions of our students, staff, and community
- Strengthen the relationships that make our school special
- Look ahead and inspire the next generation

We are proud of what we've achieved and even more excited about what's to come. Thank you for being part of our story. We look forward to celebrating with you throughout this memorable year.

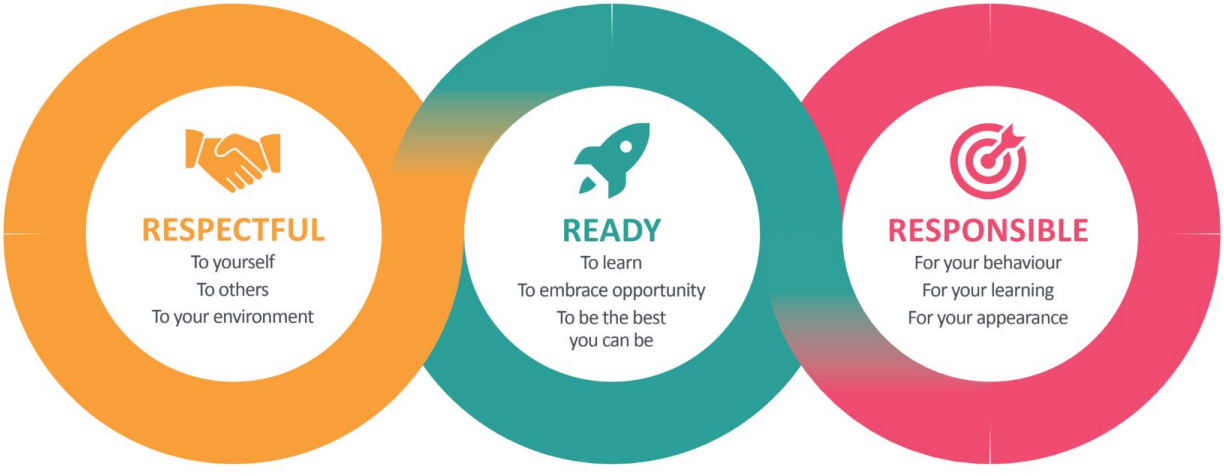
GCSE Results Day 2025

We were incredibly proud of our pupils on GCSE Results Day. Their hard work and determination were reflected in lots of outstanding results, and it was wonderful to see so many happy faces as they celebrated their achievements. We wish all of our Year 11 leavers the very best of luck as they begin their post-16 placements and take the next step in their journeys.

Welcome Back!



THE DTA WAY



The road to success begins with outstanding attendance …

Attendance Percentage	Days missed in one year	Lessons missed in one year
99%	2	12
98%	4	24
95%	10	60
90%	20	120
85%	30	180
80%	40	240

Punctuality

Students need to:

- Walk with pace and purpose between lessons.
- Remember we are a no touching school
- Adhere to the one way system
- If you arrive after the bell you are late
- If you arrive to school after 9.10am you will receive an unauthorised absence

Uniform

Skirt
On or below knee:
Grey box pleat
Trousers
Tailored only:
Permanent crease
Coats
Coats can be worn outside at break and lunch times only. If a pupil is seen with their coat on in school it will be confiscated.
Dark plain coats or jackets only.
Coats should not be worn inside the school building.
Skirt
Not above knee
Trousers
No fashion (e.g. skinny), canvas, brushed cotton or jeans.
Hoodies are not allowed on school site.

PIERCINGS
No makeup or false tan
No jewellery
No false lashes
No nail varnish or false nails
Wristwatch only
No 'Smart' watches

Mobile Phones

- If a pupil is seen with a mobile phone it will be confiscated by the member of staff.
- The phone will be given to the pastoral office, where it will be placed in the school safe until Friday after school.
- Mobile phones will not be handed back to pupils at any point.
- Only a parent or legal guardian can collect confiscated phones on a Friday after school between 3.00-5.00pm

Term Dates…

Autumn Term		No of days
Tuesday 2nd September 2025	Friday 24th October 2025	39
Monday 3rd November 2025	Friday 19th December 2025	35
Spring Term		
Monday 5th January 2026	Friday 13th February 2026	30
Monday 23rd February 2026	Thursday 2nd April 2026	28
Summer Term		
Monday 20th April 2026	Friday 22nd May 2026	24
Monday 1st June 2026	Friday 17th July 2026	34
	Total Days:	190

INSET Days

Monday 1st September 2025
Friday 20th March 2026 (Eid)
Friday 26th June 2026
2 days from twilights

Bank Holidays

Thursday 25th December 2025
Friday 26th December 2025
Thursday 1st January 2026
Friday 3rd April 2026
Monday 6th April 2026
Monday 4th May 2026
Monday 25th May 2026

Helpful Information
Free School Meals

School meals are a good way to ensure that your child eats well at lunchtime, and they can also save you time and money. Claiming free school meals also helps the school. We get extra funding, known as the 'pupil premium', for every eligible pupil who is registered. With this money we could provide more support to help your child succeed at school and enjoy the same benefits as others, therefore giving your child the best learning experience possible. The parent must be responsible for that child, for example, receiving Child Benefit for them. The parent must also get one of the following:

Income Support, Income based Jobseekers Allowance, Income related Employment and Support Allowance, Universal Credit

The guaranteed part of Pension Credit, Child Tax Credit (CTC) as long as:

It doesn't include an amount for childcare. They are not also getting Working Tax Credit, and their household income (worked out by HM Revenue & Customs) is no more than £16,190 a year. A Working Tax Credit 'run-on' payment for four weeks after stopping work, or reducing working hours to under 16 hours a week

Foster children cannot have free school meals even if the foster parent is getting any of the above. Foster parents receive an allowance for looking after the child from Children's Services. Children who go to school in Manchester but live elsewhere get free school meals from the council where they live. Parents should apply to their local council. To make a claim for Free School Meals, please complete this form using the following link https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims.

If you need assistance please contact reception Dean Trust Ardwick

Digital Essentials: for Work and for Life

The Digital Essentials Programme supports residents in Greater Manchester aged 17–64 who are economically inactive, not in education, employment or training. The programme helps participants to build essential digital skills for life and work, increase confidence, motivation, wellbeing, and reduce social isolation.

What the Programme Offers

- Workshops & Socials
- Coaching & Mentoring
- Digital Skills Masterclasses
- Practical skills including Microsoft Office, online safety, communication tools, job search and applications
- Opportunities for progression onto further accredited learning

Who the Programme is For

Residents of Greater Manchester, aged 17–64, who are not in work, education, or training. Priority is given to those who are long-term unemployed, on long-term sick, or with caring responsibilities.

When & Where

Welcome sessions begin from 26th August at local venues including Longsight Library, 422 Manchester, and Northmoor Community Centre. Participants can then sign up for short courses, drop-ins, or masterclasses that fit their needs.
Sign up at a welcome session for the MadLab Digital Essentials Short Course: a two-week programme, made to match your needs:

- Mondays and Tuesdays from September 1st
- Thursdays and Fridays from September 17th

Choose from either mornings (10am to 12pm) or afternoons (1pm to 3pm) at Longsight Library.

How to Register Interest

Registration for welcome sessions is not essential, but encouraged. Anyone interested can visit madlab.org.uk/digital-essentials to book.

Should you require any further information, please contact us at team@madlab.org.uk or 07874 040940.