DEAN TRUST Ardwick

# NEWSLETTER

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of this first half term, I would like to thank you for your continued support. It has been a truly positive and purposeful start to the academic year, building on the many successes of last year.

This year is a particularly special one for Dean Trust Ardwick as we celebrate our 10-year anniversary. It is both a moment to reflect proudly on how far we have come and an opportunity to look ahead to the next decade, as we continue to make our school even more successful. To help us achieve this, we are pleased to inform you of a series of exciting, long-term partnerships that will enrich our curriculum, broaden pupils' horizons, and enhance our careers offer.

### Partnerships

We are delighted to announce two of these partnerships. Our collaboration with **Republic of Media**, will introduce pupils to a wide range of creative and digital career opportunities. It will help them see how vital skills such as teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving connect directly to the world of work.

We are also proud to launch the Futuremakers: Opening Doors programme in partnership with the **Dame Robina Shah Foundation**. This initiative will provide pupils with digital skills training, mentoring from business leaders, wellbeing support, and industry experiences through leading organisations including Microsoft, SoftCat, UA92, Network Rail, Manchester City Council, and the Oliver Cookson Foundation.

Both partnerships represent an exciting step forward in our mission to prepare pupils for ambitious futures, equipping them with the confidence, skills, and opportunities to thrive in an ever-changing world.
As we move into the next half-term, I look forward to sharing more about how these opportunities are already beginning to make a difference to our pupils' learning and aspirations.

### Welcome Evenings

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our recent Welcome Evenings. These events are an essential part of keeping you informed and strengthening the vital partnership between home and school. They provide an invaluable opportunity to build relationships, share our vision for the year ahead, and discuss how we can work together to support your child's learning journey.
To support ongoing communication, our Parent Guides have now been published on the school website. These contain key information about each year group and should be referred to throughout the year as a useful point of reference. Your engagement and feedback are always greatly appreciated.

DEAN TRUST Ardwick

# NEWSLETTER

## Headteacher's Message (continued)

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all families of the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality. Research shows that the single biggest factor influencing a child's academic success is being in school regularly. Every day in school matters: it ensures your child doesn't miss vital learning and gives them the very best chance to achieve their full potential.

It is therefore essential that **all pupils return to school on Monday 3rd November**, ready to begin the new half term on time and with a positive mindset. Please also remember that holidays should not be taken during term time. In line with government guidance, headteachers are unable to authorise term-time holidays, and any unauthorised absences may result in a fixed penalty notice from the local authority, as outlined in our attendance policy.

## School Calendar

After the half-term break, we are launching an exciting new initiative called Next Level November, which will challenge every pupil to take their performance to the next level. The initiative will focus on excellence in behaviour, attendance, punctuality, and homework, with clear targets and rewards for pupils who show commitment and progress. Full details will be shared with pupils on the first day back.

Please also find below some important dates for the Autumn term. The full term calendar can be accessed on our school website.

- **19th & 20th November:** School Production of *Oliver Jr.*
- **24th November:** Pupil Flu Vaccinations
- **4th December:** Year 10 Parents' Evening
- **5th December:** Coffee Morning

We encourage all parents and carers to continue supporting our shared high expectations by reinforcing the importance of positive attitudes and consistent effort at home.
On behalf of all the staff at Dean Trust Ardwick, I wish every pupil an enjoyable and well-deserved half-term break.

Kind Regards,
Mr S. Worthington

**Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, @dt_ardwick for regular updates!**

## Diary Dates

9th October - Year 9 Welcome Evening
16th October - Year 8 Welcome Evening
24th October - Last Day of the Half Term

DEAN TRUST Ardwick

## Assembly Theme of the Week - Futuremakers

We're proud to announce our pupils selected for the Futuremakers: Opening Doors programme - a partnership between Dean Trust Ardwick and the Dame Robina Shah Foundation. This inspiring initiative empowers pupils to develop confidence, resilience, and real-world skills through digital training, entrepreneurship, and industry experiences with partners like Microsoft, Hilton, UA92, and John Lewis.

🎓 Well done to our 2025–26 Futuremakers:

Aryan A, Ayah A, Mya A, Hawraa A, Murtaza A, Asmaa B, Sultana B, Ronnie B, Yusuf G, Fateen G, Mustafa H, Ikrah H, Muhammad H, Saan I, Mubascirina K, Zahra K, Henrietta K, Ayuob M, Amienata M, Exauce M, Abdelrahman N, Abdulahi O, Amaneh O, Sreya R, Imy S, Zunaira S, Mama T, Tom U, Chizaram U, Mikail W.

## Staff Member of the Week…

# Ms Daniels
# Teacher of Science

A huge congratulations to Ms. Daniels, who has been named Colleague of the Week for her outstanding dedication to extra-curricular activities. Her exceptional work with Crest Club and her continued support in enriching pupils' learning experiences truly set her apart.

Thank you, Ms. Daniels, for your enthusiasm, commitment, and for inspiring both staff and pupils alike!

## Book of the Week

*The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton follows Ponyboy Curtis, a Greaser caught in a conflict with the richer Socs. As tensions rise, he learns that everyone, no matter their background, faces struggles and deserves understanding.

## Message from Mr Ahmed & Mr Randles: Pastoral Leads

As we come to the end of this term, we would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly positive and inspiring few months. Our students have shown great effort, kindness, and determination, embracing every opportunity to learn, grow, and support one another as well as following the DTA Way and showing they are proud to belong.

It has been a pleasure to see so many pupils developing not only academically, but also personally—demonstrating resilience, empathy, and a real sense of community.

We are incredibly proud of each student's progress and grateful to parents and carers for their continued encouragement and partnership. Your support plays such an important role in helping our young people thrive.

As we head into the break, we hope everyone takes time to rest, recharge, and enjoy the holiday season with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming all our students back next term, ready for new challenges and opportunities ahead.

| | |
|---|---|
| Year 7 | 97% |
| Year 8 | 95% |
| Year 9 | 93% |
| Year 10 | 94% |
| Year 11 | 93% |

**WELL DONE YEAR 7s!**

DEAN TRUST Ardwick

## Safeguarding Message of the Week

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is now part of everyday life — from homework tools to social media filters — but it also brings new safeguarding challenges. High school students are increasingly exposed to AI-generated content, including fake images, misinformation, and “deepfakes.” These can be used for bullying, manipulation, or exploitation, often without the young person even realising it. Encourage pupils to think critically about what they see and share online. Remind them that AI can create realistic but false content, and that sharing altered or explicit images — even generated by AI — is illegal and harmful.

Schools can play a key role in building awareness and resilience. Embedding digital literacy and online safety education into the curriculum helps students recognise manipulated media and understand the ethical use of technology. Staff should maintain up-to-date knowledge of emerging AI trends, monitor potential risks within online interactions, and create a safe space for pupils to talk openly about their online experiences. Collaboration with parents and carers is also vital — by sharing guidance on privacy settings, reporting tools, and how to respond if harmful content is shared, we can work together to ensure young people remain safe and supported in the digital world.

## MCAS - ‘My Child at School’

MCAS is the main communication between home and school. MCAS stands for ‘My Child at School’. It is a app downloadable for Apple or Android. We want all parents to download this app to ensure you get key updates about your child at Dean Trust Ardwick.

The information you can see on the app is:

- Attendance
- Behaviour
- Positive points
- Detentions
- Payments
- Reports

**When your child is enrolled at Dean Trust Ardwick:**

1) Download the MCAS app
2) You will receive an email with a link to set up your account (the same email you provided to school)
3) Click the link on the email and follow the steps
4) Once set up and signed in through the webpage, you can then log in through the app.
5) You will not be able to use the app if you have not signed up through the web page first.

If you have any questions or issues, please contact our main reception who will be happy to assist you.

## 10 Year Anniversary: Alumni

This year marks a remarkable milestone for Dean Trust Ardwick - our 10th anniversary! For a decade, our school has been at the heart of the community, shaping futures, inspiring ambition, and creating countless memories along the way. As we look back on all we've achieved, one thing stands out above all else: our people - the pupils, staff, families, and friends who have made our school what it is today.

To celebrate this special moment, we're reaching out to our alumni - all the incredible individuals who once walked our corridors, learned in our classrooms, and helped build the foundation of who we are. Whether you graduated in our earliest years or left just recently, you'll always be part of the Dean Trust Ardwick family, and we'd love to hear from you.

Over the past ten years, so many of our former pupils have gone on to achieve wonderful things - in higher education, careers, and their communities. As we celebrate this milestone, we want to share your stories, celebrate your journeys, and showcase how far our alumni have come.

We're also planning some special anniversary events and features, and we'd love our alumni to be a part of them - from reunion gatherings to newsletters and online spotlights. Whether you'd like to reconnect with teachers and classmates, offer words of advice to current pupils, or simply reminisce about your time here, this is your moment to get involved.

**How to Take Part:**
If you're a former pupil of Dean Trust Ardwick please get in touch with us! You can:

Email us at miawain@deantrustardwick.co.uk

Fill in our quick alumni form: https://forms.gle/YNgkTp8TohhBmbp49,

Follow us on social media for updates and event details

Let's make our 10-year anniversary not just a celebration of our past — but a celebration of everyone who has been part of our story. We can't wait to reconnect, reflect, and continue building the next chapter together.

## Manchester Utd Foundation KS3 Girls Hub Tournamennt

8 girls from years 8 and 9 represented DTA in the Manchester Utd Foundation Girls Hub Tournament, scoring 9 goals, winning 3 out of 6 matches and finishing 3rd overall! Year 10 student M Touray also gained valuable referring experience showing great confidence as part of her level 2 leadership qualification.

## Cricket Club

Cricket club is popular on a Thursday with around 25 students attending from different year groups. The older, more experienced boys in year 10 have been helping and supporting the year 7s in how to bowl correctly.

## Year 10 GCSE Design & Technology

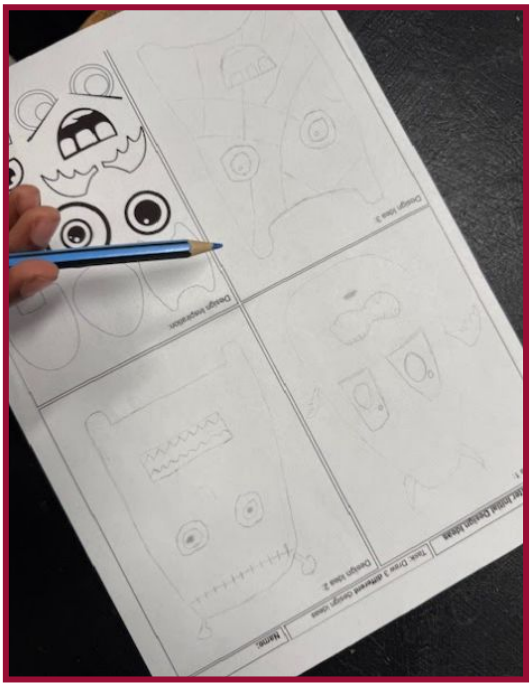
In Year 10 the GCSE Design & Technology pupils have been working incredibly hard on their Timber & Boards unit and have been developing their timber based practical skills. Our wonderful Year 10 pupils have each made their own timber train and have absolutely excelled in the workshop.

## Year 9 Design & Technology

In Year 9 Design & Technology our pupils have been working on their scales of production knowledge and learning about how different products are made in different quantities to suit different industry demands. Following this and utilising different manufacturing aids they have batch produced sets of dinosaur puzzles. The pupils have worked extremely hard and thoroughly enjoyed their time in the workshop and developing their practical skills.

## Year 8 Design & Technology

In Year 8 Design & Technology our pupils have been working on a textiles project focused on mini monster plushies. Each pupil has been coming up and designing their own mini monsters to potentially make. The designs must be suitable for children, utilise bright colours and include a variety of decorative techniques. Here are some of the Year 8s fantastic initial design ideas.



# Manchester Term Dates
# 2025- 2026

| 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**

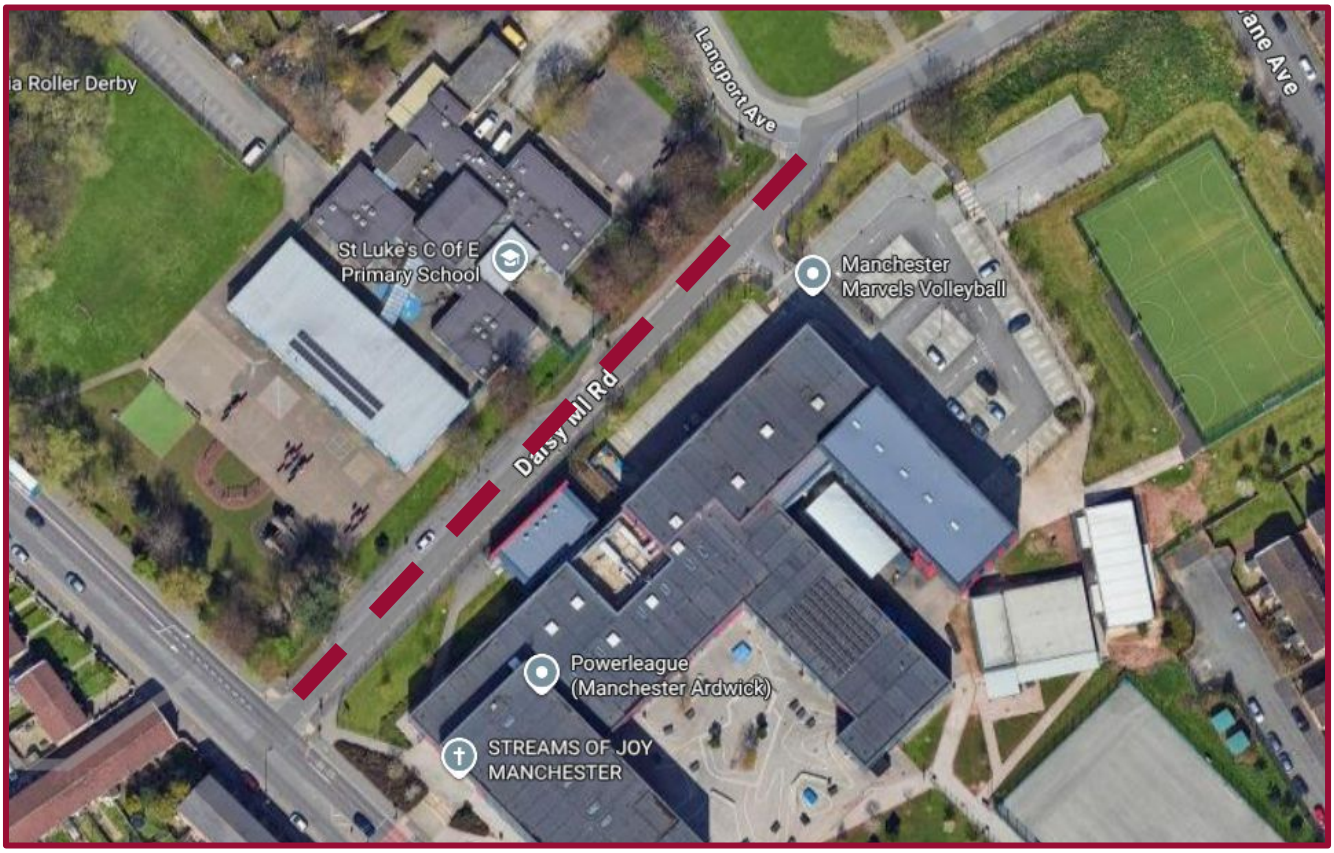
Thursday 25th December 2025
Friday 26th December 2025
Thursday 1st January 2026
Friday 3rd April 2026
Monday 6th April 2026
Monday 4th May 2026
Monday 25th May 2026

## Parking around Dean Trust Ardwick

We are becoming increasingly concerned about the number of car accidents and near misses on Daisy Mill Road, many of which have been linked to illegal or unsafe parking during school drop-off and collection times.

Parking on double yellow lines or blocking residents' driveways not only causes disruption but also puts our pupils and families at serious risk.

We urge all parents and carers to use the designated lay-by parking areas and to park with care and consideration at all times. Our priority is the safety of every child - by working together and following parking guidelines, we can help prevent further accidents and keep our community safe. Please arrange for a safe place to collect your child away from school, if the parking bay is unavailable.



## Contact Information:

Dean Trust Ardwick opened in 2015 and we are now a fully-fledged Year 7-11 school, serving over 1300 pupils. We serve the Ardwick and Longsight community and pride ourselves on being a local school for local children. Since our inception, we have become the school of choice for families.

### Key Contacts:

**Head of School:** Mr S. Worthington
**Academies Director:** Mr. A Shakos
**Deputy Headteacher Pastoral:** Mrs L. Charles
**Deputy Headteacher Curriculum:** Ms A. Horsley
**Chair of Governing Committee:** Dr. S Jenkins
**Head of Key Stage 4:** Ms J. Halfacre
**Head of Key Stage 3:** Ms B. Sayeed
**SEND Coordinator:** Ms J. Hallam
**Pupil Services / Parent Contact:** Admin
**Headteacher's PA and Clerk to Governors:** Miss. M Wain
**Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:** Ms C. McNair
**Attendance Officer:** Ms A. Curran

### Useful Email Contacts:

**Admin (All General Enquiries):** admin@deantrustardwick.co.uk
**Head of Year 7:** HeadofYear7@deantrustardwick.co.uk
**Head of Year 8:** HeadofYear8@deantrustardwick.co.uk
**Head of Year 9:** HeadofYear9@deantrustardwick.co.uk
**Head of Year 10:** HeadofYear10@deantrustardwick.co.uk
**Head of Year 11:** HeadofYear11@deantrustardwick.co.uk
**Attendance:** Attendance@deantrustardwick.co.uk

**Telephone**: 0161 972 2988

**Dean Trust Ardwick is a member of the The Dean Trust.**

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