DEAN TRUST Ardwick

NEWSLETTER

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of Half Term 3, I would like to thank you for your continued support. This has been an extremely positive half term, with pupils demonstrating strong attitudes to learning across the school.

This week we were delighted to celebrate the achievements of our Future Makers at the Dame Robina Shah Foundation Bronze Award Ceremony. Pupils were recognised for their commitment, and contributions and were proudly presented with their Bronze badges. This was a fantastic occasion and I would like to congratulate all pupils involved on this well-deserved success.

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance is essential to pupils' academic success. Every day in school matters and missing lessons can have a significant impact on progress. Please ensure all pupils return to school on Monday 23rd February, on time and ready to learn. Please remember that holidays should not be taken during term time.
In line with government guidance, unauthorised absences may result in a fixed penalty notice from the local authority.

DTA Community Iftar

We are pleased to invite families to our DTA Community Iftar on Friday 27th February, 5.00pm–7.00pm, open to people of all faiths and none. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community. Families are invited to bring food to share; all items must be clearly labelled with allergen information in line with Natasha's Law. Tickets will be available from Ms Sayeed during the first week back after half term, on a first come, first served basis.

Key Dates

27th February: Community Iftar
12th–13th March: Careers Fair
20th March: INSET Day
26th March: Year 7 Parents' Evening
27th March: Coffee Morning

On behalf of all staff at Dean Trust Ardwick, I wish pupils a well-deserved half-term break.

Mr S Worthington

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

Diary Dates

Message from Mr Ahmed and Mr Randles: Pastoral Leads

As we reach the end of this half term, we would like to thank all our students for their continued effort, resilience, and positivity.
It has been a busy and rewarding half term with mock exams for year 11 and options evening for year 9. Both important milestones in their climb up the DTA mountain.

We are proud of the way our students have and continue to support each other, .

We also extend our thanks to families for your ongoing partnership and support. We wish everyone a restful and well-deserved break and look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for the next half term.

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

Talk Openly About Safety in the Community

For many secondary school students, growing independence means spending more time outside the home—walking to school, meeting friends, or attending clubs and activities. While this is an important part of developing confidence and responsibility, recent reports show that many teenagers feel anxious about personal safety in their local area, with some having witnessed or experienced worrying situations.

It's important to talk openly with your child about staying safe in the community. Here are some practical ways you can support them:

- Plan ahead: Encourage your child to let someone know where they're going and when they expect to return.
- Stay in groups where possible: There's safety in numbers, especially when traveling in the evening or through unfamiliar areas.
- Be aware of surroundings: Help your child recognize potentially risky situations and encourage them to trust their instincts.
- Know who to turn to: Make sure they know trusted adults at school, in the community, or within the family that they can contact if they ever feel unsafe.

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.

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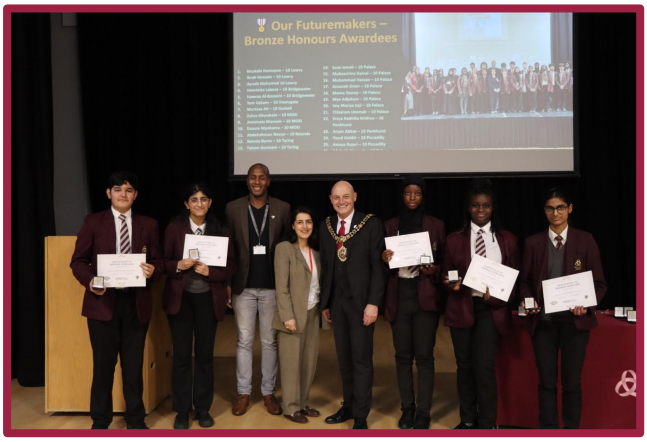
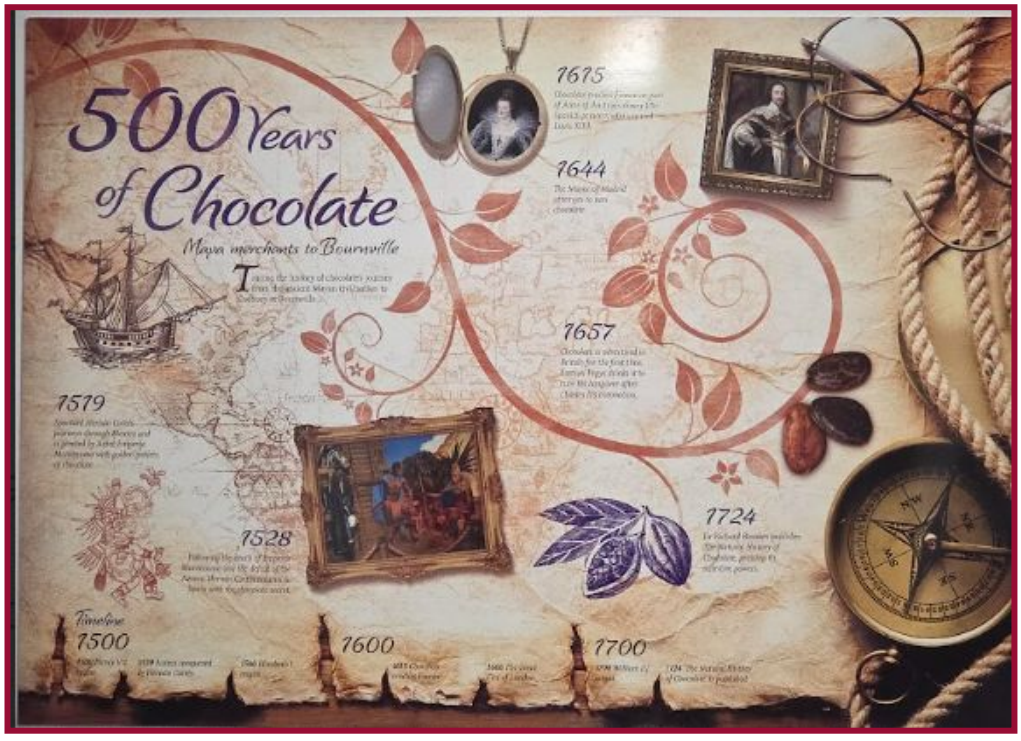
Dame Robina Shah Foundation: Bronze Award Ceremony



Cadbury's Trip

The Y10 Business Studies pupils attended Cadbury World in Bournville where they were treated to a full tour of the chocolate factory. Pupils were able to sample the products, understand the production process and have a go at the different methods used by the major company. During their tour, pupils received an informative talk all about the creative marketing that goes into the world-famous brand. Pupils showed exemplary behaviour throughout the trip and asked all types of questions to the workers of Cadbury who were all too happy to answer! Amongst their experiences for the day were a 4D cinema, an engaging ride and a peek into the factory process. Year 10 had a wonderful day out and had the added bonus of being able to eat lots of chocolate throughout the day!


500 Years of Chocolate
Maya merchants to Bournville
1519
1528
1615
1644
1657
1724
Timeline
1500
1600
1700

Community Iftar

We are excited to host a community Iftar that brings together students, families, and staff in the spirit of unity and respect during the blessed month of Ramadan.

Through food, conversation, and reflection, we hope to celebrate values of kindness, gratitude, and understanding. Everyone is welcome to join us to share a meal, and strengthen the sense of belonging within our school community.

Friday 27th February
5.00pm-7.00pm

Tickets will be available from Monday 23rd February
From Ms Sayeed

Year 11 Engineering

The Year 11 Engineering cohort are working incredibly hard to complete their coursework ready for the deadline.

As part of their work they have been expected to follow an engineering drawing and create the design as accurately and precisely as possible to achieve the highest marks

Welcome to Caterlink

WE ARE VERY EXCITED TO BE WORKING WITH THE DEAN TRUST FROM FEBRUARY 2026!

GREAT THINGS WE DO EVERY DAY!

FRESHLY PREPARED DISHES DAILY – We pride ourselves on using the highest quality products, using highly trained teams to prepare and cook fresh dishes daily using raw ingredients to assemble tasty, nutritious dishes.

FOOD FOR LIFE SERVED HERE – We are proud of our Food for Life Served Here catering mark, having been the first contract caterer to be accredited with the prestigious award back in 2011. Every school we work with is accredited to Silver grade as a minimum, ensuring we meet a host of industry-leading standards in our meals.

LOCAL SUPPLY – We use suppliers from the North-West and locally grown produce wherever possible within our menus, limiting food miles and maximising freshness! Over 80% of everything we buy is sourced from the UK.

ORGANIC & FREE RANGE – We source a percentage of organic meat, fruit and vegetables in line with Food for Life Served Here, Silver requirements. We also make sure all of our eggs are RSPCA Assured 'Free Range Freedom Food'

INNOVATION IN MENU PLANNING – Exceeding the Children's Food Trust recommendations, Caterlink have reduced the sugar within our desserts, ensuring that all contain 6.5g of free sugars or less.

HELPING TO SAVE THE PLANET – We have developed a number of 50% plant-based protein dishes to our menus - these are a good source of protein and help reduce greenhouse gasses vs. using meat and dairy.

PLASTIC REDUCTION – We're industry leaders in reducing plastic and have removed clingfilm and tinfoil from our kitchens, removed all single use plastics from point of service in schools, plus reduced packaging from our suppliers.

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www.caterlinkltd.co.uk

caterlink
feeding the imagination

Welcome to Caterlink

EXTRA TOUCHES

FLEXIBLE – Although we generate new menu cycles centrally twice per year, featuring a range of new and exciting food concepts and recipes, we are committed to offering our clients a flexible service that includes adjustments to our menus to suit local tastes and demographics, helping to maximise uptake every day.

SUPPORTIVE – Caterlink offer our catering teams a supportive working environment in which they can develop and flourish, with benefits including a host of professional qualification opportunities, access to various physical and mental health support programmes, plus a range of awards and events that celebrate their successes.

REFRESHING – We want every child to actively choose a school meal, and as everyone first eats with their eyes, we will invest in new serviceware for each school to ensure attractive presentation of our meals

ENGAGING – We are committed to actively engaging with both pupils and parents throughout the school year, highlighting the many benefits of a school meal and responding to their feedback to help us maximise uptake and ensure your pupils are properly fuelled to achieve their potential.

COMMUNITY MINDED – From funding kitchen gardens at schools through our very own registered charity, to delivering cookery workshops that empower parents to embrace the benefits of fresh food more regularly, Caterlink are committed to supporting your local communities to add even more value to the services we provide

GREAT VALUE – Our meals are great value for money, with independent research proving that they are significantly cheaper than the average packed lunch of equal nutritional value.

ADDED BENEFITS – Our local Development Chef will offer a choice of exciting and engaging added benefit sessions including pizza making sessions, healthy eating assemblies, summer smoothie making and parent menu taster sessions

GET IN TOUCH

For more information, please contact:

Mark Skillicorn on 07443 152172 / mskillicorn@caterlinkltd.co.uk

Alternatively, you can get in-touch with us through our web site: www.caterlinkltd.co.uk

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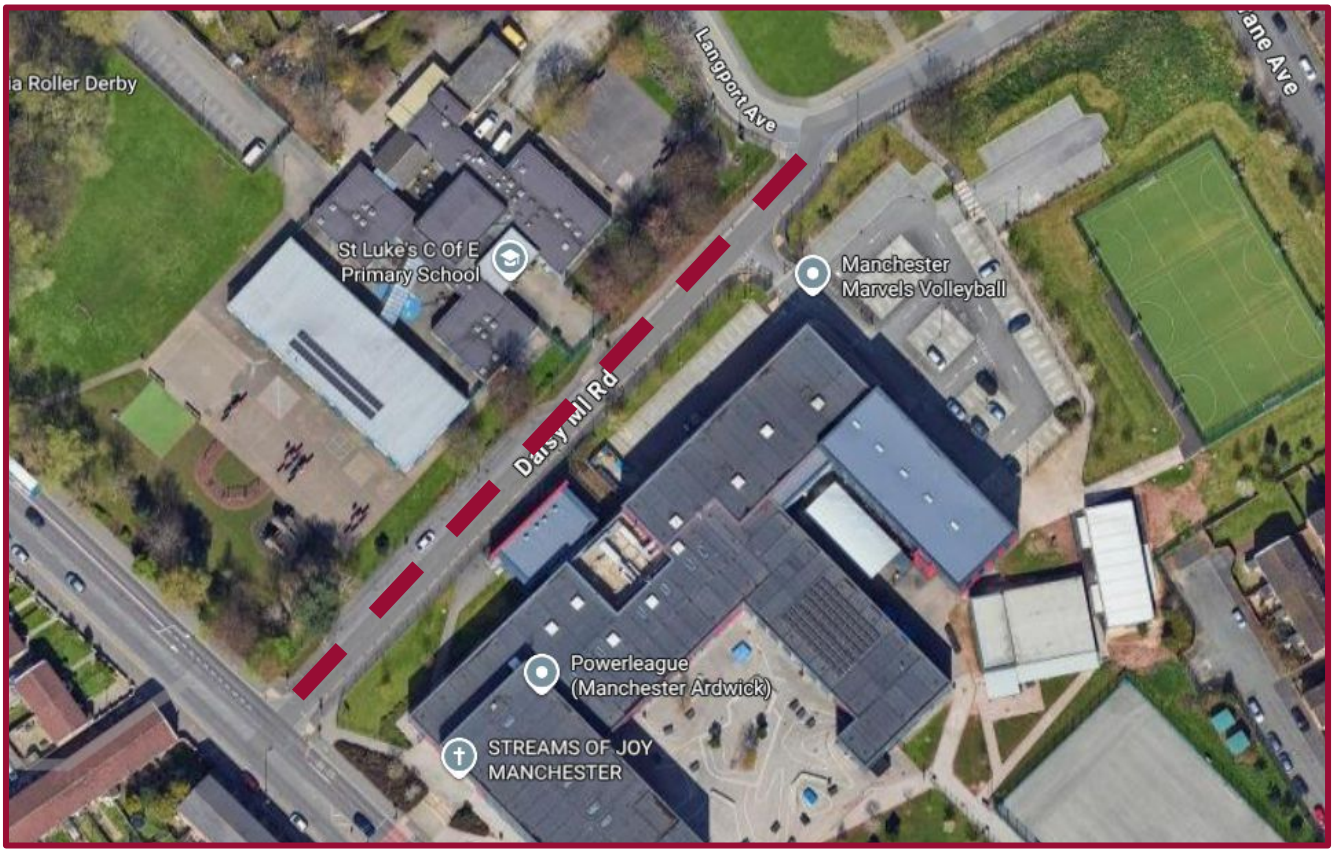
Parking around Dean Trust Ardwick

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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