DEAN TRUST Ardwick

NEWSLETTER

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a restful break. It is a pleasure to welcome everyone back for **Half Term 4**. As always, our focus remains firmly on our pupils — their learning, their wellbeing and the sense of belonging that makes our school community so special.

The last 2 weeks already been a wonderful reflection of who we are as a school. Last week, we came together for our **Community Iftar**, a truly special occasion that highlighted the spirit of unity during the blessed month of Ramadan. At DTA, our identity is our diversity. Bringing people together from all backgrounds to celebrate, share and learn from one another strengthens our community and reminds us why we are so proud to belong here.

We recognise the importance of Ramadan as one of the Five Pillars of Islam and understand that it is one of the most sacred times of the year for those of the Muslim faith. As a school, we are committed to supporting our pupils throughout this important month, both within lessons and in their wider school experience.

We are aware that many pupils will be fasting and, in response, we have made thoughtful adjustments to our provision — particularly within PE. All changes follow the *Ramadan Guidance for Schools and Education Settings (2023)* published by the PE Association and the Youth Sport Trust.

Pupils are still expected to bring their full PE kit and take part in lessons; however, the following adaptations will be in place:

- Practical activities will be less exertive to ensure pupils do not overexert themselves.
- Lessons will include more frequent rest breaks to support those who are fasting.
- Some extra-curricular activities will move to lunchtime rather than after school.

We are very mindful of the physical and emotional demands that fasting can bring and have made these adjustments to prioritise pupils' wellbeing and safety.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is through our shared commitment — staff, pupils and families — that we continue to nurture a community built on respect, inclusion and ambition.

Wishing you all a positive and successful start to the term.

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

Diary Dates

12th March - Careers Fayre
20th March - Inset Day
26th March - Year 7 Parents' Evening

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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Friday Prayer

Friday prayers have had a huge turnout and the prayer hall has been busy during Ramadan being used by both staff and students. It is lovely to see the school community come together for prayers.

Community Iftar

Following the last three successful Community Iftars, we hosted our third one on 27th February.

Again, this was a well attended event, bringing together the school community including parents, staff and pupils. Food was donated from a local caterer and Caterlink provided fruit and dessert platters.

As a school community we were able to partake in the spirit of Ramadan where everyone was encouraged to bring food in to share. It was a lovely evening, bringing the local and school community together.

Ramadan
Kareem

DTA's Community

Debate Mate

On Tuesday, Year 7-9 pupils travelled to Manchester Academy for the second round of the Debating League.

They scored highly against tough opposition, but only won 2 of the 6 debates. We're still hoping for glory in the cup competition, which will take place at the end of March!

What we've

BEEN UP TO

FEBRUARY 2026

ARDWICK
PART DEAN TRUST

MOBILISATION OF ARDWICK SECONDARY SCHOOL. THE PICTURES ARE AFTER DAY TWO. GREAT COMMENTS FROM GENA OUR CLIENT. ZOE AND THE TEAM ARE DOING AMAZING JOB ON COMPANY STANDARDS AND PRESENTATION OF OUR FOOD

BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

MICHAEL STREETING

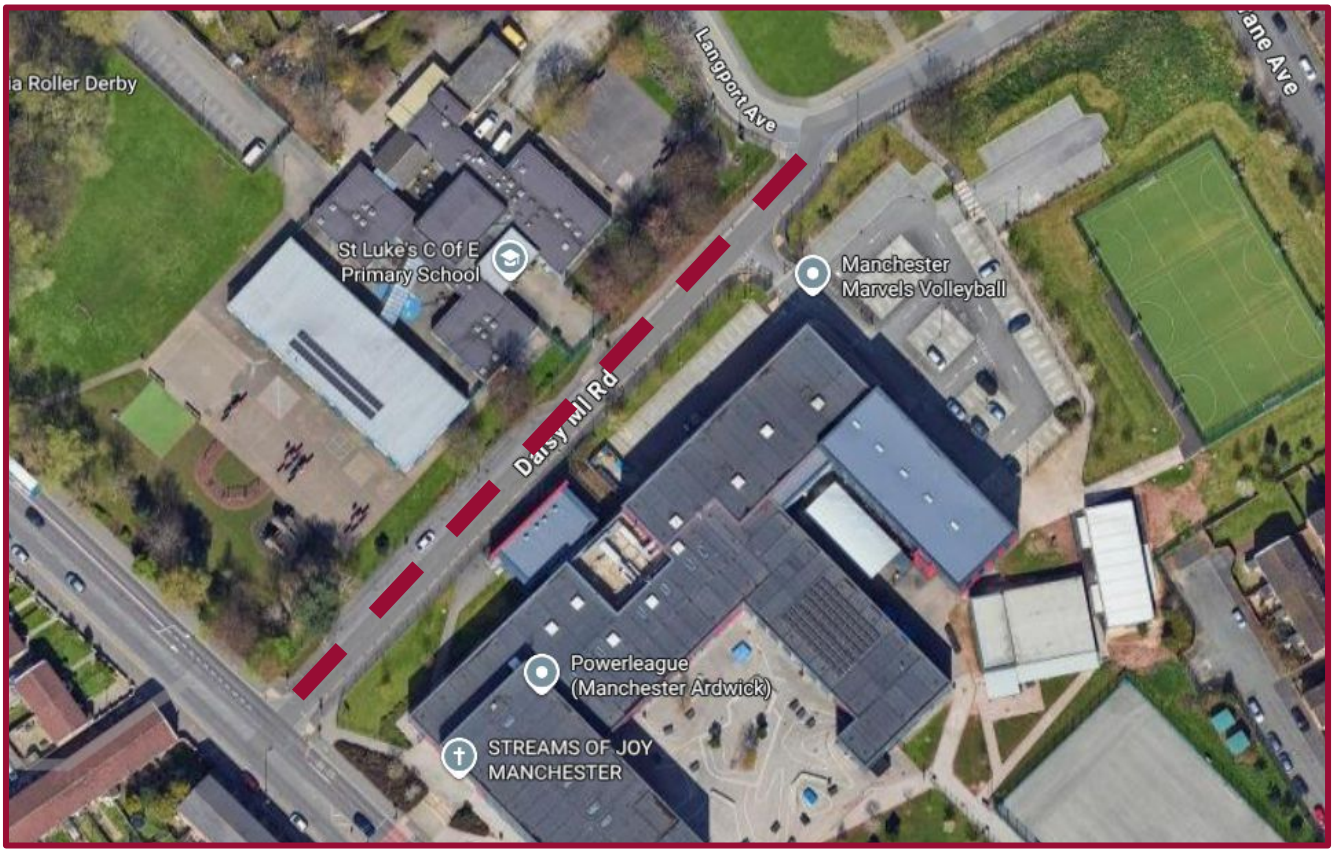
caterlink
feeding the imagination

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

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

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