

# MCNABB & TAIT HOUSE

## 2008 - 2009

Academy Place  
Dollar  
FK14 7DZ

MR AND MRS MCFADYEAN	01259 740585
MR WELSH	01259 740586
SENIOR BOYS	01259 740589
JUNIOR BOYS	01259 740590

### HOUSE STAFF

#### Houseparents

Mr Neil McFadyean and Mrs Gill McFadyean

#### Resident Tutor

Mr Ryan Welsh

#### House Tutors

Mr Jamie Frost  
Mr Neil McEwan  
Miss Gilly McCord  
Mr Martin Hose

#### Assistant Housestaff

Mrs Allison Dickson  
Mrs Mary Carmichael  
Mrs Irene Blackie  
Mrs Linda Kennedy

#### Head of House

Joseph Sergeant- Awuse

#### Deputy Heads of House

Jerome Brathwaite  
Justin Brathwaite

## A WARM WELCOME TO MCNABB & TAIT HOUSE

Welcome to McNabb & Tait House. McNabb & Tait House provides excellent accommodation for up to 50 boys at Dollar Academy. Each year we welcome boys from all corners of the world. We aim to provide a stimulating, safe and supportive environment in order that you make the most of your time at Dollar Academy. In addition we hope to help you become a more independent, disciplined and self-motivated individual. We are very happy to have you here with us and we hope you will get the best out of your time with us. The purpose of this leaflet is to give you some important information on the day to day life of the House. You should, of course, also be familiar with the contents of the *Information for Pupils Booklet*.

The house has 21 senior study bedrooms and 4 very comfortable double rooms, while our Juniors are accommodated in rooms of 4 or 2. The following information should provide you with a clear idea of the routines and rules in the house as well as some advice that will help you settle in to life in McNabb & Tait more quickly.

### WHAT IS A TYPICAL DAY LIKE?

**7.15 am** Lights On.

**7.45am – 8.15am** Morning duties and breakfast in the dining hall.

Lunch passes should be picked up before school.

**8.40am** School. The house is locked from 9am until 12.30pm. Please do not return to the house during this time.

**12.30pm – 1.25PM** Lunch is served in the school dining Hall. You must hand in your lunch pass at this meal. Mon – Fri the house will be open between 12.30pm and 1.25pm if you wish to pick up books or sports equipment.

**3.25pm** Co-curricular activities

**5.00pm** Tea

In the winter curfew is from 6pm and from March this increases weekly.

### WHEN DO I DO PREP AND WHEN DO I GO TO BED?

	PREP TIME	BEDTIME/LIGHTS OUT
JUNIOR 1	6PM - 7PM	8.30PM/9PM
JUNIOR II	6PM - 7PM	8.30PM/9PM
FORM I	6PM - 7.30PM	8.45PM/9.15PM
FORM II	6PM - 7.30PM	9.00PM/9.30PM
FORM III	6PM - 8PM	9.30PM/10PM
FORM IV	6PM - 8PM	9.45PM/10.15PM
FORM V	6PM - 8PM	10.30PM
FORM VI	6PM - 8PM	10.30PM



## WHAT HAPPENS DURING PREP?

This is a very important time and we expect everyone to work hard. Form III - Form VI are required to be working quietly in their own rooms between 6.00pm and 8.00pm Mon—Thurs and between 10.30am and 12.30pm on Sunday. Junior I - Form II work downstairs in supervised prep for 1 hour or so.

Telephone calls unless very important are not permitted during these times so please let your family and friends know.

There are 12 computers and 4 printers for use. You can access the internet here as well as SKYPE and MSN to stay in touch with family and friends.

Outwith Prep Time, school work takes priority over e-mailing, which has priority over gaming.



## CAN I LEARN TO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT?

There are two pianos in the House which may be used for practice. A number of boys in the House play a variety of musical instruments. You are encouraged to practise in the House either before, during or after Prep time. If you would like to arrange tuition in a particular instrument then please ask Mr or Mrs McFadyean to help you arrange this.

## HOW DO I KEEP IN CONTACT WITH MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY?



There are 2 calling card operated pay phones for your use in the House. The numbers are on the front of this booklet. These also accept incoming calls — you can also call other Boarding Houses free of charge. For the Juniors this is located in a cubicle under the stairs, next to the Senior Showers. For the seniors this is opposite the small TV Room. We have Skype phones and webcams in our ICT rooms which have proved very popular for long-distance calls. Most boys in the House have mobile phones. **These should be switched off during the school day, during Prep time and after lights out.** *The Information for Pupils Booklet gives further guidance in this area.*



## HOW DO I STAY HEALTHY?

We will register you with the local health centre. Should you need to visit the doctor please ask a member of staff to make an appointment for you.

You will also be registered with Mr Watson, the local dentist, unless your parents advise otherwise. Some boarders may require orthodontic treatment and Mr Watson will advise if this is necessary.

Please ensure all medicines are given to the house staff for safe-keeping. Occasionally there may be exceptions to this and your own particular requirements can be discussed

confidentially with Mr and Mrs McFadyean.

## WHAT I SHOULD WEAR?



Please take off your outdoor shoes when in the House, this helps to keep the house clean and tidy. We will give you a big box to store your shoes in the boot room and all your shoes should be stored in this box. Please do not leave your shoes lying around.

Uniform is worn for school and for church on Sunday. However the kilt may be worn for church. Form V and Form VI boys may wear a suit to church. At all other times you are free to wear your own clothes.

During the school day we would expect you to wear your uniform correctly.

Splendidly Clean!



## WHAT DO I DO WITH MY LAUNDRY?

As you can imagine this is a very important part of the routines of the House. It is your responsibility to ensure all your laundry is placed in the baskets in the corridors. It will be washed, dried and ironed and returned to you as soon as possible, usually the same day. You should change your shirt, underwear and socks daily.

Your Games kit must be washed regularly, and it is your responsibility to put it in the wash when it needs to be done.

Please put all weekend rugby washing in the large basket in the laundry. Please do not put muddy rugby kit in the baskets in the corridors.

Your bed linen is changed every two weeks.

All clothing should be, if possible, machine washable and clearly named. If you have anything to be named please speak to Allison, Mary, Linda or Irene and they will do this for you.

Please do not put dry clean items in the laundry baskets.

## AM I RESPONSIBLE FOR MY OWN PROPERTY?



We do insist on high standards in this area. We will provide you with adequate storage for your books and clothes. We expect you to keep your room tidy and take good care of your belongings. Please make sure that you ask us to keep anything which is very valuable and we have given you a lockable box to store precious things securely. You will need to provide a padlock for this.

Your bedroom will be checked each day and occasionally there will be cupboard checks.



## HOW CAN I ARRANGE TO SEE MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY?

The Information for Pupils Booklet gives full information on weekends and days out. You can have a weekend out to stay with friends or family. In order to arrange to stay with a friend you need two letters/emails giving permission; one from your parents and one from the person you would like to stay with.

If you are being collected by your parent or guardian then you just need to let us know in advance that this is happening. Permission letters should be received by the Wednesday before you want to go out.

You must sign out prior to leaving and then sign in when you return, please also tell a member of staff that you are leaving and again let them know when you return .



## WHAT KINDS OF THINGS DO WE DO AT THE WEEKEND?

We have regular House Trips either as a whole House or with individual year groups. These are organised termly and are posted on the school website and emailed to your families. It is essential for you to participate in as many of these as you can in order to feel part of the boarding community. We hope that you and your family can organise your weekends out to accommodate the boarding activities which are on offer each term.

If you have any suggestions for weekend activities then please let us know; they usually include cinema, skiing and snowboarding, climbing, shopping, meals out, theatre trips, swimming, paintballing, go-karting and laserquest. We organise activities within the House too such as fun days and quizzes.

The boys and girls also have opportunities to socialise with each other at the various events which are organised in the year such as Christmas parties and the Boarders Ceilidh, Book Groups, Senior Social Get Togethers as well as Sports Weekend.



## CAN MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS VISIT ME IN THE BOARDING HOUSE?



Of course you may have school friends visit you in the house but you should ask permission before they come in and ensure they sign the Visitors Book when they arrive and again when they leave. Please let the house staff know if your family visit. We will make sure there is a room free downstairs for you to have time together.

No visitors are allowed upstairs without permission. No one other than the occupants of a room are allowed in rooms unless the occupant is present or has given permission. This is very important and will help protect your belongings.

## WHAT DO I DO WHEN I WANT TO GO OUT?

The signing in/out book will always be found on the chest of drawers in the 'Inbetween Room'. If you have permission for a day/weekend out you must sign in/out in addition to reporting in/out to a member of staff.

When you leave the house you must sign out and on your return you must sign in again.



## WHERE DO I SHOWER AND CLEAN MY TEETH?

Form V and VI have a shower room and toilet which you share with one other. This is located next to your bedroom and you'll be shown where it is when you arrive.

Form III and IV have your own shower room which is located downstairs opposite the prep room. There is also a toilet at the end of the senior corridor upstairs for use by Form III and IV.

Junior I - Form II again have your own shower room and toilet which is located at the end of the Junior corridor.

Everyone is given a tub to store their toiletries in; this can be kept in your room or in the shower rooms.

We also have two baths in the House which are available to y

## WHAT DO I DO ABOUT MONEY?

Pocket money is given to pupils up to Form II. Junior I and Junior II receive £3.00 per week and Form I and Form II receive £4.00 per week. This can be withdrawn weekly or saved for something in particular. Any large sums of money should be given to Mr and Mrs McFadyean for safekeeping.

Wallets should be locked in your safe when not in your possession. Please take good care of your money and bank cards.

Generally Form III and above operate their own bank accounts at the Clydesdale Bank in Dollar. We can help you open an account.



## WHERE CAN I WATCH TV AND PLAY COMPUTER GAMES?

Each year group has their own TV room where they can watch TV, DVDs or play computer games. Each area has its own TV/DVD player. Please ensure you adhere to the classification appropriate for your age unless you have permission to do otherwise.

If you are borrowing a film please ensure it is returned promptly after use.

## WILL MY BIRTHDAY BE CELEBRATED?



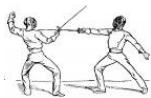
We celebrate boys' birthdays during term time in the evening, after Supper, with a cake, candles, and a rendition of *Happy Birthday*, sometimes even accompanied by bagpipes - a night to remember!

If your family has a special treat planned for you then just let us know as that can be accommodated as well.



## WHICH DOORS DO I USE TO COME IN AND OUT OF THE HOUSE?

Junior I - Form IV use the boys' door at the front of the junior section of the House and Forms V and VI use the senior boys' entrance. Both are operated by a keypad and should be closed properly afterwards. It is very important for the security of the House that you do not give the door codes to anyone.



## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS?



There are many co-curricular clubs and societies which you can join. It is always easier to meet people here and make friends on an informal basis. We would encourage you to make the most of these opportunities as they will enhance your experience of boarding at Dollar Academy.



## WHEN DO WE GET TOGETHER TO DISCUSS THINGS?

We have whole House Meetings, usually on a Monday evening before Prep, to discuss matters affecting the House. In addition to this we have Junior I- Form II and Form III - Form IV group meetings.



## WHAT DO I DO IF I HAVE A CONCERN OR SUGGESTION?



If you have a problem or concern you will hopefully feel you can approach a member of the House Staff or your Head of House. In school there are also members of staff you can approach - the school nurse Mrs Dunnet, your Form Tutor, your Head of Year or any member of staff you trust. Mrs Robertson is the school's Child Protection Co-ordinator and you can find her in her office in the Prep School.

There are suggestion boxes in the house which are opened on the first Monday of the month. In addition you have an opportunity to give your thoughts and opinions to the Head of House who will take these to the Heads and Deputies meetings which is chaired by the Deputy Rector.