

Alder Community High School

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September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 7 Transition Day

We are looking forward to welcoming Year 7 on Monday, 6th September for their Transition Day. The timetable for the day has been designed to allow students to familiarise themselves with the school building, our school routines and spend time with their form tutor. It will also give them a chance to ask any questions they may have before the timetable starts properly on Tuesday, 7th September.

On **Monday, 6th September**, your child should arrive at school for **8.45am.** They can arrive either at the front entrance of school or via the back-gate entrance, members of staff will be available to direct children from 8.30am. If parents are dropping students off at the front of school, I ask that you remain in your car in order to reduce the number of people on the school site. Students should attend in **full school uniform** including their 'house' coloured ties which can be purchased from our usual uniform suppliers.

Please check the uniform information carefully and if you are in doubt about any shoes or uniform purchases, please check with school prior to purchasing. Students will also need to bring a bag to school which will include their Super 7 essential equipment plus the preferred equipment of a glue stick, pencil crayons, a pencil sharpener and a pack of tissues. The preferred equipment will help us as a school to reduce cross-contamination in the classroom. <u>Our uniform and equipment policies can be found on the website using this link</u>.

During the transition day, students will meet with their form tutor and form group, have a tour of the relevant sections of the school (including the dining hall) and join in with a number of 'getting to know you' activities. They will also be introduced to other key members of staff.

At break and lunch time, students will be introduced to the dining room, where we operate a cashless catering system. Please ensure that you have set up an account on ParentPay (your activation letter was included in the information posted out to you in July) and funds have been added so that your child can purchase items from the dining hall for break and lunch. Students can also add credit to their account using coins and notes at the machine in the dining room. Cheques are no longer accepted. Students can also bring a packed lunch and a healthy snack for their break time if you would prefer. Students who are entitled to free school meals will automatically receive a lunch. Applications for free school meals can be made on this link.

The transition day will finish at 2.00pm. Students can be picked up from the front entrance or the back gate. They can of course, walk home alone with your permission. If parents are collecting by car, please bear in mind that the car park will be busy. It might be easier to arrange to meet your child at the back of school near the open ground between Shaw Avenue and Grange Road South.

On **Tuesday, 7th September** school will re-open fully to all students. The normal school day is **8.20am until 2.45pm** for all students.

Future Communications – School Gateway

We have now introduced School Gateway to Alder Community High School – a parent engagement app that will







allow you to communicate with the school at anytime from anywhere.

All future school related communications, calendar dates, newsletters, reports, timetables and attendance figures will go through School Gateway. To stay up to date with what's going on at school make sure you download the app for free. Just search *School Gateway* in your app store and download.

Your login details will be automatically generated using the contact information we already have, so please make sure the details we hold for you are up to date. You can check and change these details by sending an email to <u>admin@alderchs.uk</u>.

If you have any questions or would like some more information, please see the School Gateway site here: <u>https://schoolgateway.co.uk/</u>. You can also login to the online version of School Gateway via this site if you do not have a smart phone, although we do recommend using the app if possible as it makes it far easier to get hold of parents when we need to.

I know your child will have an enjoyable first day with us but if you have any queries about the arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

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Mr R. O'Regan Headteacher











