13th November 2026

Alsop High School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ofsted: recognising the progress at Alsop
I want to begin by sharing some positive feedback from our recent Ofsted inspection. The feedback recognises the work of our staff and students to make Alsop a calmer, safer place to learn.
Inspectors wrote: “Lessons are generally much calmer places for pupils to learn.” They also recognised that “Pupils are rising to meet leaders' higher expectations of behaviour” and that “The school has an open and positive culture of safeguarding”.

The feedback also highlights the care provided by our pastoral teams, support for students new to English and the opportunities available through clubs, trips and careers guidance. Students and staff told inspectors that Alsop is “the best it has been in our time here”. I am proud of the adults whose daily work makes this difference, and of our students for responding to higher expectations.

There is still significant work to do. Improving attendance, strengthening teaching and making sure every child gets the support they need remain our priorities. In the coming weeks, we will share the findings with the full report once it is finalised and available for publication.

Celebrating our students
On Thursday 5th November, 14 students represented Alsop at the Debate Mate programme launch at Liverpool John Moores University. Amelie K in Year 10 was chosen as the first speaker for one of the teams in a demonstration debate in front of students from more than ten schools. Her confident contribution and leadership set a great example for our younger students. Well done to everyone involved.

Congratulations to our Year 8 and Year 10 football teams on their recent victories. It was also wonderful to welcome our local primary schools for an indoor athletics competition, with our student leaders running the event and supporting the younger children. There is so much to celebrate at Alsop and I am proud of the contribution our students make to our wider community.

Across school, staff have also been sharing good news with families about effort, classwork and positive choices. These moments matter so please encourage your child to get involved in a club or activity this half term, as it is a chance to try something new, develop a skill and make friends.

Year 11 and Year 13: hard work and mock exams
With around 100 school days to go until the summer exams, it has been fantastic to see our Year 11 and Year 13 students working so hard. Students are attending Period 0 and Period 6 sessions, putting in extra revision and trying their best in their mock exams. Their effort and determination deserve recognition.

Mock exams give students valuable practice and help teachers identify where further support is needed. Please keep encouraging your child, help them arrive on time with the right equipment and support a sensible balance of revision, rest and sleep. If your child is worried, please contact the year team so we can help.

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Phone pouches: moving to phase two
Following the success of phase one of our phone pouch system, we will move to phase two of our approach from Monday 30th November. Each student will be allocated a personal pouch to look after and bring to school every day, rather than collecting and returning a shared pouch. This also responds to student voice, as many students have told us they would prefer to have their own pouch rather than use a shared.

Over the next couple of weeks, we will support students to prepare for this change. We will show them how to use and care for their pouch, explain the daily routine and give families clear notice of the school's expectations before this date.

Students will be expected to bring their allocated pouch each day, keep it in good condition and secure their phone for the school day. Pouches must not be swapped, tampered with or deliberately damaged. We will send a separate letter setting out the full arrangements, including what happens if a pouch is lost, forgotten or damaged, and how individual needs will be supported.

Thank you for helping us build a phone-free school day, where students can focus on learning and spend time with each other.

Attendance and a good start each day
Every day in school matters. Please help your child attend regularly, arrive ready for our 8:25am line-ups and be on time for every lesson. Breakfast service finishes at 8:20am so students have time to get ready. Please also check that your child has the correct uniform and equipment. If something is making attendance difficult, speak to us early so we can work with you.

Final 20 days: attendance rewards Monday 23rd November – Friday 18th December
We will be celebrating students who attend every school day during the final 20 school days before Christmas, with lots of prizes and rewards to recognise their commitment. These last few weeks are an important part of the school year, as lessons continue, students build on what they have learnt, and teachers prepare them for the next stage of their courses. Missing days can leave gaps that make returning in January harder. Please help your child finish the term strongly and give themselves the best chance of earning a reward. If your child is unwell or needs support with attendance, please contact the attendance team.

Remembrance Day
Students and staff were invited to St George's Hall to mark Remembrance Day. In school, we observed a two-minute silence to remember those who have served and those who have lost their lives in conflict. This gave our school community time to reflect on their sacrifice and the importance of peace.

Wishing our families a happy Diwali
We wish a happy Diwali to all our families who are celebrating. We hope you have enjoyed spending time with family and friends and send our best wishes for peace and happiness in the year ahead.

Dates for your diary

- Friday 27th November: INSET day; school closed to students.
- Thursday 10th December: Year 11 and Year 13 Parents Evening, 4:00–6:30pm.
- Friday 18th December: End of term at 12:20pm.

Thank you for your continued support. There is much to celebrate, and much still to do. Working together gives our children the best chance to succeed.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Peter Mee
Head of School