



19.05.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another busy and productive half term at Alsop High School, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on recent developments and to thank you for your continued support.

A Mobile Phone-Free School

While we recognise the benefits mobile phones can offer, particularly for safety and communication during travel to and from school, they can also be a major distraction during the school day. Research consistently shows that student learning, focus and social development improve significantly when mobile devices are removed from the classroom environment.

From **Monday 16th June**, we will enforce our approach to make sure Alsop is a **mobile phone and AirPods-free school** during the school day. This decision reflects our core values of **Be Safe** and is part of our wider commitment to ensuring a calm, focused, and inclusive learning environment for every student.

As one of our school values is also **respect**, we will support students through the transition over the first two weeks after the half-term break, offering clear guidance, reminders and support before implementing any sanctions. Our approach, as always, will be fair, firm and kind.

Please be reassured that students will still be able to bring phones to school for use on their journey, but they must be switched off and out of sight as they enter the building. Initially, we will enforce our "**never seen, not heard**" policy:

- **If a phone is seen or used during the school day, it will be confiscated.**
- **Confiscated devices will be returned at the school's discretion, either to the student or their parent/carer.**

This marks the first step in implementing our mobile-free school policy. Over the coming weeks, I will share further developments on how we plan to strengthen our approach to mobile phone use, with the aim of supporting learning in classrooms and enhancing the mental health and wellbeing of our students as we begin the new term in September. This policy is fully in line with guidance from the **Department for Education (February 2024)** on mobile phone use in schools.

Year 11 & Year 13 Examinations

Our Year 11 and Year 13 students have made an excellent start to the exam season. Thanks to an extensive programme of support, including in-school interventions, pre-exam briefings, weekend revision sessions and upcoming May half-term masterclasses. Our students are well-prepared and showing tremendous dedication. Their behaviour, maturity, and work ethic have been exemplary and I would like to thank you for your role in supporting them throughout this important time.

To celebrate their hard work and mark the end of their time at Alsop, we are planning a Year 11 Leavers' Assembly on **Wednesday 18th June**, followed by the Year 11 Prom on **Friday 4th July**.



Alsop High School

Assessments Year 7 - 10

For students in Years 7 to 10, the end-of-year assessment windows are scheduled as follows:

- **Years 7 to 9:** Monday 2nd June to Friday 20th June
- **Year 10:** Monday 16th June to Friday 27th June

To enable your child to prepare for their assessments, they will receive revision materials from their teachers. Please support them at home by encouraging them to complete this work. This is important to ensure working at home becomes a positive learning habit, building academic resilience and is vital for student success. These assessments will accurately assess your child's progress and you will receive detailed information about their academic performance in an end of year report. The specific arrangements for the assessments will be sent out in the coming weeks.

Student Exit Procedure – 3:00pm

To further enhance student safety and improve supervision at the end of the school day, we will be updating our exit procedure. From Monday 9th June, all students will exit via Student Services.

Improving Attendance

I am delighted to share that attendance across the school continues to improve. This is due to the collective efforts of our students, staff and you—our parents and carers. Regular attendance is vital not only for academic achievement but also for building a strong sense of belonging and community. When students are in school consistently, they are more confident, more engaged and more likely to succeed, both now and in the future. I continue to be incredibly proud of our students and how they have embraced and risen to the challenge of maintaining perfect uniform standards, positive behaviour and improved attendance. Your ongoing partnership is essential in helping us deliver the best possible education for our young people and beyond.

My Child At School App (MCAS)

Thank you to those families who have accessed the My Child At School app (MCAS). As a school, we are committed to keeping you informed and engaged in your child's education. To support this, we strongly encourage all parents and carers to download **MCAS app**. The app provides a simple and convenient way to access key information about your child's school life, including attendance records, achievement and behaviour updates, timetables and important announcements. To help you get started, please [click here](#) for details on how to download and set up the app. If you need any assistance with setting up the app, please do not hesitate to contact the school at: mcas@ahs.omegamat.co.uk

Once again, thank you for your continued support. I wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable half term break and we look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday 2nd June.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Mee
Head of School