



Alsom High School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following my letter dated 15th November 2024, I am pleased to share our expectations for the remainder of the autumn term and beyond. This letter also provides essential information to help you prepare for the new school term starting in January 2025.

Our efforts to raise standards have continued, and I am delighted to report that most of our students have responded positively to these higher expectations. These early successes place us in a strong position to continue our journey of improvement, and I am confident that 2025 will bring significant achievements for our students.

I will continue to evaluate all aspects of our practice over the remainder of the year, aiming to further enhance the school experience for every student. This includes addressing the poor behaviour of a very small number of students whose actions negatively impact the education of the majority.

Alsom High School's core values—Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe—remain central to everything we do. Every student is expected to embody these values, which underpin our high standards and daily practices.

Be Ready

Uniform

We are proud of our school uniform and the positive impression it creates. Uniform sets the tone for a focused and respectful learning environment, and we expect every student to wear full school uniform daily. Below is a reminder of the required items:

- **Blazer:** Green with the school logo and gold piping
- **Pullover/Cardigan:** V-necked, plain navy with the school badge
- **Black shoes/black trainers (full black)**
- **Tie:**
 - Year 7: Green stripe
 - Year 8: Silver stripe
 - Year 9: Gold stripe
 - Year 10: Purple stripe
 - Year 11: Navy stripe
- **Trousers/Skirt:** Plain black school trousers (no jeans or cords), or a plain navy skirt/pinafore
- **Socks:** Plain dark socks (trousers) or navy socks (skirt)

PE Kit:

- Full Alsop PE kit
 - Alsop branded T-shirt or long sleeve shirt
 - Alsop branded hoodie
 - Plain black leggings or black training pants/tracksuit bottoms
- **School blazer should be worn over PE kit**

Not Acceptable:

- Non-school logo hoodies.
- Hats, hoods and caps.

These will need to be removed upon entering the building.

In recent weeks, I have observed that our uniform policy has not always been consistently enforced. As one of our values is respect, we have allowed the remainder of the autumn term for parents, carers, and students to meet our expectations fully. From **Wednesday, 8th January 2025**, students **not meeting uniform standards may be sent home without further notice to resolve the issue**. In these exceptional circumstances, your child would be sent home to resolve the issue, and we would welcome them back to school as soon as possible so they can continue their learning once the problem has been resolved.

Be Ready

Equipment

At the start of the new term, all students will be provided with the following equipment:

- Pencil case
- 1 black or blue pen
- 1 red pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Highlighter

After this, equipment can be purchased from the school shop at Student Services before school, at break, or at lunchtime. Students who attend tutor time without equipment will receive a detention.

We have high expectations, and while these can be challenging, they ensure students develop resilience and responsibility. Positive behaviours will be celebrated, and detentions will be issued when values are not upheld, giving students the opportunity to reflect and improve their conduct.

Be Safe

Attendance and Punctuality

It is important for parents to be aware there is a clear link between attendance and student outcomes at GCSE. The school expectation is that students attend 100% of the time. There is no reason for children who attend Alsop High School to attend less than their peers at other schools across the country. Your child will compete against these other students to gain the best GCSEs possible, and the surest way to undermine your own child's success is to allow them to take time off. We need to work together to improve the life chances of the children who attend Alsop High School

The new year is the perfect opportunity to work with us to break any old habits and establish positive routines to support 100% attendance.

May I also remind you that:

- Breakfast club starts at 8:05 a.m.
- Tutor time/Line up begins at 8:25 a.m., and all students must be on-site by this time.

KS3 Banding

Since we welcomed our students back to school in September, they have mostly been taught in mixed-ability grouping. From **Wednesday, 8th January**, we will be grouping students in KS3 based on their current academic performance.

We believe that grouping students in this way will be beneficial, as it means the curriculum will be accessible for all students in the class who will be working at a similar level. This will allow teachers to pace the lesson appropriately so all students can make as much progress as possible during their time at the school. Students will be assessed on a regular basis; if their performance improves, they will have the opportunity to move to another teaching group.

When students return after the Christmas break, they should go to their tutor room, where they will be issued with a new timetable. Students will be supported by their year manager and teaching staff throughout this process.

Parking

Merseyside Police have asked to share that cars should not be parked on the zig-zag lines outside school at the end of the school day. If you collect your child by car, please consider doing so at an agreed location, a short walk away from school. This helps disperse the traffic at a time when almost 1400 students are walking out of the building.

Please help us make the local area safer for all our students, as well as members of the public.

Year 11 – 13 Awards Evening

It has been a privilege being invited to celebrate the achievements of our students in Year 11 – 13. Students received prizes for their hard work, attendance and upholding our school values in everything they do. Well done to everyone who received an award.

Parents' Information Evening

To ensure that you are fully informed from January ahead, we have scheduled several drop-in Parents' Information Evenings to end this term. This will also be a good opportunity for you to visit the school to meet key staff. We need your help, as we know that students perform at their best when their school studies are supported and encouraged at home. To give them the best chance of success, it is important that we are able to work directly with all our parents and carers. The event will focus on sharing important information for the Spring and Summer terms. Further detail will be communicated in the coming weeks.

Year 8: Monday 9th December, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Year 9 Tuesday, 10th December, 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Year 10 Wednesday 11th December 4:30pm–5:30pm

Year 11 Thursday, 12th December, 4:30pm–5:30pm

Year 7, Friday, 13th December, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

INSET Days

As part of our commitment to high expectations and standards, we have scheduled two staff training days at the beginning of the new term. This will allow us to prepare thoroughly for the implementation of our new approach raising standards at Alsop High School.

Please note the following key dates:

Monday 6th January – Staff Training Day (School closed to students)

Tuesday 7th January – Staff Training Day (School closed to students)

Wednesday 8th January – School reopens (Start times for each year group will be communicated in the coming weeks)

We appreciate your support and understanding as we continue to focus on ensuring the best possible learning environment for our students.

Yours sincerely



Mr Peter Mee
Head of School