



# Alsop High School

**20<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

Dear Parent and Carer,

We are delighted to welcome our students back to school and extend a very warm welcome to our new year 7 students to Alsop High School.

We are writing to update you with regards to homework.

## **Sparx**

All year groups will be set a weekly Reading and Maths homework, and this will be set using the Sparx portal. This is a single sign in, and students can therefore access both homework tasks. Sparx is used by many schools across the country and is an excellent way to develop reading and comprehension skills and targeted Maths retrieval tasks and support. Students have already been given their Sparx log in details. You will receive a weekly email from Sparx updating you on the tasks that have been completed.

## **Knowledge Organisers**

We want our students to have a study resource in their Knowledge Organiser, that would support the learning that takes place in class but also enables them to review this at home and develop more effective study habits. We have been genuinely delighted with the commitment shown by many pupils and willingness to engage in independent study so far and want to build on this further this academic year.

In years 10 and 11, your child has been given the Knowledge Organiser for the Autumn term. This is a collated study resource for all subject areas. In every Knowledge Organiser, all the key knowledge needed for each subject is listed clearly to help our students review the key content at home. This contains the exact facts, dates, events, characters, concepts and precise definitions needed for each subject. In years 7-9, students will be given the knowledge organiser for individual subjects to support homework and self-study at home.

In years 7-9 students will be given a weekly homework task in English, Maths, Science, History, Geography and Spanish. In all other subjects, homework will be given every two weeks. Each task should take approximately 30 minutes.

Years 10 and 11 are examination years and therefore will be set a weekly homework task in all subjects. Each task should take approximately 45 minutes in addition to self-study.

Years 12 and 13 are also examination years and will be set weekly homework tasks by each of their subject teachers. These tasks should take approximately one hour each in addition to self-study.

These tasks will be set on Bromcom and you will be able to see these from next week if you have the Brom-com app. Your child will be shown how to log on where to find the homework timetable and how to submit work.

We recognise the importance of homework and the value of the Knowledge Organisers which have been created by our staff. It is therefore imperative that all year 10 and 11 students bring their Knowledge Organiser, to school every day. They are expected to have these at all times in their school bags as they will be used not just as part of our homework system, but also as part of in class support, reducing the need for additional course books to be exchanged by students. This will be checked each day. If a student loses their Knowledge Organiser, then a replacement must be bought at a cost of £1 to ensure that gaps in knowledge do not widen and misconceptions are not formed.



# Alsom High School

We recognise that access to a computer may be an issue and will make additional study spaces available after school for those students who need a computer or even somewhere quiet to revise in school. Additionally, there will be homework hubs available to enable students to complete their homework after school in a quiet space with computer access.

Finally, paper copies of the application tasks will be given if necessary.

We expect all students to complete the homework set and they will be rewarded regularly on Bromcom for completing this and this will be tracked each week by the Progress Leader for each year group.

It is important that any concerns are identified quickly so we can address issues promptly. If you have further questions or queries about how to use Knowledge Organisers, Bromcom, Sparx or how to support your child at home, please do not hesitate to contact us for information or guidance.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs C. Avison**

Assistant Principal

Alsom High School

T: 0151 235 1200

E: [c.avison@ahs.omegamat.co.uk](mailto:c.avison@ahs.omegamat.co.uk)