



# Alsop High School

29<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have enjoyed the summer, although I recognise that it has been a challenging one across the country and, indeed, in our community. Our thoughts are with the three little girls and their families in Southport, following the recent tragic events. The riots that occurred in the aftermath cannot be justified. At Alsop will always aim to be a safe and supportive space, for all children, a place of hope and unity. I understand that these events may have caused some of you anxiety, so please rest assured that we will be here to listen to any concerns you may have as we return to school. Our role as educators is always clear to me; to provide strong routines and boundaries and to ensure we are supporting your children to be the amazing and compassionate adults we know they can be. We will continue with this important work as we begin the new school year on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

As I stated in my letter to you in July, the past year has presented numerous challenges in education, and we at Alsop have also faced our share as well. I am fully aware it is a lot of work to do to make this the amazing school we want for your children and it will take your support and patience and some time, to reach our goals. However, I am optimistic about the upcoming academic year and I look forward to embarking on our journey of improvement.

I would like to remind you all of the core messages I sent back in July. I have very high expectations for our students for the next year and beyond, particularly regarding behaviour and attendance standards, which need significant improvement. We will need these areas to improve to allow our staff to ensure that every child in our care achieves their full potential, with amazing destinations and life opportunities.

Our messages to our students are:

**Be Ready:** Arrive in school, through the gate by 8:20am, each day. Our uniform line ups begin at 8.25am promptly. Attend 5 lessons every day, on time, in the right uniform and with the correct equipment.

As parents/carers, please ensure you support your child with this message. It is vital you contact us before 8.15am if you need to report your child's absence. Please contact us via our main phone number and explain the reason for the absence. You can leave a voicemail as soon as possible.

**Be Respectful:** Follow our Positive Behaviour Policy and be respectful to all members of our community and our environment.

Parents please constantly remind your child, of the importance of good conduct.

**Be Safe:** Ensure you work with us to keep everyone in our community safe.

We will begin the year by welcoming students back from **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.**

Please note, to ensure we have time to run through our routines with each year group, we are operating a staggered start on the 4<sup>th</sup> September. Please can you ensure your child arrives 5 mins before their allotted start time:

- **Years 7/11/12 - arrival onsite 8.20am**
- **Year 10 - arrival on site at 9am**
- **Year 9 - arrival on site at 9.45am**
- **Year 8 - arrival on site at 11am**
- **Year 13 – arrival on site at 8:20am Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

Below is a summary of other key reminders for September:

**New School Day Times from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

**Start Time:** Students must be through the gate by 8:20 am to reach their lineup positions by 8:25 am. They will be marked late if they are not with their tutors by **8:25 am**.

**End Time:** The school day ends at **3:00 pm**.

**Internal Times:**

Timings	Events
8.00 am	Gates open for students' arrival
8.00-8.25 am	Breakfast in canteen if required
Start of school day	
8.25-8.30 am	Line ups with uniform checks carried out by Tutors & Progress Leaders
8.30-8.40 am	Morning tutor times. Registers taken and behavior/attendance/equipment checks.
8.40-9.40 am	P1
9.40-10.40 am	P2
10.40-11.00am	Break (Movement bell to sound at 10.55am)
11.00am-12.00pm	P3
12.00-12.30	Split Lunch Session 1. Years 7/9/11 on Lunch 1. (6 <sup>th</sup> form in separate canteen) Years 8/10 are in Tutor time lesson/PSHCE
12.30-1pm	Split lunch Session 2 Years 8/10 on Lunch. Years 7/9/11 are in Tutor time lesson/PSHCE/Intervention (Yr 11)
1pm-2pm	P4
2pm-3pm	P5
End of school day 3pm	
3.00pm-4pm	After school booster lessons (known as Period 6) for Yr11 & Yr13 and extra-curricular clubs.

### **Reminder: Students attending school in PE Kit**

We have worked extremely hard across the summer to ensure we are addressing the issues with our PE provision. We have built a functional fitness suite and a full second Astroturf MUGA (multi use games area) on site to improve our offer to students. We have also refurbished two small changing rooms for any students who have kit issues, to use, but the decision we took was for all students to attend school in their PE Kit on the days they have PE. **We will publicise the PE timetable by Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September so you will know when students are able to wear their kits.**

It goes without saying that students must wear their correct Alsop uniform with pride, whether it is the main uniform or their PE uniform.

### **PE Kit Requirements**

- **Lower half:** Plain black for affordability (shorts/skirts/skorts/leggings/tracksuits)
- **Top half:** Alsop HS branded PE Kit (T-shirt/polo shirt)
- **Additional:** Plain black sport socks, Alsop HS branded hoodies/waterproof jackets or plain black school coats

### **Parental Support Needed**

- Ensure your child wears the full school uniform/PE kit, including **plain black footwear** (our Uniform Expectations Guide is available on our website).
- Make sure your child is equipped and ready to learn with the required stationery in a plain school bag. **This includes 1 pencil case, 2 black pens, 1 red pen, 1 pencil, 1 eraser, 1 ruler and 1 scientific calculator.**
- Support our efforts to improve punctuality, attendance and behaviour by reminding your child to be at school by 8:20 am and attend all five lessons daily.
- Ensure your child has their planner every day, which is a key piece of their equipment.
- **It is very important that you download the Bromcom parent app "MyChildAtSchool" for key communications. This will give you access to your child's reports, timetable, behaviour points, and key messages. Please could you also ensure we have all the correct contact details for you and your child on our system. You can amend this directly on the MyChildAtSchool app.**

In terms of our communication with you, we will continue with our Newsletter, "The Alsopian" and we are re-launching our social media platforms in September, to ensure there are lots of ways for you to stay informed and share in the exciting things that are take place in our school.

I look forward to welcoming the children back next Wednesday.

Take care,

*J Kerfoot*

Mr. J Kerfoot