



6th June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have had the pleasure of welcoming our students back to school after what we trust was a wonderful and restful half-term break. It has been delightful to see our students return with such enthusiasm and prepared for the new term.

Attendance

As you are aware, there is a clear link between attendance and student outcomes at GCSE, and our biggest challenge in improving your child's life chances is ensuring 100% attendance. I am pleased to share that, through our collective efforts and the commitment of our dedicated staff, we have seen an improvement in school attendance for many students. This is a positive trend that we are eager to continue. Please keep supporting your child to ensure they are in school every day and arrive promptly by 8:30am. Your continued support in this regard is invaluable and much appreciated.

Year 11 & 13 Exams

Year 11 and 13 students have continued to excel this exam season. We are extremely proud of their efforts; they have shown remarkable resilience during every exam and continue to participate with enthusiasm in the school booster lessons programme. We have one final push before the last of their exams, so please encourage your child to continue to attend and support them over this stressful time.

As previously shared, we are very much looking forward to the upcoming events: the Year 11 Leavers' Assembly on Wednesday 18th June, the Year 13 Prom on Friday 27th June and the Year 11 Prom on Friday 4th July.

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 AirPodsfree 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.



Student Exit Procedure – 3:00pm

As shared previously; 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.

School Meals

Following a recent review of our school meal service, we need to introduce a small increase in the cost of the "school meal deal" from £2.45 to £2.65. This is the first price change in four years and it reflects the rising costs associated with delivering the service. This change will come into effect on the 23rd June. We will continue to work closely with our catering team to ensure our school meals represent good value for families and we will aim to ensure that the quality of provision for the children is as good as it can possibly be. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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, the BromCom My Child At School 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, timetable and school calendar dates and important announcements and communication. 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

Blackpool Pleasure Beach / Chester Zoo Trip – Thursday 17th July

It has been amazing to see so many students receive their invites for the Blackpool trip and Chester Zoo trip, as they have met the school's attendance and conduct expectations. I'm sure that they will all have a great time.

Finally, as always, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Mee

Head of School

