



Welcome Message

We would like to welcome you all to the Also Newsletter which we will use to communicate regularly with our parents and carers. There are a number of exciting developments that are happening at Also which we want to share with you.

To start with we would like to take this opportunity to share how delighted we are to welcome our class of 2029 students and we cannot wait to see all of our new Year 7s when they start with us at Also in September. All of our new families will receive formal communication by the end of this week and there is an exciting programme of transition events that will be rolled out headed by Mrs McLean, details will follow in due course.

We are also embarking on our countdown to the Summer Examination series with our Year 11 and Year 13 students entrenched in revision and interventions to ensure they are fully prepared for the upcoming examinations after Easter.

Attendance Matters

Students cannot learn and teachers cannot teach a student if they do not attend school. It is imperative that students attend school. Can all parents/carers look at the advice that has been sent out by Mr Thompson if you are unsure whether your child is well enough to attend school. We would always recommend to send your child to school if they appear slightly under the weather and if they worsen we will contact you regarding this.

Year 11 and 13: The Final Push

We are now in our final intervention push towards the Summer exam series for both Year 11 and Year 13. Students should now be attending interventions sessions after school to practice their revision techniques and fine tune their exam strategies.

In addition, students will be completing exam style questions in all lessons. The expectation being that these will be completed under exam conditions with staff regularly marking student responses and providing personalised feedback.

We have launched our mentoring programme for students who require additional support, motivation, structured support to ensure they are fully prepared for the exams and have strategies at their disposal to cope with the stresses of examinations.

SEN Update

Over in the SEND Department lots of visual changes have been made, splitting our very large room into two meaning that we can deliver small class learning to more and meet the needs across the school. This is still a work in progress but so far the work is looking great!

PDR interventions are taking off with online literacy programme Nessy with a focus for reading, spelling and typing. Positive affirmation starts for those who need more of a soft landing in the mornings. Art therapy and Flipping your Lid for those in year hubs.



Mental Health and Well Being

Here at Alsop, we pride ourselves on our Graduated Approach to supporting our students with their mental health and wellbeing. We apply a whole school approach which encourages staff and students to all discuss and support MHWB in all areas across the school. We have a large number of staff who are fully trained Mental Health First Aiders who, like physical health first aiders, can assess a mental health situation our students may present with in school, deliver immediate support and recommend next steps/support. This support can come in different shapes and sizes and delivered by different professionals within school depending on the need of the student at that time. In order for us to be able to support all of our students, regardless of their need, we apply different levels of support through our Graduated Approach. We have a variety of times throughout the year when all students will be considering and learning about what Mental Health is, how it can be affected and protected as we go through life events. Below is an image of our Graduated Approach. Taking on board what our students told us in student voice last year, we have added an initial layer of support delivered by form tutors over a 2 week period, as they told us that they don't always want 1 to 1 sessions 'that last a long time, sometimes we just want to have a chat.' We have also added Emotional Literacy Support to our provision, in order to help students express their feelings and behaviours and recognise how these impact on their day to day lives.



Key Dates:

- Thursday 28th March – School closes for the Spring/Easter break. School will finish at 1:45pm
- Year 11 and Year 13 Easter Revision programme starts Tuesday 2nd April 2024
- School reopens to all students on Monday 15th April with students expected to be onsite at 8:20 for line ups.
- GCSE/BTEC practical examinations start week beginning Monday 15th April 2024
- GCSE/BTEC/A' Level Summer Exam Series starts Monday 13th May 2024

Grades V Attendance

