# Alderbrook School

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6 January 2023

**Dear Parents and Carers** 

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a restful festive period and I wish you all the very best for the year ahead.

### **External and internal examinations**

The new year brings a number of exam periods for students in Years 11, 12 and 13. Next week, some Year 11 and Year 12 will be sitting external exams in a range of subjects and we wish the students the very best of luck in these. Then, we have Year 11 mock examinations which start on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January and Year 13 mock examinations beginning on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February. Exam timetables can be found on our website, along with revision materials. We strongly urge all students to attend the revision and intervention sessions that teachers are running in school. The timetables for these are also on our website.

#### Parent/carer Events

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents about some important dates for this term:

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January - Year 12 parents' evening (online) Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January - Year 10 parents' evening (online) Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February - Year 8 parents' evening (online) Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March - Year 11 progress evening (in person) Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Year 7 parents' evening (online)

We are also proposing to hold another informal parent/carer drop in, for you to have an opportunity to hear about the latest developments in the school and speak to members of the leadership team. This will be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 2.15pm, to enable you to come prior to the end of the school day. Please pencil in this date and we will send out a Microsoft Form to gauge attendance nearer the time.

#### **Communication Charter**

As we seek to continue to develop our communication channels and processes with parents and carers, we have worked with the Solihull Parent/Carer Voice Forum to develop a Communication Charter. The charter outlines our commitments regarding communication, but most importantly gives a detailed list of who to contact and how to do so, whatever your query may be regarding. We hope you find this document of use, it is available on our website <a href="here">here</a> under 'C' with the title 'ABK Communication Charter'.



## **Extra-curricular opportunities**

There is no time like the start of a new year for students to join a club, try their hand at something new or re-visit an old hobby or interest. At Alderbrook we have an ever-increasing number of extra-curricular clubs and opportunities available, ranging from performing arts, to sport, to interests like manga, warhammer and board games. For the full list of clubs please see the timetable, which is updated regularly, here: <a href="https://www.alderbrookschool.co.uk/extra-curricular/">https://www.alderbrookschool.co.uk/extra-curricular/</a>

#### UKHSA - Back to school advice

As students return to school following the Christmas break, UKHSA is reminding people that winter illnesses continue to circulate at high levels. Flu and Covid 19 are <u>currently circulating at high levels</u> and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks. High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also <u>continue to be reported</u>. UKHSA has issued a press notice here.

#### Uniform reminders

Students have generally returned from the break looking very smart and adhering to our school uniform procedures. Please can we ask for your continued support in ensuring your children come to school with the correct uniform. A few key reminders:

- Hoodies are not to be worn in school and will be confiscated. Students should wear a plain dark coat over their uniform in the cold weather.
- Piercings Only one plain discreet stud per ear lobe is permitted for students with pierced ears and no other body piercings are allowed.
- Sports brand trainer style shoes are not permitted, nor are canvas pumps, trainers or mules. A full explanation of shoes that are permitted is available on our website.

The full list of uniform expectations are available here: https://www.alderbrookschool.co.uk/school-uniform/

Best wishes

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Tom Beveridge Headteacher

