

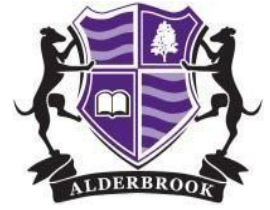
Alderbrook School

Blossomfield Road
Solihull
West Midlands
B91 1SN

Tel: 0121 704 2146

Email: office@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk

Web: www.alderbrookschool.co.uk



31 March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a pleasure to welcome in the lighter mornings and evenings and we are looking forward to warmer weather and more outdoor activities in the months ahead. Another term has gone by very quickly and so much has been achieved. A highlight for me was watching the Spring Concert on Tuesday; the students performing were fantastic.

I hope that you all have a very relaxing and happy Easter break. We hope that all students going to Iceland and Spain over the break with the Geography and MFL departments have an amazing experience. We also wish the best of luck to the students in our Drama department who as part of the National Theatre's Connections programme will be performing a play called 'Strangers like me' at the Royal and Derngate Theatre. This follows months of rehearsals and preparation and two very successful performances in school. It is wonderful to have so many students involved in these events and all of the other wide ranging activities and experiences that are offered to enrich their curriculum and interests.

Uniform

With the Summer Term fast approaching, please can I take this opportunity to ask you to reinforce the standards of uniform that are expected at Alderbrook School. Staff will consistently check uniform at specified points of the school day in the new term, with the primary focus being on the following:

Blazers

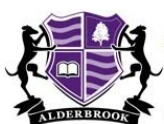
The Alderbrook blazer is an essential part of our school ethos and culture. Simply, blazers must be worn and brought to school every day, regardless of the weather. Those students who arrive at school without their blazer will be provided with one which they will wear for the day. As has always been the case, hoodie style jumpers, should not be worn and will be confiscated. They are certainly not a replacement for the blazer in any circumstance.

Shoes

We do appreciate that shoes can be an expensive item for parents/carers to buy and recognise the speed with which some students grow out of shoes. Equally, it is not appropriate in April for students to wear inappropriate footwear because they usually get new shoes in September. Essentially, students should not wear trainers to school of any colour or design. Only students who have a medical note are permitted to wear trainers in school. This is a message that is reinforced continually by staff. Should students have PE on any particular day, they will only wear trainers for this lesson. Students who wear trainers to school will be directed to change into shoes provided by the school and their trainers will be returned at the end of the day. This will be the case for every student, including those with a note from parents/carers.

Ties

Ties must be worn, again, regardless of the weather. Lost ties should be replaced in the first instance on ParentPay, and collected from the Admin Office in school. Please name school ties clearly.



Alderbrook School
& Sixth Form

AMBITION | BRAVERY | KINDNESS

Staff will be checking students' uniform upon arrival at school each day and then again at beginning of period one. Each student then has the opportunity to ensure the rest of their day can be a positive experience, focused purely on their learning.

Other expectations, including guidelines on make-up, piercings and banned items are available on our website at the link below.

<https://www.alderbrookschoo.co.uk/school-uniform/>

As ever, your continued support is much appreciated by all staff.

Public awareness campaign to promote voter ID

As part of the Council's awareness campaign to promote voter ID, Electoral Services have asked us to flag to you the new requirement for voter ID. Please see the information below:

[VoterIDLI.pdf](#)

[VoterIDArtwork1.png](#)

Twitter account for Clubs

In response to parent feedback, we are delighted to launch a new Twitter account for Alderbrook clubs and enrichment activities. After Easter, this platform will be used by staff to communicate information to parents.

<https://twitter.com/abkclubs>

Examination Season

There are a number of examinations taking place after Easter. On Monday 17th April, Year 10 begin their assessments in each subject and we wish the students the best of luck. Also during the first week back, Year 11 will be sitting their speaking examinations in French and Spanish so good luck to those students involved. May sees the start of the formal examination season for Year 11 and Year 13 and we know how hard the students are working to prepare for these final assessments. It is wonderful to see so many students attending our revision and intervention sessions, and testimony to this is that over 150 Year 11 students will be coming to the masterclasses in school over the Easter holidays. All other year groups will be having assessment fortnights in May or June, starting on the following dates;

Year 7 – 15th May

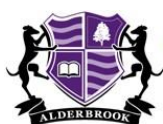
Year 8 – 2nd May

Year 9 - 5th June

Year 12 – 19th June

May bank holidays and potential further industrial action

Please be aware that there are two bank holidays during the next half term with the additional bank holiday for the King's Coronation; the school will be closed on Monday 1 May and Monday 8 May. It is also worth flagging that if the current pay offer is not accepted by unions, there are two further strike days scheduled for Thursday 27 April and Tuesday 2 May. If these days are confirmed, I will write to you with further information.



Emotional Health and Mental Wellbeing Newsletter

Please find attached our latest newsletter which we hope you find helpful and informative.

Best wishes



Tom Beveridge
Headteacher