

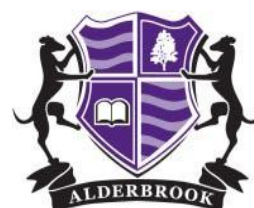
Alderbrook School

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14 February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

New communication system

Following February half term, we will be using a new management information system at Alderbrook. This means that SimsParent will no longer be used and will need to be replaced by My Child at School (MCAS). However, there will be a period of up to two weeks after half term where some data will not be visible, such as attendance data and timetables. This is to allow for configuring and testing which cannot take place until the system is live. Following this period of testing we will be in touch to confirm logins and take you through this new system. A copy of your child's timetable will be sent home with them this week.

We don't anticipate any issues with ParentPay, however, can we suggest that if possible, you add a little extra as soon as possible to ensure the account is topped up for the first week back after February half term. We will continue to use Classcharts which will be unaffected by this system change.

Can we please ask that if you have recently changed your email address that you notify us at 201office@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk and we will update the records before transfer. Lastly can we ask you to add abkbromcom@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk to your safe senders list to ensure you receive emails sent out from the system.

Important reminder – parking on site

We have designated parking bays for our school buses and regrettably we have had several occasions where these have been blocked with cars parking in the front car park. Can I remind all parents and carers that unless you have an allocated pass from school to come onto site, or you have a confirmed appointment to meet with staff during the school day, that **no parking is allowed on the school site during school hours**. Our new visitor car park and access to school is designed to minimise traffic on site and ensure that there are sufficient car parking spaces for confirmed visitors to school. Thank you for your support.

MADE year 11 revision workshops

Thank you to Joe Rowntree at MADE who visited the school this week to run revision sessions for our year 11s. These were very well received with enthusiastic and thought-provoking presentations, followed by a workshop for parents/carers with tips on how to support your child's revision. We had an excellent turnout with nearly 70 parents and carers joining MADE to hear this useful information.

Absence from PE

A reminder that if your child cannot take an active part in PE your child **must bring to their lesson** a signed and dated letter for their PE teacher explaining the reasons, or add a note to their planner. Students still require their PE kit as other roles can be performed in the lesson such as acting as officials, coaches or analysts. Longer term absences (2 weeks or more), for medical reasons for example, will require medical



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confirmation and in the first instance please contact your child's PE teacher and School Nurse, Ms Mistry, through 201office@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk and appropriate steps can be put in place. Thank you for your assistance.

Information for parents/carers from West Midlands Police/Solihull Partnership

- Our Youth Commissioners want to hear from young people aged between 13-18 in the West Midlands about social media and the impact it has on their life.
<https://www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk/youth-commissioners/>
- Please see attachments re Safer Online Day 11/2/25 [here](#)
- Please see attachment with information on phone security [here](#)

Outstanding balances on Parentpay accounts

Please be aware that from Monday 24th February, our canteen will be operating a new system when a ParentPay account is in debt. If a student does not have any money on their account, they will only be allowed to purchase a half baguette or a power bite (e.g. a noodle pot). They will not be able to purchase any other meals, any snacks or drinks whilst the account is in a negative. A water station is available for all students to use.

Family Communication Workshop – Widney Junior School – Thursday 27 February 2025

Please find information [here](#) on this event which parents/carers are welcome to attend.

Calendar reminders for the start of term

Monday 24 February – Life Ready Day – an off curriculum day for all of our year groups – your child will have been told their itinerary for the day and know where to go on this first day back into school
w.c. 24 February - Year 11 mocks for two weeks – please encourage your child to rest and re-charge over February half term, but to also focus on their revision programmes ahead of these mock exams
Wednesday 26 February – Year 7 Parents Evening
Thursday 6 March – Year 13 Intervention Evening (online)
w.c. 10 March - Nettlecombe Court trip for our year 12 Geographers

Wishing all of our students and families a relaxing half term break and we look forward to welcoming all year groups back to school on Monday 24 February.

Best wishes



Tom Beveridge
Headteacher

