



1st April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of yet another busy, challenging and fulfilling term. What has been remarkable is all that we have achieved in spite of disruption and challenges.

21% of students and 31% of staff have had coronavirus this term. Day 5 testing has enabled about a third of people to return on Day 6 or 7, but the majority have still been unwell and/or testing positive for longer. However, we are aware that many schools have experienced more significant transmission and disruption, which we have avoided due to our collective efforts and protective measures.

We have also had ongoing building work on-site with all the remaining single glazed windows being replaced, which has involved scaffolding on “the Tower” and 2 classrooms out of action for much of this half-term. Once the scaffolding is removed during the holidays, this will significantly improve ventilation, insulation and the appearance of the older buildings.

And yet this has been the backdrop to “business as usual”, with students focused and working hard in lessons and contributing to a wide range of enrichment activities. In the last few weeks we have had a very successful visit to practical departments at Sheffield Hallam University and visiting speakers from the Cadets. This week we have taken part in Autism Acceptance Week including silly sock day, fundraising events and a whole school assembly with a neuro-diverse local author. The term has been rounded off with 2 very successful Spring Term concerts last week, and a remarkable 3-night production of The Tempest, our first live production in over 2 years, with both events including over 10% of our students from all year groups. These experiences and opportunities are fundamental in giving students a sense of ownership in our school community, boosting their achievements in all areas, and helping to shape their character. We have enjoyed welcoming parents and family members into school for our concerts and production, and seeing so many Year 7 parents at our Remote Parents Evening recently.

A huge thank you to all of the staff involved in minimizing disruption to learning, particularly our Cover Manager, Mr Sutherland, and our regular cover staff including Mrs Price-Payne, and to all the staff who have stepped in to support when colleagues are unwell or isolating, and all those who have contributed to our Enrichment programme, including a huge thank you to Ms Hebbs, Mr Wedgeworth, Mr Stephan and Geoff Liptrott for leading the concerts and production.

School Website – Curriculum Information:

We have recently reorganised our School Website to include all of our curriculum information together in one place, in the curriculum section on the main menu on the home page. This now includes an area for each subject which gives more detail about our curriculum offer. We would encourage you to have a look at the information provided, and welcome any feedback about any additional information you would find helpful.

<https://aldermanwhite.school/curriculum/subject-information>

Protective Measures Update:

Spring Term coronavirus Cases

Week		1	2	3	4	5	6	Half term	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL	Percentage
Staff		3	1	1	3	3	1	2	1	2	7	2	3	2	31	30.7%
Students	712	3	8	22	24	12	10	7	6	2	13	21	13	12	153	21.5%
Y7	145	0	2	6	11	6	2	1	2	0	3	3	2	4	42	29.0%
Y8	144	0	1	2	0	1	5	2	1	2	0	3	0	1	18	12.5%
Y9	157	3	2	2	3	2	1	2	1	0	5	5	10	1	37	23.6%
Y10	137	0	1	3	2	2	0	2	1	0	2	2	1	5	21	15.3%
Y11	126	0	2	9	8	1	3	0	1	0	2	6	0	1	33	26.2%

We will be updating our protective measures in light of the changes to the government guidance from today and I will write to you with any changes before the start of term. The information we received yesterday from the Department for Education stated that the new guidance will be that:

- *children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.*
- *adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.*
- *adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.*

Our goal will remain to minimise the transmission of coronavirus and all other infectious illnesses and diseases on site, while maximising the opportunities for our staff and students.

Start of Term:

The holidays are always a good opportunity to ensure your child has all of the uniform and equipment that they require ready for the start of term. Please avoid any piercings or hairstyles that may not be allowed:

<https://aldermanwhite.school/parents-and-students/school-uniform>

Over 80% of our students take part in our enrichment programme. We are very proud of this, but would like it to be 100%! Please keep a look out on the enrichment page of our school website for our summer term programme. We really hope everyone can find something they would like to do – if not, we are always open to new ideas for clubs and activities! <https://aldermanwhite.school/curriculum/enrichment>

On Wednesday 20th April we are hosting the first ever rugby match on our new pitch, with our Year 9 team playing West Bridgford. Staff, students and parents are invited to come and support our team to celebrate the development of our rugby facilities. As well as the final preparations for GCSE exams for our Year 11 students, the first half of the Summer Term will see our Year 9 Bronze and Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh cohorts undertaking their training and practice expeditions – this is a massive undertaking involving over 100 students – a huge thank you to our DofE team who work so tirelessly to accommodate and support all of the students who want to take part.

I hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable holiday. We look forward to seeing students back in school on Tuesday 19th April at 8.55am (Year 7/8) and 9am (Year 9-11).

Yours faithfully,



Mrs A Mellors
Headteacher

Key Dates:

Please see the calendar on our website for other dates: <https://aldermanwhite.school/parents/calendar>

Monday 18th April: Bank Holiday

Tuesday 19th April: Start of Term

Wednesday 27th April: PTA Meeting

Monday 2nd May: Bank Holiday

Monday 16th May: Year 11 Exams start

Wednesday 18th May: Year 10 Reports published

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June: Half Term Holiday

Monday 6th June: All students return to school

Wednesday 29th June: Year 7 Reports published