



## The Albion Academy Headteacher Newsflash

*Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020*

### Time is starting to fly already.

We now have all of our pupils back in the building, inductions have been completed on the new ways in which we have to operate, lessons are back in full swing and it has been wonderful to see children learning again after several months away.

#### Attendance Matters – Every day counts

Attendance this week considering that there has been a bit of a spike across Greater Manchester with suspected and confirmed cases of covid19 has been really impressive. It is so important that we maintain our strict rules on pupil bubbles, personal hygiene and monitoring for any symptom of the virus so that we can keep children learning in the building for as long as possible. Every day with your child is a blessing.

As you can see from the chart below, Year 7 have had an excellent week. Other year groups are struggling to attend as regularly at the moment.

Week ending 11.09.2020					
Year	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
7	97.2	98.1	99.4	98.8	98.1
8	94.2	93.7	94.9	94.1	92.8
9			98.6	92.2	91.4
10		91.4	88.4	93.7	92.8
11	94.3	90.5	93.2	93.8	87.9
Whole school	94.9	93.7	95.1	94.6	92.8

## Standards and expectations

Last week I spoke about maintaining high standards, being consistent and needing parental support when tackling things that do not meet our expectation. Of course, children are going to make mistakes that is normal. But that being said, each Year group has had a very clear assembly from me about being polite. We cannot tolerate any form of behaviour that will disrupt the learning of others, that is not fair nor is walking away from adults as it may compromise our bubbles.

Unfortunately, a very tiny percentage of children have found out the hard way that when I or my staff ask something and it is completely ignored, or blatantly disregarded there are consequences that will happen, and these will not change even if there is a tantrum.

We understand that being out of school for a period of time and returning will be strange at first, but we are back now, and we have no time to lose. Simply put every minute in lesson is precious

## Year 11 Period 6

From Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September your Year 11 child will receive their Period 6 session timetable. Last year we found that this additional learning time with a familiar adult allowed the pupils to reinforce their learning from across the week and gain new, deeper knowledge.

The more time we can have with your child the better. The sessions are specifically designed to help support all the pupils and give them opportunities for extended learning that they just would not get if they did not have the structured environment that we can provide.

The summer exam season will soon be upon us so now is the absolute right time to put everything in place that we can to make sure your child achieves their personal best.

## Social Media

Unfortunately some schools both in the local area and across the country have had to send pupils home for 14 days due to confirmed cases of coronavirus in their bubbles. It was always going to happen and is highly likely to continue happening for some time.

As of writing this Newsflash we have yet to have a confirmed case but let's be totally honest and realistic it is just a matter of time before we also have to deal with the impact that the virus is bringing to our community. When we do get the call, we feel that we are ready to deal with it via our Remote Learning Plan, your child this week has been through how to log onto our online learning platform and should we have to ask you to isolate your child at home we can swiftly move to blended learning.

Obviously we are shown messages that might fly about Facebook, if we had a confirmed case of covid then we would have to inform all those affected. Public Health England would contact me, I would discuss with them the details of the case identifying year group, classes that could be impacted and then they would inform me from a public health aspect what course of action to take.

I really do need all parents to know that we are very much guided and directed by experts. If there was an outbreak, we have to follow the guidance set out but as of this morning we have been fortunate enough to be able to keep all of our children learning in the building.

So lets all remember... Hands, face, space.

## Safeguarding

The UK Safer Internet Centre has some great resources available for parents to understand what your child might be doing whilst they are online.

Apps like TikTok, Instagram, Facebook and Twitter all come with an inherent risk – Who is my child talking to?

Do you know all the people that send DM's (direct messages) to your child? Do you know all the people your child is friends with? If you do not, why not? Maybe this weekend is an ideal time to look at the phone you probably bought and go through what they do with the phones data that you probably pay for.

This link will take you to UK Safer Internet Centre's '[Helping young people get back to school ready](https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/helping-young-people-get-back-school-ready-bbc-own-it)' page <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/helping-young-people-get-back-school-ready-bbc-own-it> . The Team at BBC Own it have created a range of content to help young people return to learning, this includes videos from celebrities as well as an app to provide on the go help and guidance to your child's device. In this blog we take a closer look at some of the content on Own It, and the ways you can use the app with your children.

## Next week – 14<sup>th</sup> September

Next week is WEEK A



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