



The Albion Academy Headteacher Newsflash

Friday 18th September 2020

Being covid aware.

On the way into work this morning the news was all about the possible stricter restrictions that could be coming our way in the North West. There was also a story about the Test and Trace system not anticipating that there would be a rise in the need for test kits when children started to return to school.

To me it would be quite obvious that as we return to how things were, we would need to prepare as best we can because the virus has not disappeared, it is very much floating about the country and across the world. It is likely to be with us for some considerable time as well.

I would like to thank our parents and carers for working with us sending your child to school with a face covering, providing them with hand sanitizer gel as a back up, although we have loads of the stuff at the moment.

I want to prepare us all for something that might happen, so that it is not a shock and so that you can understand why Headteachers sometimes have to make difficult and unpopular decisions. My son's school has had to send home two different year groups, his is not affected at the moment but I expect it will be at some point. Sarah, Liam's mum, can work from home meaning I can continue to come to work if Liam had to not attend. However not all of our staff can do this and have to share the childcare, its this childcare issue which at the moment for lots of school is causing us a real dilemma and sometimes difficulty in putting an adult in front of children.

At some point it is likely to get to the stage where schools will have to have a group or groups at home remote learning whilst others attend because the actual number of staff able to physically be on site is limited. It is so frustrating. We are not at that point yet, but we could be if there was a sudden surge in cases that meant a lot of staff had to be at home.

These are the challenges that all schools are facing right now but we are doing our best for your children and for you.

Attendance Matters – Every day counts

Again, a strange week really considering that around us some other local schools are struggling. We are in the main getting reasonable numbers of children through the door each day but it will be a bit

of a rollercoaster ride this year. It is clear that the combination of the covid situation as well as the seasonal bout of colds and flu that begin to appear towards the end of September will have a negative effect on attendance in each year group.

I'd like to thank all those parents and carers who are continuing to support us both in sending pupils to school but also those of you who have actively sought our advice when your child has the sniffles. It is very much about us working together using our common sense and looking after each other.

At some point the impact of covid will come to an end.

Week ending 18.09.2020					
Year	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
7	96.2	96.8	98.7	97.8	97.5
8	89.6	90.6	89.6	89.5	86.2
9	89.3	88.2	90.6	88.7	87.5
10	91.9	90.2	90.6	85.6	88.7
11	92.5	93.2	92	93.2	91.2
Whole school	91.9	91.9	92.4	91.1	90.4

Open Evening

This year we cannot operate an Open Evening in the same fashion as we would normally do, the Rule of 6 makes it a real challenge in that respect as we would want to showcase our building and curriculum areas.

So instead we are in the process of producing a short film to capture what we do including what some of our pupils want to say about their school.

We are due to go live with an Open Evening Town Hall on Thursday 8th October but I will confirm all the details nearer the time.

Year 11 Period 6

What amazing attendance, commitment and participation from a wonderful group of young people. Science was on Monday, Maths was on Tuesday and then we finished off with English on Wednesday I don't think attendance dropped below 97% on any day totally blowing away what the Year 11's last year achieved.

These sessions focus on lots of the skills needed to get those higher marks and higher grades, there is opportunity to revisit topic areas as well as develop mastery appreciation of concepts

We really are so proud of the great start your children are making.

Homework Timetable – September 2020

Subjects will set homework on the proposed dates and give student a reasonable time to complete homework. There are a number of subjects that are using online platforms to set homework such as Hegarty maths, Seneca or GCSE Pod.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7	Science	Technology Performing Arts	English	MFL Hums	Maths
Year 8	Science	Technology Performing Arts	English	MFL Hums	Maths
Year 9	Science	Technology Performing Arts	English	MFL Hums	Maths
Year 10	Science	Technology Performing Arts	English	MFL Hums	Maths
Year 11	Science	Technology Performing Arts	English	MFL Hums	Maths

Year 11 Summer examinations

Year 11, there are only 27 school weeks left, just 135 days in school, until your first GCSE exam. Remember the route to GCSE success is a marathon and not a sprint.

Your GCSE grades will depend on your hard work and commitment throughout the year and not last minute revision the week or night before an exam.

By now you should all have an idea what you may want to do when you leave The Albion at the end of this academic year. It is important, however, that you get as much information as you can about the different colleges you can apply to and the courses and qualifications on offer.

Try and get along to as many 'Virtual' Open Days or Events as you can over this term so that you are really well informed and can make the right choices for your future.

Safeguarding

If you are worried about a child or have concerns about something that does not seem right contacting the NSPCC can be the first step to helping resolve a difficult situation.

The website is <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/> and they can be contacted on via email help@nspcc.org.uk or telephone 0808 800 5000

They also have some fantastic resources and information about the online world <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> where it deals with real life issues of sexting and sending nudes, simply talking to your child about the internet and apps as well as more challenging topics such as inappropriate or explicit content.

Next week – 21st September

Next week is WEEK B

Important dates

The Academy will close for the Half Term Holiday on Friday 23rd October. We reopen again on Monday 2nd November

INSET day Friday 28th November

Last day of Autumn term is Thursday 17th December 2020. Pupils return to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021



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