



## The Albion Academy Headteacher Newsflash

*Friday 9th October 2020*

### Covid, staying safe and technical issues

Today marks the end of Week 6 and we are heading towards the final two weeks prior to our October half term. In last weeks' Newsflash I reminded parents about the importance of face masks in the fight against the spread of coronavirus. Indeed, who could have predicted just how significant that message seems to have been when looking back over this week.

Like so many schools across Salford and Manchester we unfortunately have had a couple of covid cases. Just to let you all know when we are notified of positive case, we along with Public Health England track close contacts, if they are pupils, we notify parents as soon as we can and then we notify our school community via the 'warn and inform' letter. This is the same protocol that all schools use, I appreciate that for some parents it may be an anxious time, but I really want you all to know that we take the maintaining a safe environment with the utmost seriousness hence the regular information via this Newsflash and the regular social media updates.

So, with regards to staying safe I must ask parents and carers to please ensure that your child has a reusable face covering. Simple things such as face coverings is helping limit the transmission of the virus, alongside increased hand hygiene and social distancing measures used together to decrease the opportunity for spreading the virus within the school but also just as importantly throughout the community.

Finally, if you logged into our Virtual Open Evening on Thursday night thank you. Despite preparation and planning there was a technical sound issue via the TEAMS presentation. However, the virtual tour and pupil interviews can still be found on our YouTube channel which you can find [here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-X8K7Ubm9OY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-X8K7Ubm9OY) . We sincerely hope you enjoy the film and for those of you reading this with children in Year 6 making your secondary school choice for September 2021 we would be humbly proud to have you as part of The Albion family.

Clicking on this [link https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-admissions/secondary/](https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-admissions/secondary/) will take you to the Salford Local Authority web page to make your school choice.

## Attendance Matters – Every day counts

Being in school as much as possible is the very best place for children yet we all know that in the current climate this is proving to be very challenging.

However, together we are continuing to flip the narrative. What I mean by that is that nationally whole school attendance is still around the mid 80's in terms of percentage, yet we are seeing reasonably high attendance when comparing ourselves to this national figure. Our current year to date figure, that is from when we opened in September to today places us at 92.3% to compare this with same point last year the school had a year to date figure in 2019 of 91.2%. Somewhat strangely we are a whole percent better despite all the issues that coronavirus is throwing our way.

Week ending 09.10.2020					
Year	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
7	93	95	94	95	95
8	93	94	93	91	88
9	91	92	89	85	81
10	89	88	89	90	84
11	88	91	90	91	87
Whole school	91	92	91	91	88

## Around the subject areas

¡Hola, amigos! Today we are visiting Year 9 who have been working on their translation and grammar skills. Over the week pupils have been improving their Spanish language skills and, in the process, whilst also picking up the technical knowledge required when applying feminine and masculine words within the appropriate context. We are

incredibly proud of what our fantastic linguists have been doing all this week that we felt we had to share how committed they had been in completing such challenging work.



## Standards and expectations

Everyone that reads the weekly Newsflash will now be aware that at The Albion we have incredibly high expectations of our pupils. Every child's learning in the building should be disruption free, we expect children to be polite, honest and work hard. After all the pay off at the end of 5 years hard work is the ability to decide what you want to do in the next stage of your life whether you choose

college, employment or training that will ideally lead to a place at a top University or a fulfilling career.

However, to be successful it takes hard work, grit and determination. We will not allow the very small number of pupils that wish to be disruptive to ruin the education of others. I have this week, unfortunately, been forced to exclude some pupils for using inappropriate language or refusing to adhere to the guidelines around being in 'bubbles'.

Finally, On the few occasions when pupils are kept behind due to poor choices the vast majority of parents back us, to those parents I want to say thank you. You are making our school and educating our children better. However yesterday evening one parent thought it appropriate to arrive at school and become rude, foul mouthed and aggressive. This is not acceptable and last night that parent was banned from the site, if they return it will simply be a police matter.

## Year 11 – From Mr Wild

We are really impressed with all of you, the level of commitment you are showing to your education is exemplary. Attendance for Period 6 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday was well over 97% yet again, for the 4<sup>th</sup> week straight! Remember that you have done an hours 'homework' or revision at school with us so ideally when you get home on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday adding another 40/45 minutes in another subject would help you even more and support those techniques you have in the [5 habits booklet](#).

## GCSE examinations and November mocks

Year 11, there are only 20 school weeks left, just 120 days in school, until your first GCSE exam, where is the time going? It is just flying by. So as a reminder your November mocks are scheduled to begin on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Again, remember that we have provided you with a handy revision guide '[5 Habits of an Effective Learner](#)' to help you to structure your revision time away from the building.

## Virtual Open Days

All college open days this year will be delivered virtually. It is important that Year 11 students' book onto these events in order to make an informed choice about their Post 16 options. During this week's "Careers Flash", all students received a letter which states the dates and times of the upcoming events.

This week's virtual open days are listed below:

**Saturday 10th October - Loreto College and Xaverian College virtual Open Days.**

**Monday 12th October - Manchester College Open Days.**

## SMUG AWARD WINNERS

**The awards this week go to...**

11A - Madiha Khan, 11L - Daphne Bokota, 11B - Lilner Neto, 11I - Daniel Migula and 11O -Davinder Singh

## Safeguarding

Last week we introduced to you the national online safety resource, a kind of one stop shop if you like for all the information and parent guides you might need for those things that maybe you feel you should know about, but maybe you're a little too embarrassed to admit that really you have no idea of the difference between what a Snap is or an Insta.

To go straight to the webpage all you need to do is click on this link <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/> and it will lead you to a world of answers. However, it does come with a health warning; a lot of what our children are able to access is quite unsavoury. Smart phones, social media has opened Pandora's box to all things in the world and every person in the world who uses the vast array of social media, 'fun' apps and online games.

For schools we seem to spend a disproportionate time dealing with issues via social media, online gaming and fall outs via WhatsApp.

This weekend take a look at your child's phone, you bought it for them, you probably pay the monthly bill and data charges. No doubt you pay the broadband that they use as well? If all of that is the case its your phone and you have every right to know what your child is doing, who they are chatting with,

This week we have 10 tips for online content which covers; age ratings, privacy settings, viewing habits and more. See the very end.

Remember, you are the parent and you are in charge. Once your child is online, using social media sites or apps they are open to the entire world, if left unchecked, it is an open door for weirdos, keyboard warriors and the entire nastiness of the web.

## Next week – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October

Next week is **WEEK A**

## Important dates

The Academy will close for the Half Term Holiday on **Friday 23rd October**. We re-open again on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

INSET day Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November (in last week's Newsflash we wrongly published 28<sup>th</sup> November)

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

## Social media



Remember you can follow us on Twitter @albionacademy or on [YouTube](#) 'TheAlbionAcademySalford'

# ONLINE CONTENT

## 10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



### 1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



### 2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



### 3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



### 4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



### 5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



### 6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



### 7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



### 8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



### 9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.

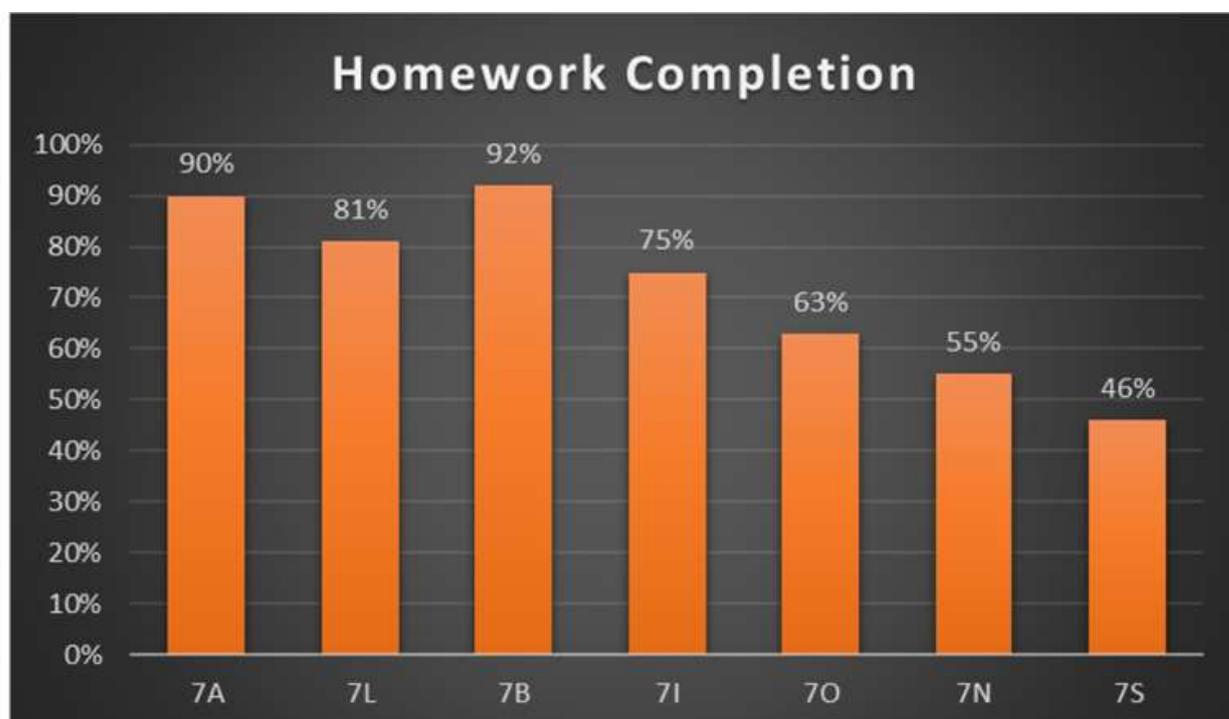


### 10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.



## Maths Sparx Superstars



# *Sparx Superstars*

**Grace Seaman**

**1620 XP**

**Jaheim Todd**

**1365 XP**

**Da-Mari Drew**

**1356 XP**