

ALT BRIDGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

April 2021

School Values

Care

Courtesy

Resilience

Determination

Our school community has faced some interesting and challenging times over the past year and we continue to manage the effects of a global pandemic. Whilst we have many significant challenges behind us, we have a great deal of planning to do to in preparation for the summer term and September 2021!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents/carers, staff, students and community partners who have all played a part in keeping each other as safe as possible in school during the pandemic.

I would also wish to send our condolences to anyone who has lost a family member, friend or colleague due to COVID-19.

During the summer term, we must continue with the restrictions in place and remain within pods. It is also important that we continue to follow the rules that are in place to keep everyone safe, even though national restrictions are beginning to be lifted.

Mrs Menagh – Head teacher

COVID-19

All adult members of our school community have been offered the COVID-19 vaccine and many have accessed two doses of the vaccine.

It is important that staff, parents/carers and students who are able, continue to engage with COVID-19 testing at home using the home test kits. Test kits were recently distributed once again. Please let the office know if you need any more.

Equalities Objectives



LGBTQ Equality

Our LGBTQ working party has convened several times this year. This group meets to discuss how the school can continue to meet our Equalities Objectives. We are working to ensure that Alt Bridge is a safe and secure learning environment, within which all members of our community feel valued.



Celebrating Neurodiversity

Our Neurodiversity Celebration week in March was another great success. Students listened to talks by young neurodiverse adults and also watched a video in which members of the school community spoke about their neurodiverse conditions.

Race Equality

Our race equality working party have convened several times this year to review our school policies and plan actions. Our group has been working with the Anthony Walker Foundation who delivered a whole school assembly recently. We are also working with the Liverpool Museum to support the Black Lives Matter agenda.



Safeguarding

Our school safeguarding team includes Mrs Menagh, Mr Farrimond, Miss Richards, Miss Pritchard, Miss Townson and Mrs Rodgers. All of these members of staff are trained safeguarding officers. Mrs Menagh is the Designated Safeguarding Leader for the school.

The **CELLS project** is working with many students and year groups in school, offering continued education and resilience building to ensure that our students are resistant to child criminal and sexual exploitation. A referral for this service for 1:1 intervention can be made through the wellbeing hub.

The DfE have launched a nationwide review into sexual abuse in education. The NSPCC has set up a helpline to report this concern which is 0800 136 663. In response to this review, we have reviewed our Sex and Relationships Curriculum, safeguarding policies and practice and also continued our engagement with **The Brook Clinic** who work with Alt Bridge to offer individual student intervention, whole year group workshops and staff training.

Year 11

Year 11 have been accessing a significant amount of additional intervention this year to prepare them for their examinations. We are extremely proud of them and the work they have put in during this time.

The final official day in school for year 11 will be Friday 25th June and we are in the process of planning some very exciting and fun activities for their final week with us. We will not be saying goodbye completely however, as we will be providing a range of transition activities for the students coming to our post-16 provision in July. We also will be supporting our other students to prepare for their other settings during July.

Further information regarding the timetable of events and transition activities will follow in due course for year 11.

Forest school

The work being undertaken in Forest School has been exceptional this year and the environment continues to develop. Students from across more year groups are now accessing forest school activities which have been well received. Our students from post-16 engaged in a competition to create a sign for Forest school.

Careers Highlight of the Week

This week Eilidh from First Class Signs and Engrave presented the school with a sign produced from the winning entry from the Forest School Sign Competition as part of Meet the Employee sessions. George Owen from Post 16 created the winning design.



Please keep a look out for the sign on your way into Forest School.

Year 7 swimming

The staff at Alt Bridge were delighted to take our first classes in year 7 swimming this week. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and began learning some essential skills.

Meeting Speech, Language and Communication Needs

Alt Bridge School has been working with an independent Speech and Language Therapist, Educational Psychologist, our local authority school improvement partner, Knowsley Parent Carers Voice, our parents/carers, students and staff to review our in-house speech, language and communications provisions. The review is ongoing currently. If any parents would like to be involved, please contact the office to let us know.