

AYLESTONE SCHOOL

In federated partnership with Broadlands Primary School and Withington C.P. School Broadlands House, Broadlands Lane, Hereford HR1 1HY

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9th September 2021.

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been lovely to welcome the children back at the start of the year, especially our new students in Year 7 who seem to be settling in very well. We have been oversubscribed for our September 2021 intake which is testament to the quality of education and experience the children receive at Aylestone.

The start of term has gone smoothly and we're looking forward to another fantastic year. The children have come back with a positive attitude and continue to generate a warm and friendly atmosphere around the site.

Whilst there were no external examinations this year we are very pleased with the GCSE results our Y11 leavers achieved. Aylestone continues to hold high standards, everyone has worked extremely hard and I'm delighted that there are so many students who have really done themselves proud. We wish them all well as they progress into the next stage of their education. I would like to thank our students' families for all their support and in particular my staff who continuously go above and beyond and really care about every aspect of school life.

The partnership between home and school is an extremely important one and one which we value highly. We believe that if parents and school work together in the best interest of the children then the outcomes will be great. We look forward to continuing that relationship with our existing students and parents and building new partnerships with our new intake.

We encourage children to become more actively involved in their learning, especially outside of school. We want our students to be independent and proactive in what they do to allow them every chance to succeed. A significant expectation of students is to complete work at home in addition to homework set by the teacher, filling in gaps in their knowledge and working on things that they find difficult. I ask for your help in regularly talking with your son/daughter and ensuring that they are doing things to address any difficulties they may be having. This could include: re-reading their exercise books and making revision notes, working through some quizzes on the computer, using websites to help understand or going and speaking with their subject teacher. The benefits of such active learning, with students taking responsibility can be seen in the English and Maths results gained by last year's Year 11. With a strong partnership between school, student and parent, focussed on learning I'm sure these results can be emulated and surpassed.

Parking on Broadlands Lane and Watermeadow Close

With the volume of traffic along Broadlands Lane it is important we manage it in a safe and sensible way. Children leaving both sites can find themselves in dangerous situations due to inconsiderate parking and the high volume of traffic on the road.

We have also been made aware of people parking in Watermeadow Close. Can I remind parents that this is parking for <u>residents only</u>. This measure was put in place many years ago due to their nearly being an accident involving a child.

I understand that parking remains a challenge, but ask for your support in ensuring the safety of our children when collecting or dropping off. To help this situation we ask staff to park in our bottom car park, leaving as many



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spaces as possible available in the top car park for parents picking up their children from either school. Can I therefore continue to ask for your support by:

- Encouraging children to walk or cycle to school. Guidance on safer travel can found here: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers
- If you are dropping or picking your child up from school then please do not congregate outside the school surroundings
- Students who are old enough and have undertaken cycling proficiency training cycle to school wearing a helmet
- Where possible, parents of older children who need to use a car, <u>park away from Broadlands Lane</u> and the child walk to meet them
- Y8 & Y9 exit via the back of the school, please arrange to pick your child up near that exit rather than Broadlands Lane
- You can park in <u>designated spaces</u> in our <u>top visitor car park</u>, therefore reducing the number of vehicles on Broadlands Lane. This will be particularly useful for parents of very young children who may need to take buggies out of the car
- Park <u>sensibly</u> on Broadlands Lane, ensuring a minimum space between cars. <u>Please be mindful of our</u> neighbours if you do use a car and park with your engines off
- <u>Avoid parking on both sides of the road/roundabout</u> as this creates a problem for cars and buses to get through
- <u>Do not double park anywhere on the road near our schools</u>, especially Broadlands Lane or Aylestone Hill
- Older students walk to school where possible to help reduce the volume of traffic
- All foot traffic to stick to pathways, and not walk on the road unless having to cross, and in this event observe the green cross code and crossing carefully in a sensible place
- Do not park in Watermeadow Close as this is parking for residents only

Thank you for your help and support, I look forward to seeing you through the year ahead,

Best Wishes,

Simon Robertson,

Executive Headteacher