**May 2021**

**Information about the school**

Welcome to Alder Community High School. We are a community and we want all students to thrive in a happy, safe, supportive, yet challenging learning environment. Central to our positive ethos are core values of tolerance, respect for others and a clear understanding of rights and responsibilities in equal measure, along with hard work and high expectations.

We are in relentless pursuit of excellence, and in doing so, achieve high academic success whilst building resilience and fostering a love of learning, so that all students fulfil their potential. Our students will receive the highest quality of teaching and we will invest in our staff to realise the vision.  Our staff and their wellbeing are important and without them, our students could not flourish.

Students are at the centre of everything we do and increasing their life chances is our primary goal. We want our students to leave Alder as well-rounded human beings, work/college ready and able to take their place in society to contribute, enjoy life and be able to improve their own lives and the lives of others.

We are a popular, oversubscribed school with around 870 students on roll, mainly white British with around 15% from minority ethnic groups. In 2018 we increased numbers from 155 to 180 in year 7 and this is continuing until we are full with approximately 930 students in 2022.

The proportion of students eligible for the Pupil Premium is around the national average having been above the national average in previous years. The proportion of students who require SEN support is around the national average. The proportion of students supported by an EHCP is above the national average. Our intake is broadly average compared with national KS2 data. In 2019, 76% of students achieved grade 4 or above in both English and maths. To see how we compare with other schools please see the Government performance tables at <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/134283>. In November 2017 Ofsted judged us as continuing to be a ‘Good’ school.

We have a truly comprehensive intake ranging from students who need significant additional support, right up to students who have gone on to Cambridge and Oxford universities.

We are committed to improving our school and staff at Alder have many opportunities to improve as teachers and leaders through a personalised CPD programme. We work collaboratively with a variety of schools within the Greater Manchester area and have active subject networks working together to drive up standards across Tameside.

The many people who have visited us have found a happy and purposeful school community and we have had lots of very pleasing feedback. We are a caring school and exclusions are relatively low. We have a comprehensive support package in place for needy youngsters and in 2010 were awarded the ‘Every Child Matters’ national standard. Our attendance rates have improved steadily to just over 96% and our Persistent Absentee (PA) rate is below the national average.

The school holds the AcSEED Award for wellbeing, the Quality in Careers Standard (which superseded the gold IAG award) and is a Physics hub for The Ogden Trust and The Institute of Physics.

**The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children**

**and expects all staff to share this commitment.**