

ALDERCAR HIGH SCHOOL



 **School Ready - Life Ready** 





Welcome to Aldercar High School and Post-16 Centre

HEAD TEACHER'S WELCOME

The staff, governors and students of Aldercar High School and Post-16 Centre extend a warm welcome to you. We are a rapidly improving school having seen recent advances in the academic achievements of our pupils and being confirmed as 'Good' by Ofsted in their latest visit.

We challenge our students to have high expectations of themselves throughout their school life. Good attendance and punctuality, as well as working hard and to the best of their ability, are key to their academic success. Being respectful, courteous and disciplined allows our students to develop into responsible members of both our school and their local community.

Aldercar High School is a happy and harmonious school where students are cared for well. They feel safe and their teachers nurture their talents. Staff have strong relationships with parents so that students can be effectively supported to achieve their very best.

We aim for all of our students to leave Aldercar High School with the qualifications that reflect their very best ability as well as have the social confidence to make a real impact on their world whatever their talents.

I hope that this prospectus provides you with an insight into the life of students at Aldercar High School and that you have all the information that you need to make the right choice of school.

Mrs Clare Hatto
Head Teacher



"The headteacher and the leadership team ensure that pupils are safe, behave well and make good progress."



School Ethos

The economic, cultural and social landscape of our area is constantly changing. As a result, we aim to help our students to develop into responsible citizens who are ready to adapt to this environment. Throughout their schooling, we support our students to develop their skills so that they can take the opportunities presented to them in order to succeed.

At Aldercar High School, we aim to make sure that all students are both ‘school ready’ and ‘life ready’ by allowing them access to core knowledge and skills that will challenge and inspire. Our ambition is to equip all pupils to become independent adults who demonstrate positive moral attributes, preparing them for a fulfilling life that includes further education, university or employment.

School Ready: we expect all pupils to have high expectations, to aspire, be prepared to participate, be equipped and follow instructions.

Life Ready: we expect all pupils to be responsible, to contribute to the community, actively engage in school life and challenge themselves to become dynamic global citizens.

Our student and parent charters outline our expectations in order to maintain our high standards of education at Aldercar High School and ensure the success of every child. These form the basis of the Home-School Agreement that all stakeholders agree to.

Student Charter

School Ready - Life Ready	Attend school every day and on time. Arrive prepared and equipped for all lessons and in the correct uniform.
	Participate with all aspects of school life and behave in a respectful manner to all staff and students. Take part in extra curricular clubs, activities and educational school trips.
	Have high expectations of themselves and others, push themselves continually to improve in all aspects of school life. Demonstrate resilience by working hard to overcome barriers in school work and in life.
	Actively engage with all aspects of learning. Challenge themselves, never give up and ask for help if needed.
	Take full responsibility for all actions, behaviour and language. Champion all members of the classroom community and respect the school environment.

Parent Charter

School Ready - Life Ready	Ensure your child attends school on time every day. They wear the correct uniform, are equipped and understand the school's expectations.
	Participate in parents' evenings and school events, both face to face and virtual. Demonstrate respect and support for staff.
	Have consistently high expectations of your child and challenge them to be the best version of themselves.
	Actively engage with all aspects of your child's learning, especially reading, revision and homework. Work collaboratively with the school to celebrate praise and support sanctions.
	Communicate any change of personal details with school. Promote your child's healthy lifestyle including diet, sleep and a responsible use of social media.



Curriculum

At Aldercar High School, our curriculum reflects an understanding of our community and provides a broad and balanced range of subjects. These allow our students to succeed in and enjoy their studies. Our curriculum meets the needs of a truly comprehensive intake. It allows our students to study the courses of highly academic Oxbridge students whilst supporting others with life and learning skills.

At Key Stage 3, students follow the national curriculum. Students will study:

- Art
- Design and Technology
- English
- Geography
- History
- ICT
- Mathematics
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Physical Education
- Moral and Ethics
- Science
- Spanish

Towards the end of Key Stage 3, we work closely with both our students and their parents when guiding them through their options for study at Key Stage 4 and beyond.



"At key stage 3, the broad and balanced curriculum provides pupils with the opportunity to build core knowledge and deepen their understanding throughout the first three years in the school."



At Key Stage 4, there is a core of compulsory subjects, which all students continue to study:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Physical Education (non-examined)
- Moral and Ethics
- Triple Science

Students then have the opportunity to select three subjects from the following options:

- Art (BTEC)
- Catering (GCSE)
- Computer Science (BTEC)
- Engineering (BTEC)
- Product Design (BTEC)
- Health and Social Care (BTEC)
- Music (BTEC)
- Performing Arts (BTEC)
- Physical Education (BTEC)
- Geography (GCSE)
- Spanish (GCSE)
- History (GCSE)

We endeavour to ensure the majority of students are eligible for the EBacc.

All students at Aldercar High School study the following subjects in lessons, tutor time, assemblies and through cross-curricular links.

- Citizenship
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)
- Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education (SMSC)



"Teachers have good subject knowledge which they use to provide a solid foundation for learning."



Student leadership team

Aldercar High School

SPORTS HALL



Every Child Matters

We pride ourselves on knowing each student as an individual.

We have strong links with our partner primary schools so that we can ensure that the transition to Aldercar High School is as smooth and stress-free as possible for both our students and their parents.

Every student has the support of a dedicated Form Tutor and Pastoral Manager who reinforce Aldercar High School's commitment to excellence. At the same time, we support our students to develop both personally and socially.

Each year group has a unique programme of study tailored to their particular needs and stage of learning. This encourages our students to become more independent and enlightened individuals. Students experience high quality teaching and learning, including opportunities to work closely with our community partners.

At Aldercar High School, we seek to enhance the knowledge of our students and to improve their personal skills in a variety of areas in order to best prepare them for life in the 21st century. These areas include health, careers, sex and relationships, study skills and enterprise.



"The enhanced resource facility for pupils with hearing impairment provides opportunities for these pupils to be fully integrated into all aspects of the school."



When students join the school in Year 7, they are placed into a tutor group with other Year 7 students. They have two dedicated form tutors who fully support them in their transition from primary to secondary school. Form tutors are the most important member of staff in school for your child. They will oversee all of their students' academic and pastoral needs in school and will endeavour to provide the support that your child may need. In Year 11, students move to form tutors from within the English and Maths faculties who support them in the run up to the summer exams at the end of Year 11.

We believe that our tutoring system:

- eases transition between key stages i.e. Years 6 into 7 and 11 into 12;
- allows pupils to share experiences with children of their own age as well as creating a sense of belonging to a house system;
- allows focussed and differentiated specific year based work to take place i.e. options talk for Year 9 and CV writing for Year 11;
- enables tutors in to watch their tutor group grow and flourish;
- contributes to the whole school literacy strategy.

We have invested in an extended team of non-teaching staff that assist form tutors and in their role of supporting our students. These include:

- Year 7 Pastoral Manager
- Year 8 Pastoral Manager
- Year 9 Pastoral Manager
- Year 10 Pastoral Manager
- Year 11 Pastoral Manager
- Family Support Worker
- Attendance Officer
- Attendance Manager





Working in Partnership

We believe that the welfare and success of students at Aldercar High School relies on a strong partnership between our students, their teachers and their parents.

As a school, we aim to:

- provide personalised access for parents to our Parent App which allows parents to keep informed electronically of the school life of a student;
- provide all students with a homework diary where students record tasks to be completed outside of class;
- assess student progress against their subject targets and report this home to parents;
- invite parents to an annual Tutor Review as well as an annual subject parents' evening to discuss the progress of students in their subjects;
- keep in contact with parents through letters and text messages home as well as via a termly newsletter

As parents, you will take an active interest in the progress of your child by:

- ensuring regular attendance and good punctuality of your child;
- monitoring the completion of homework by your child by checking their homework diary;
- contacting the school if there are any concerns;
- attending parent's evenings and tutor review appointments;
- accessing the Parent App to:
 - track the attendance, punctuality, and behaviour of your child;
 - keep up to date with the progress, timetable, calendar and notices specific to your child;
 - edit personal details as well as inform the school of any absences for your child





Accommodation for Learning

Our school has benefitted from a two-phase rebuild which was completed in 2018.

Students and staff now enjoy learning and working in first class teaching facilities for Science, Art, Information Technology and Food Technology along with a library and an Enhanced Resourced Facility to meet the needs of hearing impaired and physically impaired students. In addition, there are general teaching areas as well as the main hall, dining facilities and office accommodation.

All of these premium facilities enable us to deliver high quality teaching and learning that both inspire and enthuse our students.

We have excellent sports facilities including a full size, state-of-the-art sports hall, a floodlit all-weather pitch, tennis courts, a fitness suite and grass pitches. These excellent facilities allow a wide variety of individual and team sports at all levels, whilst developing skills such as resilience and co-operation which are important in creating a purposeful life.

In addition, the school is set in attractive grounds with plentiful car parking, which contribute to a welcoming physical environment.



"Pupils receive high-quality careers advice and guidance. Pupils take part in the wide range of activities available to them. This ensures that they are ready for the next stage of their learning."

Uniform

Achieving high standards is important in everything that our students do and uniform standards are no exception. At Aldercar High School our students take great pride in their appearance. As a result, our students look smart and dignified.

Uniform at Aldercar High School:

- an official black school blazer with school badge
- a clip on tie in the relevant house colour (Gregg: green; Howitt: yellow; Ormonde: red; Shipley: blue)
- official black trousers or black skirt with school badge
- plain white shirt with buttoned collar
- plain black footwear
- one plain small stud or sleeper earring per ear may be worn – no other jewellery may be worn
- Make-up, nail varnish and nail extensions are not allowed
- hairstyles must be neat and tidy. Extreme hairstyles or accessories are not permitted
- a plain grey V-neck jumper (optional)

PE uniform at Aldercar High School:

- Aldercar High School embroidered unisex polo shirt
- Aldercar High School panelled sports shorts / Aldercar High School panelled skirt
- Black sports leggings
- Sports socks
- Trainers

Optional items

- Aldercar High School 1/4 zip sweater
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms

The Aldercar School uniform is available direct from our supplier:

Just Schoolwear

289 Main Street, Bulwell, Nottingham, NG6 8ED

0115 9621128



Admissions Policy

Students are admitted to Aldercar High School at the age of 11 years without reference to ability or aptitude. The number of places available for September 2023 will be 120. The school will consider all applications. Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the criteria for admission as laid down in the full policy will apply. We conform to the local authority admission policy.

Applications for places at Aldercar High School must be made through the local authority:

Central Admissions

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/secondary-admissions/secondaryschool-admissions.aspx>

Applications can only be made from this website.



The Phoenix Centre



The Sports Hall



Main School

ALDERCAR HIGH SCHOOL



Aldercar High School

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Head Teacher: Mrs C Hatto

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