



Weekly Newsletter 15th May 2026

Dear members of the Aldercar High School community,

It has been another fantastic week in school where our values of Ready, Responsible and Respectful are lived and celebrated. There is a wonderful feel around our school, and our pupils benefit from warm and positive relationships with teachers and staff.

I hope that you enjoy our newsletter.

Key Dates - As a reminder, it is half term on Monday the 25th of May 2026 and we will welcome pupils back on Monday the 1st of June 2026.

Year 11 exam update

The first week of the Year 11 main exams have gone extremely well. Students are doing themselves proud, so please give them all a massive well done and keep it up for the next 17 days.

Next week's plan for Year 11 is:

	Arrival	AM Exam	PM Exam	Leave
Monday	8.20am	Chemistry	No Exam	2.55pm
Tuesday	8.20am	English Literature	No Exam	2.55pm
Wednesday	By 9.40am	No Exam	No Exam	2.55pm
Thursday	8.20am	English Language	Business	2.55pm or after exam
Friday	8.20am	No Exam	No Exam	12 midday

Please note Friday is Maths followed by Science, of which students must attend.

Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 Work Experience starts next week. We are looking forward to hearing all about the students' experiences and what they have learned whilst out on their placements.

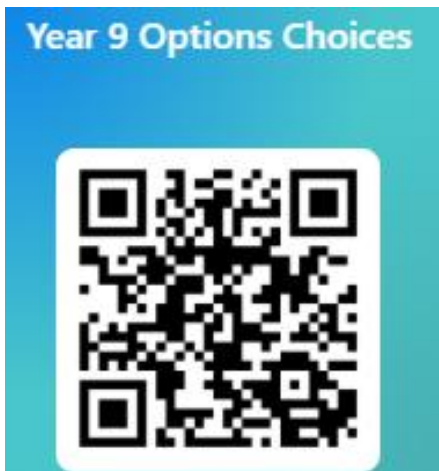
Year 10 Mock Results Evening

Year 10 students will be able to collect their mock results and also stay for a revision evening on Thursday 11th June 2026. Booking details will follow next week.

Year 9 Pathways

Today (Friday 15th May) is the deadline for Year 9 students to give their choices for their options. Here is the link and QR code for any last minute choices to be made:

<https://forms.office.com/e/rSpnVYt3xK>



We are looking at how many students are interested in taking a music qualification in Key Stage 4. Please respond to the following survey if taking a Music qualification is something you would be interested in?

<https://forms.office.com/e/LTkUDwi5dn>



Duke of Edinburgh

The start of the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) practice expedition was filled with excitement, anticipation, and a strong sense of adventure. Early in the day, 29 students gathered at school, ready to take on the challenge ahead. With rucksacks packed and spirits high, the group began by pitching their tents on the school grounds. This provided an excellent opportunity to practise essential camping skills, including teamwork, organisation, and setting up camp efficiently.

Once tents were successfully in place, students made their final preparations before setting off on the first stage of their journey. There was a real buzz of enthusiasm as they departed, eager to put their navigation and endurance skills into action. The route for the day led them through local pathways towards Mapperley Reservoir, offering a varied landscape and a chance to test their map-reading abilities.

Throughout the walk, students demonstrated resilience and determination, supporting one another and maintaining a positive attitude. Staff members accompanying the group were impressed by the level of independence and cooperation on display. The pleasant weather added to the experience, making the journey both enjoyable and rewarding.

This practice expedition is an important step in preparing students for their assessed Silver DofE expedition later in the year. We are incredibly proud of all 29 participants for their effort and enthusiasm and look forward to hearing more about their progress in the coming weeks.



Curriculum Update: Science

Year 10 have been learning about the pH scale and neutralisation reactions, exploring how acids and alkalis react and how indicators can be used to measure pH.





Year 9 have carried out a range of food tests to identify nutrients such as starch, sugar, and protein, and also completed a heart dissection to investigate the structure and function of the circulatory system.



Top scoring house points last week:

Year 7

Kyra E	229
Millie C	215
Alice H-W	199
Kian T	183
Violet R	182

Year 8

Brian K	173
T Staniforth	157
Ikan-Abasi M	133
Megan C	133
Semilore B	126

Year 9

Lois B	126
Joshua K	89
Logan W	85
Alex R	77
Isabella S	76

Year 10

Bethany B	88
Codey P	86
Maja W-B	85
Noah B	65
Lilley-Anne A	64

Year 11

Zach B	133
Kieran J	117
Kaylan H	117
Klaudia B	76
Liberty B	76



Supporting Emotionally Based School Anxiety (EBSA)

Some children and young people may experience worries or distress about school that can make attendance feel overwhelming. This is sometimes known as Emotionally Based School Anxiety (EBSA). Derbyshire County Council provides a helpful EBSA toolkit for parents and carers, available via their website, which explains what EBSA is, signs to look out for, and practical strategies to support children at home. The toolkit also offers guidance on working positively with schools and other professionals, helping families better understand their child's feelings and build confidence around attending school. Accessing this resource early can be a valuable step in supporting a child's emotional wellbeing. If you feel that your child needs additional support in this area, please contact your child's Head of Year or the Attendance Manager, Mrs S Kelly-Smith. We are here to provide support at any early stage.

[Removing Barriers to Education | Derbyshire Services for Schools](#)

Removing barriers to education: A toolkit for supporting children and young people experiencing Emotionally-Based School Avoidance (EBSA)
Derbyshire Educational Psychology Service

Removing barriers to education
A toolkit for supporting children and young people experiencing Emotionally-Based School Avoidance (EBSA)
Derbyshire Educational Psychology Service

Removing barriers to education
A toolkit for supporting children and young people experiencing Emotionally-Based School Avoidance (EBSA)
Derbyshire Educational Psychology Service

Making a Difference:
Enabling Positive Change Through Listening, Optimism and Insight

Making a Difference:
Enabling Positive Change Through Listening, Optimism and Insight

Post-16 Inclusion Provision Celebrate 100 years of Sir David Attenborough

Post-16 Inclusion Provision have been researching Sir David Attenborough this week and celebrating his 100 years - this is their great artwork.



Reminder About School Uniform

We would like to remind students and parents of the current uniform expectations that are in place. If your child is missing any items, please organise for these to be replaced as soon as possible. As always, if any families need support with providing uniform items, please contact your child's Head of Year.

All students should wear:

- A school blazer or school jumper
- A school tie
- A white shirt (tucked in) and black skirt or trousers (not leggings)
- Plain black footwear
- No hoodies or sportswear
- Earrings/nose piercings must be stud type earrings and not rings or hoops
- No false nails are to be worn.

For more information please visit: [AHS-Uniform-Policy-25-26.pdf](#)



Equipment Expectations

Students should come to school each day with a pen, pencil and ruler as a minimum expectation for equipment. However, other items such as a red pen, whiteboard pen, pencil crayons, rubber and sharpener are also extremely useful to ensure students are ready to learn at the start of each lesson. Equipped pencil cases are available to buy on parent pay for just £1.20 which can then be collected from reception should your child need one.



Diary Dates

15th – 17th May - Silver Duke of Edinburgh practice camp and walk

18th – 22nd May - Year 10 Work Experience

Friday 22nd May - Break up for half term

Monday 1st June - Return to school

Thursday 11th June - Year 10 Parents Evening

Thursday 25th June - Transition evening for new Year 6 students

Friday 26th June - Inset Day - no students in school

Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd July - Y6 Transition days in school

Friday 3rd July - Y11 Prom

Thursday 9th July - Careers Fayre

Thursday 23rd July - Break up day

Kind Regards

Phil Smith

Proud Headteacher Aldercar High School

'Every child known, every lesson counts, every future unlocked'

Chair of the Inclusion Strategy Group

Daltons Close, Langley Mill, Nottinghamshire, NG16 4HL

Tel: 01773 712477 Email: info@aldercarhighschool.co.uk

www.aldercarhigh.co.uk

