



DUKE'S
ALDRIDGE ACADEMY

25 June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by thanking you once again for your continued support, understanding and cooperation throughout this period of exceptionally hot weather. Your partnership with the school has enabled us to respond effectively to the changing conditions while maintaining our high expectations and ensuring the wellbeing of all members of our community. We expect to return to the usual school day timings on Monday 29th June.

As outlined in yesterday's communication, students have continued to learn in well-ventilated classrooms and air-conditioned spaces. A range of adaptations have been made to the school day, including allowing students to leave blazers at home, loosen ties and untuck shirts when directed by staff. Additional bottled water is available from Student Services if a child does not have a refillable water bottle. These measures have helped to ensure that students remain safe and comfortable while continuing to engage positively with their learning.

I would also like to commend our students for the way they have responded to the warmer weather. They have shown considerable resilience and maturity and have adapted extremely well to the changes that have been necessary.

As temperatures are forecast to be even higher on Friday, we will continue with our amended arrangements. Students will have a staggered lunch starting earlier during period 3 followed by a staggered dismissal from school. This will enable our young people to travel home before the increased heat of the afternoon.

Year 10 exams will continue with their English paper in the morning and computer science will be brought forward slightly so that students will finish earlier.

A text message will be sent to parents and carers on Friday morning confirming the dismissal times for each year group starting from 12:15. These timings remain approximate in order to ensure that all students have sufficient time to eat lunch before leaving the site.

Students should continue to attend school in full uniform, including shirt and tie. Blazers are not required and may be left at home. Staff will continue to make appropriate adaptations throughout the day where necessary to support students' comfort and wellbeing.

Attendance and Punctuality

Excellent attendance and punctuality remain essential if students are to achieve their full potential. Students should arrive on site by 8:38am and be ready for line-up at 8:40am. Students arriving after this time must enter through the late gate and will receive the appropriate sanctions in line with our behaviour policy.

Uniform

Students are expected to wear their uniform correctly and with pride. While temporary adaptations are being made during the current hot weather, students should continue to arrive in full uniform and be ready to meet our usual expectations from Monday 29th June.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones must not be seen or heard during the school day. Any phone that is seen or heard will be confiscated in accordance with our policy.

We will continue to monitor weather forecasts closely and review our risk assessment throughout the day. Should any further adaptations become necessary, we will communicate these promptly.

Thank you once again for your continued support and partnership.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Claire Bessa".

Claire Bessa

Principal

Duke's Aldridge Academy