

Student Prospectus 2019



Founder Academy of the
Mercian Trust



Welcome to ***Aldridge School***

You'll be surprised at how much you already know:

REMEMBER! – You will have probably visited us many times before. During your time at Primary School you may have enjoyed Science lessons or Enterprise Days with us, Modern Languages carousels or exciting sporting activities. Many of you will have already met lots of the staff who may have visited you in your Primary School.

REMEMBER! – You and your parents/carers will get an interview with your new House Office Staff before you start. This will be your opportunity to tell your House all about yourself. You can tell them what you are really looking forward to and discuss any worries you may have.

REMEMBER! - You will get to meet your new Form Tutor and lots of subject staff during your New Induction Day in July. At this event you will get a tour of the school, have lunch, find out about all the exciting opportunities that are available and how to solve any issues or answer any questions you may have.

REMEMBER! – Your parents/carers will have the opportunity to come to a New Induction Evening. This will be their opportunity to meet your House Staff, your Form Tutor and members of the Senior Leadership Team. At this evening they can ask any questions you may have on your behalf.

REMEMBER! – Some of our students return to their Primary Schools to discuss the move to Aldridge School with you. We will give the opportunity to talk directly with our Aldridge Ambassadors and you can ask them any questions you may have.

REMEMBER! – There is lots more information available in our prospectus, on our website (www.aldrigehschool.org) and directly from the school. Don't be afraid to ask!

Questions and *Answers*

I'm worried about getting lost

In all likelihood you may, on occasions, in your early days get lost. Don't worry, your teachers understand, no one is going to tell you off for being lost.

We will help you learn your way around school with a guided tour on your first day. We will give you a map that you can use to help you get around. Teachers are always around to ask for directions. The building is very well signposted.

How will I know all the rules?

All our rules and expectations at Aldridge are based around our four Rs. As long as you are Responsible, Resilient, Respectful and Ready to learn, everything will be fine. It's all just common sense really!

We will include a copy of our detailed expectations in your New Induction Pack which we send to all our students before they start.

How do I buy food at break and lunch time?

On your first day in September bring lunch money with you. We suggest £3.00. If you receive free school meals at Primary School, this information will have been sent to us here at Aldridge. Just go to the till once you have your food and give your name.

During the first day you will have a biometric reading of your finger taken. This will set up an account called 'Parent Pay'. You can add money to your account by putting cash into the machines located in Goodsell Hall and B Block corridor. Your parent/carer can also top this money up online for you. From then on all you need is your finger to get your lunch.





What are the most important rules?

We expect all of our rules to be followed. After speaking to current Year 7 the top 10 rules they thought you should know were:

1. Always wear your uniform properly.
2. Make sure you are on time for school and lessons during the day.
3. You need to bring your equipment to lessons every day.
4. When moving around the corridors walk on the left.
5. Don't use your mobile phone anywhere except outside the buildings or in Goodsell Hall. Even then, you are only allowed to use them when lessons are not happening.
6. Headphones are not allowed in school.
7. Always try your best.
8. Always be respectful to staff and other students.
9. Follow the rules for presentation.
10. It's all about the 4Rs!

What will happen if I break the rules?

We know that you will do everything you can to keep to the rules. However, if rules do get broken we have a detailed consequences chart. You can view a copy of this on our website www.aldridgeschool.org and there will be a copy in your New Induction Pack.

Do you get rewards for good work?

Absolutely! We have a system called Learn2Earn. When you do things worthy of reward an adult can award you points. These points can then be used to buy rewards from the Learn2Earn website. The points also count towards your House point tally in the House competition. We also like to reward by awarding certificates, badges and we love to send postcards home telling your parents/carers how well you are doing.

What happens if I am given a detention?

Hopefully you won't be given a detention and you'll be given a warning before a detention is issued giving you the opportunity to modify your behaviour. The system works like this:

A warning will be clearly directed to you with a reason, for example "John, I am giving you a warning because you were not respectful and shouted across the room." Alongside a warning it may be appropriate for you to be moved to another seat in the classroom.

After a warning, if your behaviour is not acceptable a second time, then you will be issued with a final warning and a 10 minute staff detention. These tend to happen straight after school and you need to make sure you attend the after school detention.

After a final warning, if your behaviour is not acceptable, then you will be removed to the Faculty Exclusion Zone to work with another member of staff. At the end of the lesson you will return with your work to your teacher and your behaviour will be followed up with a 30 minute Staff Detention and a telephone call to your parents.

If the you refuse to leave the room at the first request, or do not return at the end of the lesson, a Faculty Detention will be issued and your parents contacted.

If you cause disruption to the class you have been removed to then you should be seen by the Faculty Leader who will issue a School Detention and contact your parents.

You'll always be warned in class before being issued with a detention. Follow the teacher's instructions and you will be fine.

What happens if I lose something?

We hope that you do not lose any of your possessions. It is helpful if your parents mark your name in all your clothing and belongings. You should try not to leave things lying around in unsupervised rooms. If you do lose something, you should visit reception and ask if it has been handed in. It is worth checking everywhere you have been and visiting reception a few days in a row to see if your item turns up.

What do I do if I don't understand what we're learning in one of my lessons

Ask the teacher! Don't be ashamed to admit that you don't understand something. The reason you are in school is to learn and you are not expected to know everything already. Your teacher loves their subject. They want to help you to develop your understanding and to enjoy their subject as much as they do.





How do I get a locker?

Our lockers are owned by an external company and are available for students to rent on an annual basis. Rental costs are £25 per year allowing use from September through to July.

All bookings terminate at the end of the school year in July. Lockers are usually available online from June 1st. Lockers are subject to availability so please book early to avoid disappointment. To guarantee a locker please book online at the website www.ilsschools.co.uk

What happens if I am absent from school?

Attending school is very important. It is well known that poor school attendance leads to problems with learning and with friendship groups. We have an expectation that everyone will be here at least 96% of the time.

As you are now growing up we expect you to try to get into school if you feel a little unwell. A slight cold is not a reason to stay in bed and miss a day's learning. We would like you to try and make any medical appointments that you have outside of school time, just like you will need to do when you go out to work.

If you are absent, your parent/carer needs to call your House Office before 8.30am and let them know. They need to do this on each day of your absence. If the House Office is not contacted then a text message may be sent to your parents/carers asking where you are. On your return to school you must bring a note explaining your absence and give it to your Form Tutor. You must also catch up with all the work you have missed.

What happens if I am late to school?

Staff stand at the front of the school every day to speak to anyone who arrives late. If you are late they will give you a detention slip. This will mean you have a 15 minute detention in a set room at break time with your House staff. Your parents/carers will be informed of your lateness.

If you are late to lessons 1,3 or 5 your teacher will not allow you into your lesson. You will be sent to your House office to explain your lateness and receive a detention slip for 15 minutes as above.

If you are repeatedly late for school and/or lessons then the consequences for your lateness will increase as set out in the school Behaviour, Rewards and Consequences Policy which can be found on our website www.aldridgeschool.org

What should I do if I'm struggling with my classwork?

We want you to find your work challenging. We want you to be resilient and keep trying even if you find it difficult.

However, if you need help just ask your teacher, they will be pleased to help you.

What should I do if I feel unwell in school?

We expect you to try and be resilient. That is, if you feel a little sick, have a drink of water and take a few minutes and then try and continue on. If you feel very unwell then you should report to your House Office who will help you. This may include sending you to see First Aid.

Are the teachers strict?

All adults will enforce the rules of the school at all times. Teachers will always be fair, but will firmly remind you of our expectations.

As long as you abide by the 4Rs you will be fine.

Will I get bullied?

Every year we conduct a student survey about bullying at Aldridge School. This survey has repeatedly told us that bullying is very uncommon and that if it does happen it is dealt with well by the staff.

Saying that, we take the issue very seriously. The most important thing you must do is TELL SOMEONE STRAIGHT AWAY. You can tell any adult in school, report it via our website, put your concerns in our bullying box which is located in the library or tell someone at home.

What happens if I need to take medication?

Non-prescription medicines should not be brought to school. The only exception to this is one dose of painkillers which may be carried if they will be required. No more than two paracetamols should be carried at any time.

If you need to take prescribed medication or have an ongoing health condition your parents need to contact House Office who will be able to advise on what to do.



The *Four Rs*

At Aldridge School students are encouraged and expected to be the best they can be and to follow the four Rs: Respectful, Responsible, Resilient and Ready to learn.

Respectful – A respectful student is proud to be a member of Aldridge School. They value their time at school, their education, the environment and the people around them.

Responsible – A responsible student is always very motivated and works well independently and in a team. They contribute to lessons and use their initiative.

Resilient – A resilient student is open minded in their approach to challenges and persistent when it comes to problem solving. As a result, they learn very well.

Ready to learn – A student who is ready to learn rarely has any time off school. They are well organised and plan their time to ensure that they are not late and that they bring the right equipment and books each day.

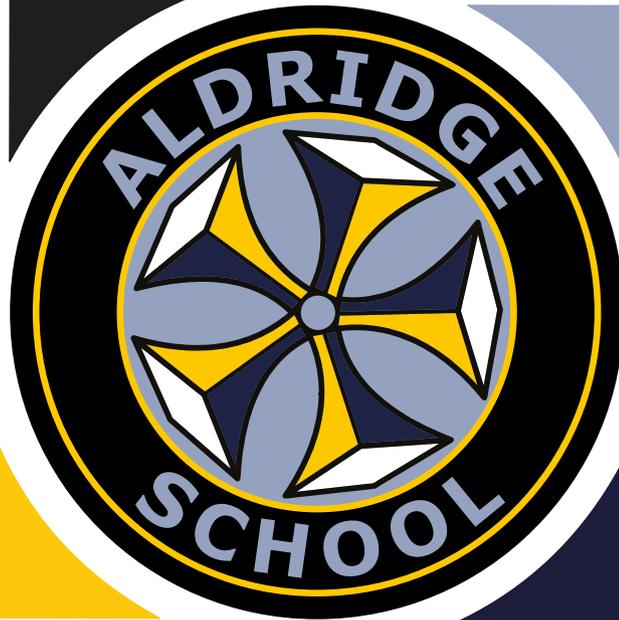
Our students are expected to know and understand these expectations which are reinforced in form time and assemblies as well as in individual conversations with members of staff.

Ready

ful

Ready to learn

Respectful



Responsible

Resilient

It's *your* uniform: v

Years 7-9 Boys/Girls compulsory uniform

Blazer - Navy blue blazer with school badge on breast pocket.

Shirt/Blouse - Saxe blue only (tucked into trousers).

Tie - House tie.

Pullover - Blue plain 'V' necked long sleeved pullover (with school badge)- no cardigans.

Trousers/Skirt - Black 'suit' style material – no jeans or jean type material, no skinny trousers. Skirts to be knee length.

Socks - Black.

Tights - Plain black/tan/natural.

Shoes - sensible black leather shoes – no motif, no trainers, no canvas shoes. Shoes must be polishable

Coat - Students may only wear weatherproof outdoor coats in addition to their school uniform. These must not be worn in place of a blazer or jumper. Hoodies, sports coats, denim jackets, leather jackets and gilets are not allowed.

No baseball caps.



wear it with *pride!*

Our uniform is compulsory

Our uniform has to be worn correctly at all times – this includes on the journey to and from school.

There is to be NO make-up worn in the lower school.

There is to be NO jewellery worn. NO piercings – except a pair of stud earrings and a watch.

Only those hairstyles suitable for school are allowed – NO unnatural colours, NO tramlines, patterns or hair accessories. Headscarves for religious reason may be worn but must be plain black, navy blue or white. Only plain hair accessories in black, navy blue or white

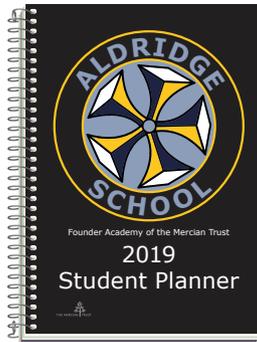
Plain means: NO patterns, NO Motifs, NO Fashion pockets.

All pupils are also expected to carry a plain school bag that is big enough to hold an A4 folder and a pencil case. Small handbags are not allowed in school.



An Aldridge Student will be...

Prepared for every day and will have...



Student Planner



Pencil



Green Pen



Blue/Black
Pen



Eraser



Sharpener



Ruler



Reading Book



Calculator



Maths Set

Timetable

The school day is split into five periods.

8.30	Students Arrive
8.40 - 9.40	Period 1
9.40 - 10.40	Period 2
10.40 - 11.00	Break (Warning Bell at 10.55)
11.00 - 12.00	Period 3
12.00 - 1.00	Period 4
1.00 - 1.30	Form or Lunch
1.30 - 2.00	Form or Lunch
2.00	Warning Bell signals end of lunch/form
2.05 - 3.05	Period 5
3.05	End of School Day



THE MERCIAN TRUST



Aldridge School
Founder Academy of the Mercian Trust
Tynings Lane
Aldridge
Walsall
West Midlands
WS9 0BG
T: 01922 743988
E: info@aldrigedchool.org

www.aldrigedchool.org