

ALTRINCHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS



NOTES FOR PARENTS BOOKLET (Sept 2022)



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Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

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Cheshire, WA14 2RS

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www.agsb.co.uk

Head Master: Mr G A Wright M.A. (Hons) FRSA

Dear Parent,

I wish you a very warm welcome to Altrincham Grammar School for Boys (AGSB). Your son has gained a place at one of England's most successful schools. Founded in 1912, the school is rated "Outstanding" by Ofsted and secures some of the best examination results at GCSE and A level in the country. Almost all students progress to university with many attending the best Russell Group universities including Oxford, Cambridge and many others.

I do hope that your son will retain the enthusiasm and love of learning that he has at present. Lessons at AGSB will go far beyond the confines of the exam syllabus and will present him with fresh academic challenges, as well as instilling a real passion for a wide range of subjects across the curriculum. Knowledge, however, is only one component of success. At this school we aim to equip our students with the range of skills to succeed in a rapidly changing world. From Year 7 he will be offered extra-curricular activities and enrichment programmes that will hone essential character traits such as leadership, resilience, moral purpose, integrity and honesty. I would encourage him to embrace as many of these opportunities as he can.

The transition from primary to secondary school is a very exciting chapter in your son's life. Be assured that our total commitment to effective pastoral care and student well-being will see him settle in very quickly and will help guide him through the many opportunities and challenges ahead.

I hope that as parents you too will become part of our community. We have a thriving Parents' Association which offers a varied programme throughout the year. There are also opportunities for you to volunteer to support the school in Music, Sport and Drama. Through our partnership with the Trafford Leisure Trust, the 'Grammar' facilities are open for you to use before and after school hours.

I greatly look forward to meeting with you and your son in due course and welcoming you personally to the School.

Yours sincerely,

GA Wright MA FRSA
Head Master

Key Names

Head Master

Deputy Head/Child Protection Office & Safeguarding Lead	Mr G Wright
Assistant Head - (with responsibility for Curriculum & Assessment)	Mr E Hall
Assistant Head - (with responsibility for Teaching & Learning)	Mrs S Weil
Assistant Head - (with responsibility for Development)	Dr E Thomas
Assistant Head- (with responsibility for Inclusion, SENDCO & Youth Mental Health)	Mr M Soulsby
Head of Year 7 - (with responsibility for Induction & Admission)	Ms A Cathcart
Head of Sixth Form (Overall)	Mrs H Short
	Mr T Murray

Heads of Year

Year 7	Mrs H Short
Year 8	Mr D Birchall
Year 9	Mr T Ayebare
Year 10	Mr R Cammack
Year 11	Mrs E Chapman
Year 12	Mr C Kidd
Year 13	Dr Z Hepden

Administration Staff

Chief Financial Operating Officer	Mrs J Jackson
Finance & Planning Manager	Mrs J Lacon
Business Support & Admin Manager	Mrs D Jackson
Finance Assistant	Mrs V Carpenter*
Finance Assistant	Mrs L Jackson*
Head Master's PA	Mrs M Brickell
Admissions Manager	Mrs O Champion
Admissions Advisor	Mrs T Richardson
Admissions Assistant	Mrs S Dickerson
Examinations Officer	Mrs P Howell
Exams & Data Assistant	Mrs A Lavin
ARR, Exam, Data & Cover Administrator	Mrs B Clift
Educational Visits Co-ordinator	Mrs P Mullin
Sixth Form Officer/Alumni Relations	Mrs G Williamson
Systems & Procedures Administrator	Mrs A Coale*
Attendance Administrator	Mrs A Jolly*
Administrative Assistant	Mrs H Armstrong*
Resources Technician	Mrs K Lord
Resources Technician	Mrs F Harding
Receptionist	Mrs C Williams
Library Assistant	Mrs G Marson

**(First Aid Trained)*

Chair of Governors	Mrs A Balfour
Chair of Parents' Association	Mrs A Jones

1. **SCHOOL DAY**

Boys can enter School unsupervised from 8.10am (earlier if the weather is bad). Breakfasts can be purchased in the Stamford Hall from 8.10am. Boys should arrive in School by 8.35am for registration at 8.40am. Assembly is at 8.45am and the first lesson at 9.00am. There are five periods each day, three in the morning and two in the afternoon. There is a twenty-minute break each morning between lessons two and three. Lunch is between 12.20pm and 1.20pm and the school day ends at 3.20pm. A warning bell rings before registration at the end of break and at the end of the lunch hour.

School opens	8.10am
Registration (morning)	8.40am - 8.45am
Assembly	8.45am - 9.00am
Period 1 (60 minutes)	9.00 am - 10.00am
Period 2 (60 minutes)	10.00am - 11.00am
Break	11.00am - 11.20am
Period 3 (60 minutes)	11.20am - 12.20pm
Lunch	12.20pm - 1.20pm
Period 4 (60 minutes)	1.20pm – 2.20pm
Period 5 (60 minutes)	2.20pm - 3.20pm
End of School	3.20pm

Please note that boys in Years 7-11 are not allowed to leave the school premises between 9.00am and 3.20pm, except for medical or examination reasons (see below).

2. **DRESS REGULATIONS – YEARS 7 TO 11**

The concession for the supply of our School Uniform (including all sportswear) is held by **Monkhouse Limited**.

Contact Details are as follows:

Monkhouse Limited

47 George Street
Altrincham
WA14 1RJ

Tel: 0161 941 7503

Web: www.monkhouse.com

Email: Altrincham@monkhouse.com or web@monkhouse.com

Used School Uniform

AGSB Parents & Friends Association has a second-hand uniform service, from which all monies go directly to the PFA Fund. For further information, please contact the PFA on: **agsb_pfa@hotmail.co.uk**

UNIFORM LIST

- **School Blazer with badge**
- **School Tie – in their House colour** (which must be worn neatly knotted and tight to the fastened collar). N.B. You will be informed of your son's allocated House on Y7 Induction Evening in early July.
- **Shirt** – plain white
- **Trousers** – plain DARK grey or BLACK (no chinos or denims)
- **Jumper** – this should be plain grey and v-necked or the School pullover for Years 7, 8 and 9. Years 10 and 11 may wear either a plain grey or a black v-necked pullover.
- **Shoes** – **plain**, conventional black or brown shoes (with matching laces), which are capable of being polished. Trainers, heavy working boots, suede, patent or fabric shoes are not permitted.
- **Socks** – plain dark
- **Outdoor Coat** – a coat in a single, dark, and plain colour (black, dark grey, blue or green), without decoration, words or logo. Leather, denim, or brightly coloured "ski jackets" are not acceptable schoolwear.

PE AND GAMES CLOTHING

Our new design of sportswear may only be purchased from Monkhouse.

Games (outdoor)

- Red and green reversible games shirt with embroidered School crest on the outer side
- Black 'pro' shorts with embroidered School crest
- Games socks (bottle green with red turnover top)
- Football/Rugby boots
- Outdoor training shoes
- Towel

PE (Indoor)

- White/bottle green trim shirt with embroidered School crest
- White/bottle green trim shorts with embroidered School crest
- Plain white socks
- Non-marking indoor training shoes with light, soft rubber soles for Gym and Sports Hall.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

- A strong waterproof bag in which books and A4 files can be carried home without becoming damaged.
- In School the books can be stored in a locker.
- A separate bag in which PE and games kit can be carried to School and to lessons.
- A good quality pen e.g. a fountain pen, good quality gel pen or biro (black or blue ink),
- Pencil, rubber, sharpener, ruler, coloured pencils (not felt tips). These should be kept in a clearly named pencil case.
- A protractor and a pair of compasses or a Maths set.
- A small glue stick.
- A small English Dictionary (pocket-type).
- An A4 Clear Plastic Wallet for Music Books/Sheets.
- **A craft apron** (available from Monkhouse Limited), clearly named.
- **A food technology apron**: this should be a full length plain navy or navy striped butcher's apron, and clearly named. Suitable aprons can generally be bought in shops such as Tesco or Sainsbury's.
- **An ovenproof dish** approximately 20-30cm in diameter.
- **A medium-sized plastic container with a sealed lid**, again clearly labelled with your child's name.
- Depending on what type of locker is in the form room, either an easily identifiable key ring for the key or a padlock and key (**not** a combination lock).

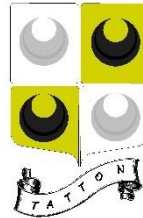
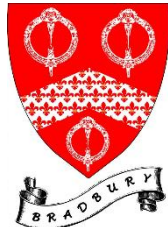
IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING, BAGS AND PENCIL CASES ETC ARE CLEARLY NAMED.

OTHER POINTS TO NOTE

1. Hair must be cut in a style which is generally acceptable. The Head Master reserves the right to send home any boy who, in his opinion, does not conform to the intention of this regulation.
 - **We do not allow hair that is below collar length!**
 - Hair should be cut no shorter than a “number two” style.
 - Hair should be of its natural colour.
 - Ponytails are not allowed.
2. Students should be clean-shaven where possible. Earrings and other body piercings are prohibited, as are rings on fingers. Necklaces are not encouraged but if worn should not be visible and must not be worn during PE and games.
3. All items of clothing and equipment, including musical instruments, must be clearly and indelibly marked with the pupil's name.
4. Sports kit must **NOT** be carried in the same bag as books.
5. Valuables, including expensive items of sportswear or equipment, must not be brought into School without a good reason. In School, their safe storage must be arranged with a senior member of staff **ON EACH OCCASION**.
6. Musical instruments may be left in storage areas in the Music Department **AT THE OWNER'S RISK**.
7. During PE lessons money and valuables must **NOT**, under any circumstances, be left in the changing rooms in bags or blazers etc. They should be locked away in the boy's locker or given to a member of the PE Department.
8. The School **CANNOT ACCEPT** responsibility for valuables when pupils have failed to adhere to the guidelines above.
9. Uniform should be smartly worn and shoes should be polished regularly.
10. Wherever possible, books, coats, etc should be kept in the pupil's **Locker**. A key will be provided if necessary. Lost keys must be paid for and replaced. Otherwise boys must provide a sturdy padlock. Their form teacher will advise over this.
11. Whilst we recognise that many young people carry and use a mobile phone, at AGSB the use of phones during school day is against the rules. There are exceptions to this rule if their use is directed by a teacher; pupils may be asked to take an image of something or do some quick research on Google using their phone. These occurrences are not common and the teacher would always provide additional provision for those boys without a phone. If a parent needs to be contacted urgently, School will contact parents directly using the contact numbers supplied by parents to the School). **If equipment such as mobile phones, iPads etc are brought into school this is at the owner's own risk. (Please refer to more detailed information in the Codes of Conduct – Mobile Phone Protocol)**.
12. **Reception cannot accept forgotten items being brought into School by parents during the school day. The responsibility must be with the boy to organise himself!**
13. Fizzy drinks are not allowed and are not sold in School.

3. HOUSE GROUPS

Your son will be assigned to a House (Massey, Bradbury, Tatton or Stamford). The House system was re-established in September 2019 and has been a great success. The House system at AGSB provides inclusion, cohesion, creativity and challenge through various events and competitions across the academic year. It provides more pastoral support for all pupils through creating a sense of belonging, within the larger school community. The events and competitions encompass; cerebral, artistic, musical, dramatic, fun and physical activities. The House system is a great vehicle for developing leadership opportunities, loyalty, resilience, perseverance, responsibility and respect.



4. ABSENCE

Where a boy is absent from School **parents must contact the School on the first day of absence before 9.30am and again on subsequent days.** This can be done via the Gateway App, which can be downloaded onto your phone, and therefore negates the need to write into school at the end of the period of absence. You will be sent an email in advance of your child's start date with details to access the Gateway App.

You can also telephone school but at the end of the period of absence, a note must be sent to the Attendance Officer for us to keep in our records. This is a legal requirement. If we do not receive a letter the absence will be marked as unauthorised and the pupil will be required to attend a Saturday morning detention with the Head Master.

5. APPOINTMENTS IN SCHOOL TIME

If, at all possible, please make any appointments **out of school hours.** However, we realise that this is not always possible so please note the following:

Pupils who have dental, medical or other appointments or who, for any other reason, need to leave school during lesson time **MUST:**

- a. have a parent contact school to confirm the appointment. This can be done via the Gateway App and negates the need for a letter or copy of an appointment card being sent into the Attendance Officer.
- b. report to Reception both when they leave and when they return to sign out and back in again.

6. ASSEMBLY

Year 7 boys will usually attend an assembly twice a week.

All boys are required to attend our annual Christmas Carol Concert, held at St Mary's Church, Bowdon but we appreciate that not all our pupils will wish, for religious reasons, to attend these services. Written requests to not be included in these services must be made in writing to the Head Master prior to each event taking place in each academic year.

7. Cognitive Ability Tests (CATS)

These are tests that we give to the whole year group when they join us in September. They give us an overall picture of the whole year group and help us track a boy's progress through the School. We do not normally release results.

8. CLUBS/CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

These include playing for the School teams (football, rugby, hockey, cricket, athletics, basketball). Year 7 pupils are also invited to join a variety of clubs including Chess, Science and Maths Clubs. Many of the Year 7 boys join the School choir and orchestra. These are just a few of the available opportunities. A list of all co-curricular activities is published in mid-September and boys can obtain this and subsequent information regarding these clubs from their form teacher.

9. CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT

This is a document contained within the online Admission Form (part of the Induction Process). It is a statement of the School's aims and values, and also of the responsibilities of each child, his parents/carers and the School. In order to complete the Induction Process each child and their parent/carer is expected to agree to this policy.

10. CURRICULUM

Detailed information about the AGSB curriculum in each subject can be found on the school website at <https://www.agsb.co.uk/page/?title=Curriculum&pid=9>

11. OFFICE 365 AND SCHOOL WEBSITE

Many details about the School are given on our website, including recent letters, holiday dates and "stop press notices". Your child will also be given access to Office 365 where there are a lot of materials that relate to the subjects he studies.

12. EXAMS

Year 7s are tested in class at various times during the year as appropriate to the subject. There are end-of-year exams in most subjects in May.

NOTE: We have a duty to inform you that relevant personal data (name, DOB, gender etc) will be transferred to the awarding bodies for the purpose of examining and awarding qualifications.

13. TERM DATES

Term dates can be found on our website homepage under 'Calendar'.

14. HOMEWORK POLICY

Pupils will be set independent study tasks in their lessons to be completed at home. The nature and frequency of independent study tasks varies from subject to subject. Further information about this can be found on our website, under 'Homework Policy'. Independent study tasks will be set through the Show My Homework platform which can be found on the website under Parents/Show My Homework. Pupils are expected to work each evening on their independent study tasks for between one and two hours. If pupils do not have any work to complete, they should proofread work or improve their work based on feedback given.

15. ILLNESS DURING THE DAY

A pupil should inform a teacher if he feels unwell. He will then be directed to a First Aider in the School office who will decide if parents need to be contacted. **Pupils MUST NOT use their mobile phones to call parents themselves but must go to the office directly.** In the case of an accident, the pupil will be seen by a member of staff who is a qualified First Aider and parents contacted, as necessary.

It is vital that emergency contact numbers are up to date so that we can contact you in the event of a medical emergency.

(Please email school with any change of details to agsbadmin@agsb.co.uk)

16. MUSIC ENSEMBLES AND LESSONS

Subject to prior approval/audition by the relevant ensemble director, students who study privately with teachers outside of AGSB are welcome to join any of the ensembles.

Lessons are provided at School on the following instruments: Piano, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Saxophone (alto, tenor, baritone), French/Tenor Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Trumpet, Cornet, Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Orchestral Percussion and drum kit, Guitars (not yet including the classical style) and finally Voice. If you would like further information, please contact Mr M Monument, Director of Music (mmonument@agsb.co.uk).

17. LATENESS

Registration takes place at 8.40am and 1.20pm. Arrival after these times constitutes being “late”. For Years 7-9 five such “lates” during a **term** will incur an after-school Friday detention. For Y10 & Y11 five such “lates” during a **half term** will incur an after-school Friday detention

Boys who arrive after the end of registration must report to the Student Signing In/Out area at Reception and have their names recorded in the “late book”. They must also inform their form teachers at the next registration.

18. LEAVE OF ABSENCE IN TERM TIME

We ask you to observe School’s official term dates and not book any holidays during school time. Due to changes in the law surrounding holidays in term time (where any request for time out of School must be in exceptional circumstances), the Head Master is not expected to approve any term time holiday as “exceptional”: the granting of holidays during term time is entirely the Head Master’s decision and is not a parental right.

If a leave of absence in term time is unavoidable, **parents must complete a Leave of Absence Request Form available on our website, giving at least 3 weeks’ notice prior to the absence.** Parents wish to send their children to AGSB because of the high academic standard and the offer of a rich extra-curricular life. However, we can only achieve these standards if boys are not taken out of School during term time. Family absences in term time are not only detrimental to the education of your child but are also unsettling on the class which he leaves behind. Any absences will be marked either authorised or unauthorised depending on the circumstances.

19. LIBRARY

Break times and lunch times: The library is open to all and hosts a variety of co-curricular clubs and events. Pupils may also read and complete homework.

After school: Many co-curricular clubs are hosted in the library after school.

20. LOCKERS

A locker is provided to each boy in or near his form room. He should keep his books and his coat in this. Keys may be provided for some lockers, but the majority need a padlock provided by the boys (**not** a combination lock). These can be purchased almost anywhere.

21. LOST PROPERTY PROTOCOL

In the case of lost property please follow this protocol:

1. **Retrace your steps.**
2. **Check the lost property area in the Bag Room (outside the Stamford Hall) or, in the case of PE kit, please check The Grammar**
3. **Report loss to your Form Teacher who will investigate further.**

Remember, all items should be clearly labelled with the boy’s name.

22. LUNCHTIME ARRANGEMENTS

In Years 7 to 11 it is forbidden for boys to leave the School. They may eat either a school meal or their own packed lunch in the Stamford Hall.

Opening times are as follows:
8.00am-8.30am: Breakfast
11.00-11.15am: Morning Break
12.20pm-1.15pm: Lunch

The Stamford Hall operates a cashless system and pupils purchase their food using a Smart Card. Money can be put on their Smart Card by parents/carers using Parent Pay online. Year 7 pupils joining in September will be provided with a letter about Parent Pay and login details on their **first day of term**.

Please be assured your son will be able to buy a meal on the first day before money has been put on their account.

Please ensure enough money is put on the account ready for their second day of term and meals going forward. You can top up the account whenever you like to make sure your son has enough money for his lunches.

If your account falls into a negative balance you will be sent reminders. It is recommended to set up Parent Pay alerts to let you know when your balance drops to a certain level.

Please contact the school in confidence if you believe your child is eligible for Free School Meals: email acathcart@agsb.co.uk.

The zipped inside pocket of the School blazer is the best place to keep the Smart Card.

Lost or broken cards must be reported to Sodexo in the Stamford Hall as soon as possible. Please note that a replacement card will cost **£5**. Payment for the new cards should be made on Parent Pay. Once you have paid for your son's new card please bring the receipt (paper copy or on a mobile phone) to Sodexo and your son can collect his new card from the Stamford Hall before the start of the school day or during morning break.

The School buildings are cleared at lunchtime, except in inclement weather. Special lunchtime passes have been issued by members of staff for clubs or societies. A Lower School private study room (C1) is available should a boy wish to complete homework during the lunch period.

23. MATTERS OF CONCERN

If you do have any concerns about any issue within School these will be dealt with speedily and sympathetically. Please contact the appropriate member of staff. If you are uncertain about who that might be please contact the School Office or Head of Year who will advise you.

24. MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Some members of the teaching and administration staff are First Aid trained; however, the School **DOES NOT have a School Nurse on site** on a permanent basis.

If your child requires medication which is to be stored in the School Office, please ensure that this is clearly labelled with your child's name, date of birth and all relevant information about their condition and the medication.

If your child has a condition which requires an Adrenaline Auto Injector Pen (AAI), it is the **responsibility of parents** to ensure that your child carries an **in date** AAI at School at all times and an **up-to-date** AAI must be stored in the School Office in a pack that includes your child's photo, name, date of birth and information about his condition. A Care Plan should also be completed on an annual basis (you will be sent a link to complete this form). The School also has an emergency inhaler kit located in the School Office. Should you inform us that your child carries an AAI, you will be asked to complete a Parental Consent Form (online) which would enable us to use the school AAI kit in an emergency situation.

If your child has been prescribed an inhaler by the doctor, it is the **responsibility of parents** to ensure that your child carries their inhaler in School at all times, clearly labelled with your child's name and registration form group. We would recommend a spare inhaler to be retained in the School Office in case of emergency. The School also has an emergency inhaler kit located in the School Office. Should you inform us that your child carries an inhaler, you will be asked to complete a Parental Consent Form (online) which would enable us to use the school inhaler kit in an emergency situation.

If your child has medication to take on a temporary basis, you should complete a Medical Information and Permissions Form. This form, with the medication, should be left in the main School Office clearly labelled with your child's name and date of birth. It is your **child's responsibility** to ensure he takes his medication as required. It is the **parents' responsibility** to ensure any medication held in School is kept up to date.

Could we ask that all medicines are held in a compact box as we have limited storage space.

25. PARENTAL CONTACT WITH THE SCHOOL

We operate an open-door policy. Parents may directly approach any of the members of staff who teach their child, their form teacher, or Mrs Short (Head of Year 7). Members of the teaching staff are always willing to discuss your child's progress, but this is best by appointment arranged through the School Office. In an emergency, please come in and we will see you. All parents must enter and leave the School via the Main Entrance.

Parents' and Student Consultation Evenings are held once a year when your child's teachers will be available for consultation. The Year 7 Parents' and Student Consultation Evening is usually held late in the Autumn term.

Please could parents only telephone the School asking for a message to be passed on to their child if the matter is **urgent**. We would need to have this before 1.20pm. In an emergency we will obviously be pleased to help.

26. PARENTS' AND FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION

This aims to raise money to help give boys extras to that which the School can provide, for instance the minibus, sports equipment, extra computers and seats outside.

27. PHOTOGRAPHS AND FILMING

The School provides opportunities for pupils to be photographed in various groups for use in official school portraits, the school website and magazine, press releases, television etc. Please register your wishes when you complete the parental consent section of the Admission Form which you will be asked to complete as part of the induction process.

28. PUPIL INFORMATION AND HOMEWORK GUIDANCE

Each boy receives an Office 365 login and email address. This allows him to gain access to key information and digital subject department areas across the school. The Office 365 login also allows access to Show My Homework. This is an online platform through which all homework in school is set. Please see the school website for further information on Show My Homework.

29. REPORTING TO PARENTS

All pupils receive a grade sheet at the end of each term, to inform parents about academic achievement and attitude to learning. Information about how students can be assessed can be found on the school website.

All parents are invited to a parent and teacher consultation evening during each academic year. In this meeting parents and students meet with subject teachers to discuss the student's achievement in the individual subjects. Parents are also invited to a review day at the end of the school year, for a meeting with the student's form tutor. The purpose of this meeting is to review the year. Although the form tutor will have access to the student's academic record, the main emphasis of this meeting is for pastoral support.

30. REWARDS

House points are awarded for academic excellence, for effort and for citizenship. At significant commendation milestones pupils receive a commendation certificate and those who are awarded the most commendations win prizes at the end of the year.

For special achievements pupils can also be awarded an AGSB postcard, or a Head Master's Commendation.

31. SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOUR/DETENTIONS

The school values are **Love of Learning, Respect, Resilience and Responsibility**.

Behaviour is based on the four 'C's:

- Co-operation
- Courtesy
- Consideration
- Common Sense

We encourage boys to use their common sense to develop a good working atmosphere around the School.

We encourage them to respect each other and their surroundings. Some boys find this more difficult than others and some of you might find that your child has work to repeat or a detention to attend.

Our Behaviour Policy can be found on the School website:

<https://www.agsb.co.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=16>

32. SCHOOL EVENTS – "THE WORD"

"The Word" is published online each term. It is written by our students' publication committee and contains essential dates for the term alongside news of developments. The Head Master sends out a Newsletter fortnightly, with news of successes, developments and important reminders.

33. SCHOOL FUNDRAISING – A CO-ORDINATED APPROACH

In sending your child to Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, you have enabled them to attend a Top 25 state school, which strives for and achieves academic excellence. In 2019, 80% of our boys achieved top grades (7-9s) at GCSE with an excellent progress score of +0.85. Typically, 83% of our 'A' Level students obtain A*-B. In 2020 twenty students received offers from Oxbridge. Stunning academic results are not, however, our only strength here at AGSB. We also place special onus on developing the boys outside the classroom with our extensive co-curricular programme.

As you may be aware, the funding landscape in which we operate has changed. Like many schools we are facing a reduction in our funding and this presents for us a challenge. As a school, we are working hard to ensure that the AGSB Experience – the thing that makes this school so special to our pupils – is not threatened. But to do this, we need your help.

A co-ordinated approach to fundraising involves School, the Parents' and Friends' Association and Altrincham Grammar School Developments, which is a charitable company set up to provide capital funds for building projects.

ALTRINCHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL DEVELOPMENTS (AGSD)

Please help us maintain the AGSB Experience through completing the Direct Debit Mandate, a voluntary monthly payment of any amount is requested. Funds are distributed across three areas, AGSB School Fund, Parents' and Friends' Association (PFA) and AGSD. Contributions help to cover the cost of the School minibus, coaches to and from many sporting fixtures, the School magazine and many other pupil-centred causes. £1 a month goes to the PFA Friends Lotto which is a highly effective way of raising funds as well as giving you the opportunity of a cash prize each month. The new sports facilities have benefited from AGSD funding and our latest project, our Physics Centre, was also made possible through AGSD funding.

All new parents will receive a letter together with a direct debit mandate form. The first payments will be collected in September. Your support for this co-ordinated approach to fundraising for the School is much appreciated.

34. SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

If you are contemplating using a taxi service for transportation to and from School, we suggest that you consult with Trafford MBC for approved suppliers who have been DBS checked. School **DO NOT** provide a dedicated school bus service, but you can consult Transport for Greater Manchester (www.tfgm.com) for advice on local services.

35. SCHOOL TRIPS

Each year there are numerous school trips to places in the UK, Europe and further afield. In Year 7 the first trip offered takes place in October, an excellent bonding opportunity for the new year group. During Activities Week every July there are many opportunities including visits to France, Germany and Spain.

Aside from compulsory curriculum trips, pupils are encouraged to take part in educational visits abroad as well as exchanges with our partner schools around the world. There are many travel opportunities to experience culture, sports, history, for example to different countries, including France, Germany, Spain, and China to name but a few! School Trips are paid online via Parent Pay; login details are sent out to new Parents in September each year.

36. SENDCo

Should you have any concerns related to special educational needs at School, please contact our SEND Co-ordinator Ms Cathcart via email at acathcart@agsb.co.uk.

FINALLY

The Autumn term begins on **MONDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2022**.

On the first day of school, Year 7 boys should arrive between 8.40 and 9.00am and go to the Coleman Hall.

(The rest of the School do not arrive until 10.00am on that day)

Following the first day, normal school is from 8.40am until 3.20pm.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO LET US KNOW:

*** If your child is absent from School**

*** Any change to his or your contact details**

*** Any change to his medical condition**

School Telephone Number: 0161 928 0858

School email: agsbadmin@agsb.co.uk