

Alt Bridge School

Head teacher's Newsletter
September 2025



National
Autistic
Society

Autism Specialist
Award 2023



Dear families,

Welcome to another academic year at Alt Bridge School! Also a hugely warm welcome to all of our new year 7 students and to their families. We look forward to working with you!

This year, we have released parent and carers guides for EHCP annual reviews, which you can find on our website at www.altbridgeschool.com. This is the most important meeting of the year for your child or young person and ***it is essential that you attend***. We can offer adjustments and different arrangements for you to ensure you are able to participate in your child's annual review. Please contact our EHCP clerk Annette.silker@altbridgeschool.com for more information.

We are working hard this year to increase our focus on Preparation for Adulthood and raise awareness with families about the routes students can take into employment and their next steps beyond year 11. Whilst it might seem far away for some parents and carers, the earlier discussions take place the better as this will ensure our students gain the most from their educational experiences at Alt Bridge. There are a range of opportunities for parents and carers to engage with school on the topic of preparation for adulthood:

- Year 9 annual reviews – particular focus on Year 9 options
- Year 11 annual reviews – particular focus on next steps
- Post-16 annual reviews – particular focus on progress towards the four key preparation for adulthood outcomes
- The school's careers fair
- New parent and carer work experience and supported internships working group

Over summer, we enjoyed welcoming our year 11 and post-16 leavers who completed their examinations and qualifications. They picked up a range

of results which include entry levels and GCSEs. I have shared our GCSE results in this newsletter and the results showed the amazing progress made by our students and rewarded them for their hard work. Our students also achieved entry levels, functional skills, Arts Awards, ASDAN and vocational qualifications.

Please enjoy reading this newsletter. Wishing everyone a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes,

Mrs Menagh
Head teacher

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

We ask that all parents and carers support school with our mobile phone policy by ensuring that students ***leave mobile phones at home*** when they board transport to school. Only students who are independent travellers would be expected to bring phones to school and these must be handed into our office on arrival.

SOME KEY DATES COMING UP

SEPTEMBER 2025

September is our transition and settling month with a key focus on building relationships and becoming familiar with routines.

OCTOBER 2025

October 2025 - October is Black History Month

Wednesday 15th October – OPEN evening for prospective parents and carers

Thursday 23rd October – Staff INSET – Students **do not attend**

Friday 24th October – Staff INSET – Students **do not attend**

Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October – HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 3rd November 2025 – School closed for staff additional holiday

Tuesday 4th November 2025 – First day back after half term break

GCSE Results 2025

We are always proud of the many achievements our pupils make each year, whether that be GCSE level or Arts Awards qualifications, entry levels or functional skills or vocational qualifications and ASDAN courses. Each year we see our year 11 learners collecting their exams results in the summer on results day and it is lovely to be able to be there to discuss results and next steps with them.

Our year 11 2025 GCSE results for English Language, English Literature, Maths and Science are as follows;

Measure	Number in Cohort	Number Achieving	Percentage (<i>Number achieving / number in the cohort</i>)
Grades 1-9 (Graded) in English Language at KS4	18	18	100%
Grades 4-9 (Standard Pass) in English Language at KS4	18	4	22%
Grades 5-9 (Strong Pass) in English Language at KS4	18	4	22%
Grades 1-9 (Graded) in English Literature at KS4	2	2	100%
Grades 4-9 (Standard Pass) in English Literature at KS4	2	2	100%
Grades 5-9 (Strong Pass) in English Literature at KS4	2	2	100%
Grades 1-9 (Graded) in Maths at KS4	12	12	100%
Grades 4-9 (Standard Pass) in Maths at KS4	12	5	42%
Grades 5-9 (Strong Pass) in Maths at KS4	12	2	17%
Grades 1-9 (Graded) in both English and Maths at KS4	11	11	100%
Grades 4-9 (Standard Pass) in both English and Maths at KS4	11	3	27%
Grades 5-9 (Strong Pass) in both English and Maths at KS4	11	2	18%
Grade 1-9 (Graded) in GCSE Science at KS4	1	1	100%

17 students also achieved grade between grades 1-9 in Art GCSE. This is the first time we have entered students for Art GCSE and the work completed was phenomenal.

Huge thanks also to our wonderful staff members Ms Forrester and Mrs Keegan who preferred freshly baked celebration gifts and teas/coffees for our families on the day!

Mrs Winstanley and Mrs Luxon also spent the day before results day ensuring that all students had an envelope to collect with all of their results and many other staff came in to either help prepare the treats, set up balloons or set out and serve teas and coffees to parents and carers.

Knowsley SEND Local Offer Event



Knowsley's
SEND
Local Offer
LIVE

SEND SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY 0-25 KNOWSLEY

11am-6pm
23 October 2025
Kirkby Volair
Cherryfield Drive, Kirkby, Knowsley L32 8SA

All services across Knowsley under one roof for parents/carers to find out more information about what is on offer to them in their areas.

PUTTING CHILDREN FIRST
LET'S TALK SEND
Knowsley Council
LEARNING BETTER TOGETHER

The poster features a vibrant, abstract background with overlapping shapes in shades of green, yellow, pink, and blue. At the top right is the 'SEND' logo with the text 'SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY 0-25 KNOWSLEY'. The main title 'Knowsley's SEND Local Offer LIVE' is prominently displayed in the center. Below the title, the event details (time, date, and location) are listed. A group of diverse, cartoon-style children and young people are illustrated on the right side. At the bottom, there are four logos: 'PUTTING CHILDREN FIRST', 'LET'S TALK SEND', 'Knowsley Council', and 'LEARNING BETTER TOGETHER'. A small illustration of two adults is on the bottom left.

This is a free event for Parents and Carers to let you know all about the services available to you in Knowsley.

National Online Safety Award 2025



Alt Bridge has successfully completed a comprehensive online safety training programme demonstrating its commitment to keeping children and young people safe online.

Our school has received a National Online Safety Certified School Accreditation for its whole school community approach to protecting children in the online world.

National Online Safety is a multi-award winning digital training provider with extensive resources in online safety, developed in line with the Department of Education's statutory requirements.

Staff Changes

At the end of this half term, we say farewell to a longstanding member of staff Mrs D McGorry who has supported students at Alt Bridge for over 25 years! We are massively grateful to Miss McGorry who supported students to develop their independence through travel training and also worked across a range of departments in school as a Teaching Assistant.

Mr Melling is being recognised in Knowsley for long service after working for Knowsley for 50 years this month which is an incredible achievement! The Mayor of Knowsley was able to shake his hand on his visit to school to open our new Science classes and art classes on the 2nd September.

Special Opening Event 2025

In September, we have opened brand new facilities on site for our learners. We had the pleasure of inviting the Mayor of Knowsley and Local Councillors and leaders to our brand-new facilities. The Mayor kindly cut the ribbon and started our tour. The facilities are fantastic, and the students have been enjoying them since starting back after summer in September.



Base Classes in Action

Having a little focus in this newsletter on our fantastic base classes which we now have 14 of at Alt Bridge. Each class has selected a class name based on a different bridge from around the world! This week, learners have enjoyed a range of sensory sessions and activities in class!



STAY CONNECTED

Would you like to know more about how your child is getting on academically and socially? Look no further!

Parents and carers have a wealth of information available to them on how their child is getting on in school. We send out letters, newsletters and information via **ParentApp** and we also use **SeeSaw** and **Epraise**. Both of these systems can be accessed by parents and carers.

SeeSaw will show you your child's work in school and comments by teachers. Each student's learning journal is available online. The link to log onto SeeSaw is via our website;

Epraise is our behaviour for learning system and we give students merits and demerits for behaviour for learning. You will be able to communicate directly with staff via Epraise as well and catch up on how they are getting on in school. The link to log onto Epraise is via our website;

Safeguarding Team

The ***Designated Safeguarding Leader for the school is Miss Richards*** (Assistant Head teacher). We also have five other members of staff who are trained to the level of Designated Safeguarding Leaders;

Mrs Murphy – Assistant Head teacher
Miss Pritchard – Pupil Welfare Coordinator
Mr Randall – Assistant Head teacher
Miss Townson – Learning Mentor
Miss Freeman – Learning Mentor

If you have any safeguarding concerns about a child who attends Alt Bridge, please report them to one of the DSLs above. You can also contact Knowsley Multi- Agency Safeguarding Hub on **0151 443 2600**.

Please note if you believe a child, young person or adult at immediate risk, you should contact the police urgently, CALL 999 EMERGENCY.