ALLEYN'S SCHOOL.

at ALBION PLACE.

MAIDSTONE.

17 th October 1940

A LETTER TO PARENTS.

Since our meeting on September 7th events have taken place which have, I believe, altered the decisions then reached. At that time there was a majority in favour of a return to Dulwich of both parts of the School, but the intensified air activity over the London area and its consequent interference with teaching time seemed to me to rule that out at present.

The difficulty about finding an alternative centre outside London was that it must be as safe as possible, and must provide us with living quarters and teaching accommodation. Increased evacuation from the cities has made such a centre hard to discover. After several fruitless journeys to different parts of the country, I think I have found the most satisfactory solution to our problem.

Rossall School, Fleetwood, Lancashire, can offer us full teaching and living accommodation, from the middle of November onwards, for a party of both juniors and seniors. Rossall is a public school on the coast between Fleetwood and Blackpool, with grounds running down to the sea. The climate is very healthy and conditions there are very quiet (they get few warnings, and have never heard bombs, A.A. gun fire, or enemy aircraft!). The school would provide sleeping quarters for the boys in four of the school houses, with a separate junior house. We should all have meals together in the school dining hall. Financial arrangements would be approximately the same as for those boys now in billets either in Maidstone or Rogerstone.

I am anxious to know what sort of support such a scheme is likely to receive from parents. At present a Meeting at Dulwich seems difficult, and I am therefore asking if you would be kind enough to detach and post the slip at the bottom of this letter by return. (A penny stamp on an unsealed envelope is sufficient).

In my own view, though Rossall is some distance from London (approximately the same as Plymouth in another direction), the advantages of a quiet life and uninterrupted schooling for your boy at such a time as this, outweigh almost every other consideration. I very much hope that you will allow him to join the party when it goes.

Yours truly,

C.R.Allison. Headmaster.

To the Headmaster, Alleyn's School, at Albion Place, Maidstone.

I am / am not prepared to allow my boy(s) to join the school party for re-evacuation to Rossall.

He is at present at Maidstone / Rogerstone