

Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN



1st December 2023

Good afternoon,

I hope that you have had a positive week. Congratulations to year 8s for completing their exams over the last few days. I appreciate that many may well have felt a little overwhelmed at the start of this week, but it is really good practice for future public exams, I can assure you. It was reassuring to see the students settling in to the exam routines as the week evolved. Year 11s continue their core exams on Monday also. We enjoyed seeing the former students on Wednesday evening who collected their GCSE certificates. We always look forward to catching up with them. Any certificates not collected will go home via siblings, or will be posted home in January 2024.

I am grateful for your support around the recent incidents of anti-social behaviour that we have been hearing about. To keep children safest, my best advice continues to be to ensure that students stay away from Tesco and the precinct

after school hours. Please do not pick children up from this area either after school. The extra traffic is unnecessary and I do not want children becoming involved in incidents by association, or accidentally. I did deliver a whole school assembly to students yesterday around this. The assembly was used to thank the majority of children who always behave according to our high expectations.

Thanks to Rock Academy

Huge thanks for Rock Academy and staff, for a wonderful concert on Tuesday night.



What's inside this week...

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Careers News—opportunities this week

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Sports News

The bands go from strength to strength and it was an absolute joy to be there.
Thanks Mr Badham!

Year 10 update

Next week, year 10s will have their CV writing workshops followed by their mock interviews with industry guests on 13th December.

Year 10 Parents' Evening is Thursday 14th December. This is online via SchoolCloud.

Year 11 Parent Forum

We look forward to seeing year 11 parents online next Thursday. In this session, we will be running through some key areas for the forthcoming mock examinations. On a cold winters night, we hope that you appreciate having this online rather than in person.



Forgotten belongings or equipment

Please could I ask that students are reminded to bring PE kits into school on the designated day for either their lessons, or after school activities. If you have cause to have to bring these into school for them, we can no longer offer a delivery service to class. Instead students will be notified to collect them from LSU. Thank you!

Staff communication

Last week, I kindly asked via the bulletin if any general school email queries might be addressed to your child's tutor in the first instance. Despite this, SLT have still received numerous direct contacts throughout this week, often out of hours. If this type of contact could be reserved for emergencies only, it would be appreciated.

Snow Arrangements

Firstly, it is very rare that the school will close for snow, or poor weather. If conditions cause me to consider a school



closure, I always liaise first with our Site Supervisor here in Alcester and the other two secondary school headteacher's, very early on the morning concerned.

If the school should close, I will aim to make this decision as soon as possible in the morning before the children, and you, attempt to make a potentially treacherous journey to school.

The school will revert to live, online lessons for years 10 and 11, and work posted on Google Classroom for year 7-9. Naturally, the live teaching is subject to staff being able to leave their own children to do this on the day. You will be notified of a closure via school comms, X, Facebook and Instagram.

I ask that you try to fully support the school whatever the decision is, and you do not make lethal journeys if the conditions in your local area are poor. The conditions on Gerard Road have been particularly bad in the last couple of years after snow. It gets very compacted and icy. We have campaigned with the council for support but sadly to no avail. Kinwarton Parish have supplied a second grit bin to try and help us.

Student Christmas Lunch

If your child wants a traditional Christmas lunch on either Tuesday 19th December or Wednesday 20th December, they can pay in advance shortly on School Gateway. The cost is £3.50 for a full traditional meal and choice of dessert, and £2.80 for just the main course. With regret, children cannot decide if they want a traditional meal on the day. We need to carefully pre-order and make arrangements in advance for these. Thanks for your understanding.

Children in receipt of free school meals will be sent a separate communication on how to reserve next week.



Good news stories

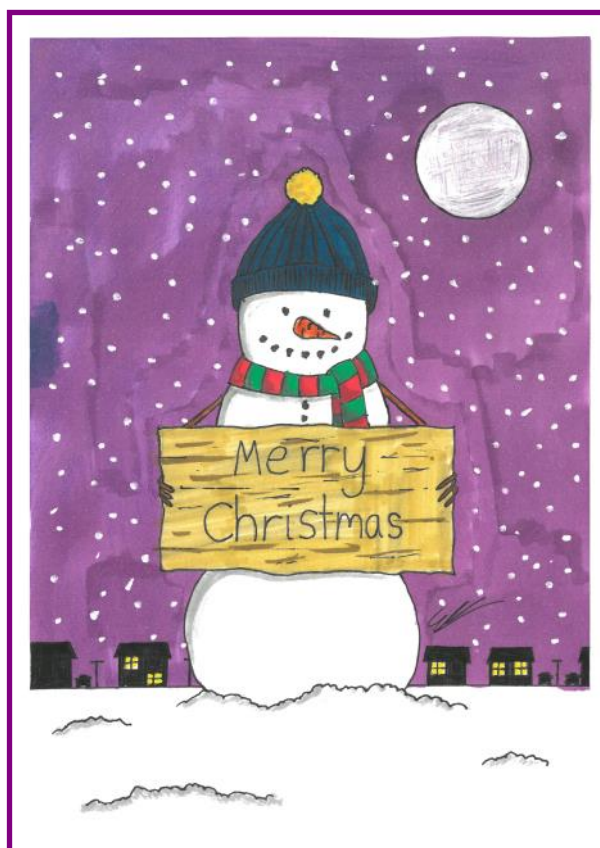
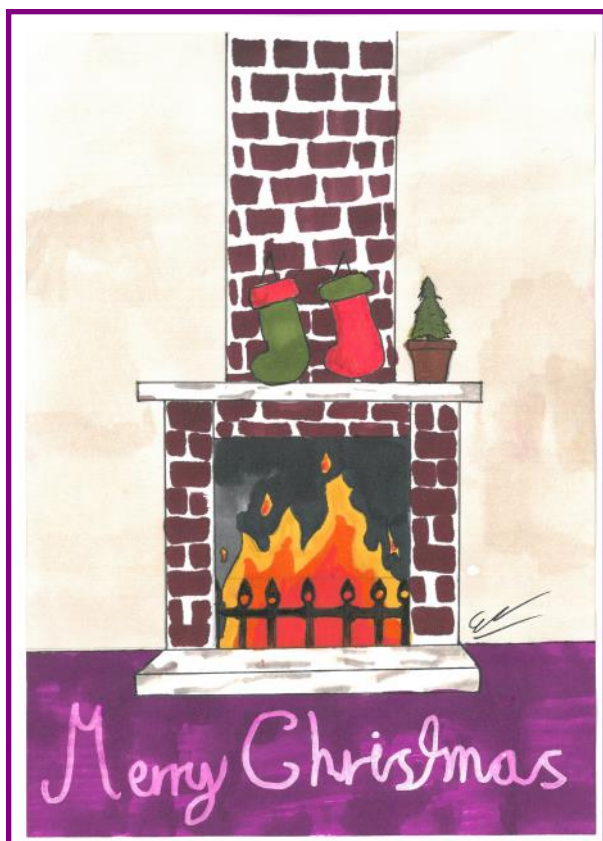
Congratulations to Zoe in year 11. Zoe won an amazing amount of awards at the Midland Breeders Association Awards evening last weekend rounding off a very successful showing year with her horse, Rem (previously featured).



We were extremely proud to hear that Bea, a former student, has secured a place at Oxford University after her sixth form time at KES. Well done from all of us Bea!

Thank you Edward in year 8 for designing the school Christmas cards this year.

I was really impressed with Sophie in year 7 who was selected to support Peter Andre last weekend switching on Christmas lights locally. Wow!



Good luck to Courtney in year 9 this weekend who has been selected to play in the under 14's West Midlands regional water polo team! We wish you all the best!



Early finish

Just a reminder that we finish at 12.40pm on Friday 22nd December 2023. In order to support the safe dismissal of all children, we would like parents to use the one-way system along Gerard Road. **Please enter Gerard Road via Captain's Hill and exit via Gerard Road leading into Throckmorton Road. Alternatively, parents can make arrangements to collect children from Captain's Hill.** Thanks for helping by following this. It creates a safe and steady exit for all.

Miss McKenzie will be taking over the bulletin next week as she nears completion of her first term with us as Assistant Headteacher. I'll be back in contact with you in readiness for Christmas though!

Wishing you a super weekend ahead.

Best wishes
Sarah Mellors—Headteacher

WARWICKSHIRE TEEN BOOK AWARD

Angela from Warwickshire Schools Library Service visited on Tuesday to talk to the Teen Book Award students about the books they have been reading.

Which book will they choose?



Mrs Hands

Epraise Facts & Figures

Student Leader board:

1	Noah	7RA	172 points—Second week at No.1
2	Zachery	7KO	167 points—Second week at No.2
3	Chloe	7KO	162 points—First week at No.3
4	Amber	7WI	159 points
4	Alfie	7LX	159 points
6	Maddie	7KO	158 points
7	Alex	8SI	157 points
8	Ethan	7KO	155 points
9	Isabella	7RA	148 points
10	Phoebe	7KO	146 points

Top Students—this week:

1	Izzy	11HE	16 points
1	Lily	7TN	16 points
3	Neve	7LX	15 points
3	Rachel	11MR	15 points
3	Grace	7WI	15 points
3	Lauren	7TN	15 points
7	Summer	10HL	14 points
7	Clementine	9BI	14 points
9	Grace	7RA	13 points
9	Hugh	11GO	13 points

Top Tutor—this week:

1	11MR	214 points—First week at No.1
2	7RA	212 points—Second week at No.2
3	7TN	210 points—First week at No.3
4	7LX	203 points
5	7KO	192 points

Top Staff—this week:

1	Mr Yarrington	313 points —First week at No.1
2	Mrs Gorner	305 points—First week at No.2
3	Mrs Marshall	212 points—First week at No.3
4	Mr Rossiter	211 points
5	Mr Martin	189 points

Top Subjects—this week:

1	English	595 points—Third week at No.1
2	Science	426 points—First week at No.2
3	Art	389 points—First week at No.3
4	History	348 points
5	Maths	332 points



Dates for your diary this half term

Monday 4th December—Year 11 core mocks in class.

Tuesday 5th December—Year 10 CV writing workshop.

Thursday 7th December—Year 11 Parent Forum online. Revision for mocks.

Wednesday 13th December—Year 10 mock interview.

Thursday 14th December—Year 10 Parents' Evening. Online.

Monday 18th December—Year 9 Super Learning Day. Medical Mavericks.

Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th December—Rewards Trips.

Year 8 written reports out before term ends.

Friday 22nd December—Break up for Christmas at 12.40pm. One way road system in operation.

Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children.

This is not an exhaustive list. Just a guide for you.



Educake Science

DID YOU KNOW?

With the new Educake software the science department is using you can set yourself questions to answer.

Watch the video that is posted in your Google Classroom for more information on this fantastic new resource.

Alcester Academy Term Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Autumn Term ends Friday 22nd December 2023 at 12.40pm

SPRING TERM 2024

School closed Monday 8th January 2024—Teacher training day

Spring Term begins Tuesday 9th January 2024

Half Term Monday 12th – Friday 16th February 2024

Back to school Monday 19th February 2024

Spring Term ends (Easter) Friday 22nd March 2024 at 12.40pm

SUMMER TERM 2024

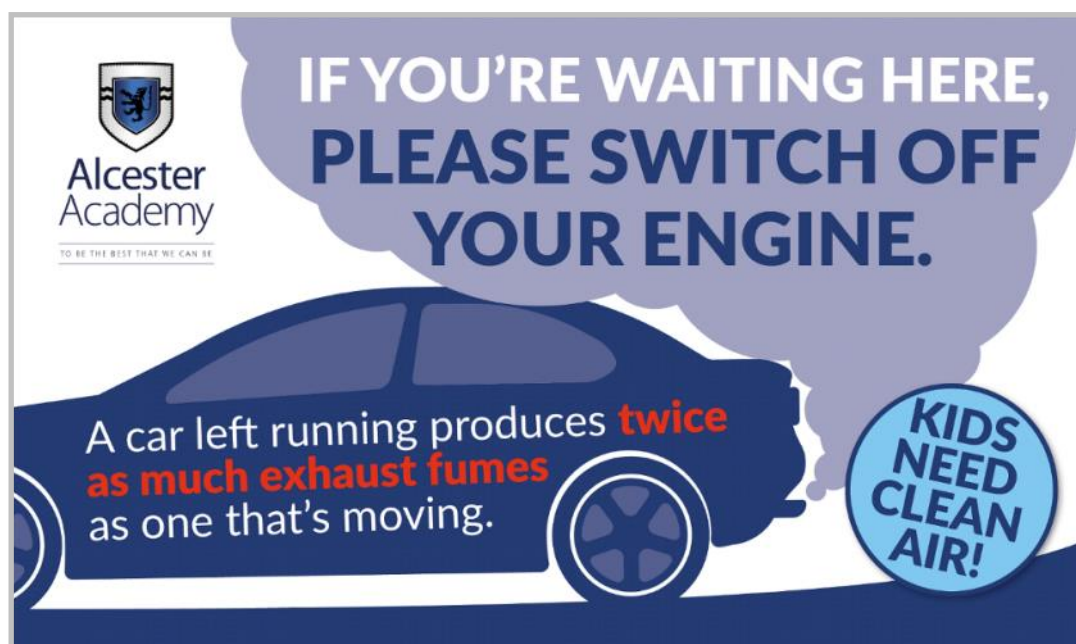
Summer Term begins Monday 8th April 2024

May Bank Holiday Monday 6th May 2024

Half Term Monday 27th – Friday 31st May 2024

Back to school Monday 3rd June 2024

Summer Term ends Friday 19th July 2024 at 12.40pm



Extra Curricular Clubs

<p>Monday</p> <p><u>LUNCH</u></p> <p>Science Club KS3 S3</p> <p>Acoustic Group Music Hut</p> <p><u>AFTER SCHOOL</u></p> <p>Ornithology T4</p>	<p>Tuesday</p> <p><u>MORNING</u></p> <p>Morning Sports Club Gym</p> <p><u>LUNCH</u></p> <p>Young Enterpsie E6/5</p> <p>Pop Band Music Hut</p> <p>Game Design It</p> <p><u>AFTER SCHOOL</u></p> <p>School Show Hall</p>	<p>Wednesday</p> <p><u>LUNCH</u></p> <p>Chess/Board Game M4</p> <p>BBC Young Reporters E1</p> <p><u>AFTER SCHOOL</u></p> <p>Rock Academy Music</p> <p>LGBTQIA+ club E4</p>
<p>Thursday</p> <p><u>LUNCH</u></p> <p>Environment Club E2</p> <p>Rock Band Music Hut</p> <p>Humanities Film Club Top of the Tower</p> <p><u>AFTER SCHOOL</u></p> <p>School Show Hall</p> <p>Art Club Art</p>	<p>Friday</p> <p><u>LUNCH</u></p> <p>Chess/Board Game M4</p> <p>Guitar Orchestra Music Hut</p>	<p>Saturday</p> <p>Rock Academy 10am-11.30am</p> <p>School Show 10m-4pm</p> <p>7th October 21st October 11th November 18th November</p>



Attendance Updates

Whole School Attendance: 92%

Top tutors this week:

7TN with 95.8% attendance

8GA with 98.9% attendance

9BI with 95% attendance

10RO with 97% attendance

11LE with 98.3% attendance

Top House this week:

Greville with 93.2%

Our whole school attendance has dropped this week. If your child is feeling better towards the end of a bout of illness, please encourage them to return to school, as this can really support their attendance and minimize lost learning time. Thank you.

If your child is absent from school, please inform the Attendance Officer, Mrs Louise Hatcher, of the reason before 9.30am each day. This can be done through SchoolComms, by calling 01789 762285, or by emailing louisehatcher@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

Thank you.

the national sleep helpline

Does your child suffer with sleep issues?

Do you struggle with your child's bedtime?

Will your child not sleep in their own bed?

WE CAN HELP

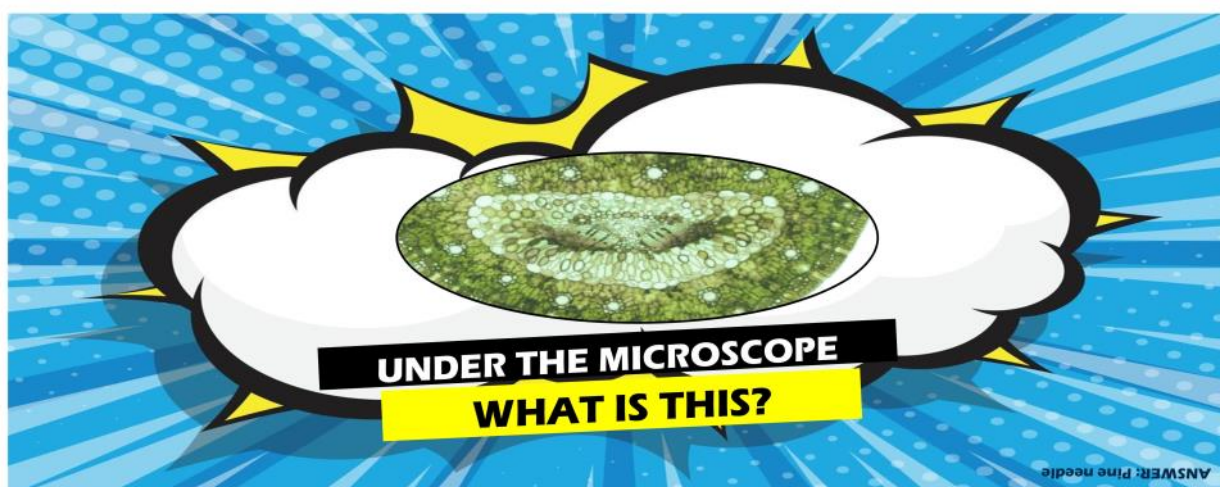
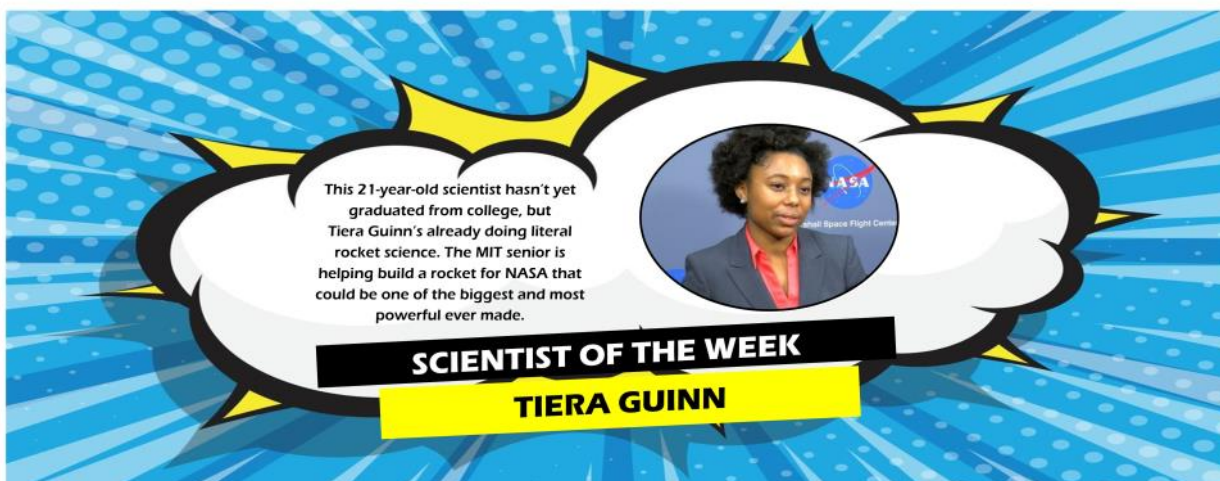
03303 530 541

Sunday - Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Wednesday 9am - 11am

Year 11 Revision

Please find attached our revision timetable for this half term.
Mr Cooke

Day	Core LUNCH	Core AFTER SCHOOL
Monday	Study Room M5	
Tuesday	Study Room S5	English
Wednesday	Study Room E2	Science
Thursday	Study Room E2	Maths



Careers News—opportunities this week

On Wednesday, Alcester Academy students were given the opportunity to visit SJG International, an engineering company based in Alcester.

You may remember that SJG visited the Academy last half term. They are currently seeking to engage with local school leavers wishing to pursue a career in engineering and have a range of

opportunities on offer, including apprenticeships. This visit was an opportunity to explore the company and gave an insight to a possible future career path. Students wishing to pursue this avenue further are now encouraged to contact SJG International directly, with a view to potential work experience as the next stepping stone.
Miss Bartlett



Visit to SGGS

On Tuesday, a group of year 10 and 11 girls unable to attend Stratford Girls' Grammar School Sixth Form open evening, due to the *Aladdin* school production, were invited to visit during the school day.

They spoke with Dr Griffiths, Head of Sixth Form, before having a tour of the school with current year 12 and 13 students. This was a wonderful, additional opportunity provided by our colleagues at SGGS and we are extremely grateful to them for working with us.



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Lunchtime Sport



****HT 2 LUNCHTIME SPORT****



- Lunchtime sports clubs to start w/b Monday 6th November on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
- Lunchtime sport will follow a set timetable each half-term and run from 1.45-2.15pm (4:1)
- PE kit is not required to participate but you must have suitable footwear to be allowed into the gym

w/b	MONDAY - PE	TUESDAY - MO	WEDNESDAY - PW
6/11/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS3 Basketball
13/11/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS4 Basketball
20/11/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS3 Basketball
27/11/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS4 Basketball
4/12/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS3 Basketball
11/12/23	All Years Girls Netball	Y11 Indoor Football	KS4 Basketball

After School Sport



****THIS WEEK'S SPORT**: W/B 4/12/23**



Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday	Year 10 + 11 Netball v AGS - PE	AGS
	Level 2 Boys Indoor Rowing Competition - PW	Gym
Tuesday	External Archery Coaching (Selective) - PW	Gym
	KS3 Girls Football - External coach	Field
	KS3 Rugby - MO	Field
Wednesday	Year 9 Basketball v AGS	AGS
	All Years Girls Rugby - MO	Field
Thursday	Year 10 Rugby - MO	Field
	Year 7 + 8 Netball - PE	Courts
Friday	Year 11 Football v Sidney Stringer School (Coventry) 2.30pm KO - MO	Top Field

**Please note that all outdoor practise will now
finish at 4.15pm due to the lack of light**

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Student Spotlight: Courtney—Water Polo

Congratulations to Courtney in year 9 who has recently been selected to join the U14's West Midlands Regional Water Polo team.



We wish Courtney the very best of luck as she takes part in a regional tournament being held this weekend and we look forward to updating you on the team's progress in next week's school bulletin.

This week's sport roundup: Year 8 and 9 Netball v AGS

Our year 8 and 9 netball players went to Alcester Grammar on Monday to play a friendly fixture in their sports hall.

It was an enjoyable evening and a great opportunity to work on team tactics and a chance to try out different formations. Year 9 came away winners on the night playing some lovely flowing netball. AGS won the year 8 game, but I was really pleased to see the progress our girls made during the evening.



TEXTACADEMY

**Report incidents of bullying, theft,
cyber issues, crime or anti-social behaviour**



I'm being bullied - I don't know what to do -

textacademy to 07563130478

with your message

or

email your message to:

textacademy@alcesteracademy.org.uk

07563130478

Pastoral Leader

Salary Scale K point 28 FTE £36,649 (Actual pro rata £31,751)

Closing date Friday 15th December at 12 noon

Interview date WC 18th December 2023

Job Description – Pastoral Leader

This is an exciting opportunity for a new role within the school. The Pastoral Leader will be directly responsible to the Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Personal Development and Behaviour and Attitudes. Core Purpose of the Post: The role of the Pastoral Leader is to work closely with SLT to oversee students and be responsible for their welfare, attendance, attitude to learning and enjoyment of school. Much of the work is self-generating, and the post holder will be expected to operate within established procedures and guidelines and to prioritise day-to-day work. This is a full-time post starting at 8am until 4.30pm.

The application deadline is 12 noon on Friday 15th December 2023

Interviews will take place during week beginning 18th December 2023

If you have any questions with regard to this vacancy or wish to visit the school, please contact: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

We look forward to receiving your application. Please note that this school is committed to safeguarding, equality of opportunity, and promoting the welfare of children and young people. An enhanced DBS check will be required.



[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Second i/c of maths

MPS/UPS + TLR Subject to experience

Closing Date: Friday 8th December 2023 12 noon

Interviews: Week commencing 11th December 2023



The School

Alcester Academy is a highly successful 11-16 school with 647 students currently on roll. Alcester is located between Studley and Stratford-Upon-Avon. The school has an excellent reputation based on examination results, a progressive approach to educational development and a strong sense of community. At our last inspection, Ofsted judged us good with a view to returning very soon in order to re-assess this decision towards an outstanding judgement. The schools' overall Progress 8 score for 2019 was 0.77, which once again places us as one of the top performing non selective schools in Warwickshire, and in the top 5% nationally. In 2022, the Progress 8 score for the school was +0.46.

The school has a new leadership team and we consider that the welfare of staff is of paramount importance.

Further details about the school can be found on our website, including our current curriculum information. Our X feed (@AlcesterAcademy) is another excellent source for a feel of the school.

The Post

This is an exciting opportunity for a strong middle leader with a proven track record of exemplary student outcomes. The successful applicant will be able to demonstrate experience of effective leadership and ambition towards future management in a Middle Leadership position, and a willingness to contribute to the whole staff team. Flexibility and the ability to innovate are desirable qualities, along with energy and capacity for hard work. The successful candidate will have a good understanding of what effective Teaching & Learning looks like for children of all abilities and be committed to enable all students to access the curriculum in order to fulfil their academic potential. They will be able to engage and enthuse students of all aptitudes. Resilience and drive are desirable qualities in order to ensure that students at Alcester Academy are provided with the very best life opportunities possible.

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Teacher of Science (Maternity Cover)

Salary: TMS Location: Alcester, Warwickshire

Contract Type: Full Time

Contract Term: Temporary (maternity cover)

Required: From February 2024 (start date negotiable)

Closing Date: Friday 8th December 2023 at 12 noon



A vacancy has arisen to become part of an outstanding science department within a high performing and friendly school. Alcester Academy enjoys a strong reputation locally and nationally as a result of our caring ethos and excellent academic performance.

The successful applicant will join an ambitious and supportive science team as maternity cover. At Alcester Academy, teachers enjoy the freedom to deploy their individual skills, and talents, whilst conveying a passion for their subject and delivering excellent outcomes.

The science department is proud of the progress that students make. As a team, we have an established record of excellent results; in 2022 results far exceeded National Averages: P8 for the whole school was +0.46 and science achieved a VA of +0.55. In 2023 86% achieved a minimum of 2 grade 4s in science with 71% achieving at least 2 grade 5s. Applicants will be considered from all points of experience, including early career teachers. In Key Stage 3, teachers would have sole responsibility for a class and are expected to deliver all content. At Key Stage 4, teachers are given more opportunity to teach within their specialist area. As a small department, flexibility and teamwork is particularly important. An ability to teach physics at Key Stage 4 would be desirable, however not essential. At KS4 both combined and triple science is offered. We currently work with AQA.

If you feel that Alcester Academy could be for you, please feel free to arrange a conversation or a school tour with our Head of Science, Debbie Marshall or simply complete the application form. More details regarding this post and an application pack is available by emailing: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

*Alcester Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
Enhanced DBS disclosure is required for appointment to this post.*

[ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

