# Alcester Academy Weekly BULLETIN



### 13th June 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Good afternoon, I hope that you have had a positive week.

Today, we hosted a visit from our local MP, Manuela Perteguella and various councillors to discuss the growing road

safety concerns around Alcester schools to include buses, parent parking and speed of traffic.

I was joined by the Principal from AGS, Ms Thorpe, Mrs Newell, Headteacher from St Nicholas Primary School and Mrs Jodie McCracken, Headteacher of The Fortitude School for the traffic summit meeting. I will write to you in more detail about the outcome of the visit in due course.

#### In news this week

We embarked on the new school day times this week, with an extended tutor time and minor adjustments made to break and lunchtimes. The students have adapted very well to this so far and I am grateful to them for showing super maturity in their approach towards this. This is a trial initially and we will canvas the opinions of staff and students before we make any definitive decisions for the future.

Our uniform drive has continued in earnest, and we are certainly seeing a lot more shirts being tucked in, and some greater pride being shown in appearances. Thank you for continuing to support this drive.

Year 10s started their exams extremely well this week. These are spread out in between the year 11 GCSEs. They also received some stunning end of year reports. Fourteen students received a full compliment of grade 1s for their Attitudes to Learning on these. This is a record number, with many other students getting very close to this too.

Congratulations also to year 7s for their reports this week. It was lovely to see parents on School Cloud last night for parents' evening. If you need to follow anything up from this, do let us know.

It was a delight to see so many of you of last week's Street Market in Alcester either supporting Rock Academy or the Friends of Alcester Academy.



#### What's inside this week

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Our parents raised a respectable £400.65. We appreciated all of your donations to help this cause. Thank you to our Chair, Clare alongside Rachel, Steve and Gill for their hard work preparing for this and then winning the overall prize for the best costumes in the parade! Wow!

# "FRIENDS" OF ALGESTER AGADEMY











#### School meetings and visits

If parents could make contact with us before arriving in school rather than expecting to see staff instantly, I'd be most grateful. SLT schedules mean that we cannot always see parents at a moments notice and we don't want to disappoint you.

### **New PE Kit for September 2025**

Further to my recent updates about the new PE kit for year 7s for September 2025. I am aware that many of you are re-ordering kit on the Price & Buckland website. I spoke to their team this week and they are optimistic that stock will now be in late June time to start sending out to you all. https://price-buckland.co.uk/school-finder

### PRIDE Month— June

Miss McKenzie led assembly this week around the theme of PRIDE, what it means and its history.



### Smartphone Free Childhood

https://parentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/

This is just a reminder to sign the parent pact to help make positive change in Warwickshire if you agree with the growing dangers around Smart Phone use for our children.



### Mr Simms enjoying retirement!

Mr Simms, former Bidford Primary School Headteacher, wrote to me this week in order to thank our students for presenting him with an Amazon voucher at the end of last summer as part of his retirement gift. He was thrilled to show me that he had purchased new wheels for his skateboard with it! Mr Simms has been skateboarding for over 50 years I'm told! If you know Mr Simms, I hope that has made you all smile a lot!



Pictured here at Winchcombe skate park.

#### Warwickshire Welfare Scheme

 $\underline{\text{https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfare}}\\ \text{scheme}$ 

#### What support is available?

Help for Warwickshire residents struggling to pay utility bills.

In recognition that an unexpected increase in costs can create challenges for our residents who are experiencing financial hardship, another county wide utilities voucher campaign launched Monday 9 June 2025.

A one-off voucher payment will be available to help those who are struggling to afford energy and water bills. This will supplement ongoing emergency support from the Local Welfare Scheme for residents in financial crisis. Households in Warwickshire can apply whether they use pre-payment meters, pay by direct debit or on receipt of a bill. Residents are invited to apply online or contact us on 0800 4081448 or 01926 359182 for a confidential discussion about their situation. All applications for the payment must be made by 27 June 2025.

### **Happy Father's Day**

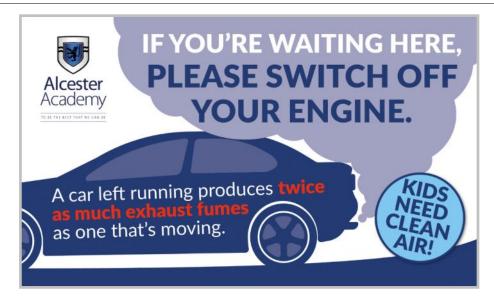
Wishing you all special day on Sunday and thinking of those for whom this might be a difficult time.

Happy Father's Day to all the dads, grandads, dads no longer here, step dads & mums who are also a dad

As we head in to next week, we have our year 11 Leavers' Assembly, the year 8 Big Bang Trip, a year 9 Nanotechnology Conference, and SLT and ELT are meeting our new year 6 families online. The World Rock Academy Tour continues too!

Wishing you all a super weekend ahead.

 $Sarah\ Mellors — Head teacher$ 



<sup>\*</sup> www.alcesteracademy.org.uk \* 01789 762285 \* admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk \* X @AlcesterAcademy \*

### A Careers Workshop with KS2 at Haselor

Yesterday, as part of their school careers focus week, I was thrilled to visit Haselor Primary School to deliver a bespoke careers workshop.

I was joined by Ethan, Lilia, Georgia and alumni from Haselor Harry, all from year 9, to support the workshop.

The KS2 students focused on the importance of their personal skills and qualities and were learning how this might impact future career choices.

We had a fabulous session and I'm very grateful for the opportunity to meet with such hardworking students. Good luck with your career journeys!

Miss Bartlett







### Dates for your diary

June 2025 Pride Month at Alcester Academy

Wednesday 18th June 2025 Year 8 Big Bang trip

Wednesday 18th June 2025 Year 9 Nanotechnology Conference

Friday 20th June 2025 Year 9 vaccinations

Monday 23rd June 2025 World Music Day

Monday 23rd June 2025 Year 5 Open Morning

Tuesday 24th June 2025 Year 8 geography trip to Cheddar Gorge

Thursday 26th June 2025 Year 5 Open Morning

Thursday 26th June 2025 South Warwickshire athletics

Thursday 26th June 2025 Year 11 Prom Night

Monday 30th June 2025 Auditions for the school production of Grease!

Tuesday 1st July 2025 KS2 Literature and Numeracy morning

Wednesday 2nd July 2025 Year 6 Induction Day

Thursday 3rd July 2025 Sports Day

Friday 4th July 2025 Wimbledon trip

Monday 7th July 2025 Geography department trip to Bristol

Thursday 10th July 2025 Celebration Evening

Friday 11th July 2025 D of E Bronze assessed expedition

July 2025 Planning of September 2025 Reward Trips

These diary dates are subject to change.

<sup>\*</sup> www.alcesteracademy.org.uk \* 01789 762285 \* admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk \* X @AlcesterAcademy \*

### **Alcester Academy Term Dates**

#### **SUMMER TERM 2025**

School closed Friday 27th June 2025—Teacher training day

Summer Term ends Friday 18th July 2025 at 12.40pm

**AUTUMN TERM 2025** 

School closed Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September Teacher training day

**5** 

**Autumn Term begins** 

Years 7 and 11 only

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

Years 8, 9 and 10 only

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

All students back

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Half term Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025

Back to school Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025

Autumn Term ends Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 12.40pm

**SPRING TERM 2026** 

School closed Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Teacher training day

Spring Term begins Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Half Term Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Back to school Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

Spring Term ends (Easter) Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 12.40pm

**SUMMER TERM 2026** 

Summer Term begins Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

School closed Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026

Teacher training day

May Bank Holiday Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Half Term Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Back to school Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

Summer Term ends Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 12.40pm

School closed Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

Teacher training day

<sup>\*</sup> www.alcesteracademy.org.uk \* 01789 762285 \* admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk \* X @AlcesterAcademy \*

### Rocking the Streets and Schools!

Well done to all the talented performers who took to the Rock Academy stage at the Alcester Street Market on Sunday—you were absolutely amazing! Your energy and passion lit up the event and really entertained the crowd.

The excitement continued on Tuesday as the *World Tour of Local Primary Schools* kicked off at Haselor. The Pop Band and Alcester Rock Academy delivered fantastic performances that had everyone clapping along! What a brilliant start to the tour—full of talent, enthusiasm, and school spirit.

Mr Badham













### Lead Teacher of RE

**Starting September 2025** 

MPS1 £31,650 - MPS6 £43, 607

Closing Date: Friday 11th July at 12 noon

Interviews: Week commencing 14th July 2025

### ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

A vacancy has arisen to become the Lead Teacher of RE within a high performing and friendly school. Alcester Academy enjoys a strong reputation locally and nationally because of our caring ethos and excellent academic performance. This is an exciting role for the right candidate and will require passion and energy for the subject.

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. Students in Year 7 and 8 currently study Religious Studies and then all students spend Year 9 and 10 continuing with their KS4 studies (AQA). At present, the majority of Year 11s complete a full GCSE in RE.

Applicants will be considered from all points of experience, including newly qualified teachers. If you feel that Alcester Academy could be for you, please contact the Headteacher, for an informal discussion, or simply complete the application form.

More details regarding this post and an application pack is available by emailing: <a href="mailto:admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk">admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk</a>, or by visiting the Alcester Academy website.

Please complete an Alcester Academy application form. A written statement in support of your application will be accepted but we do not consider CVs. The application deadline is 12 noon on Friday 11th July, with interviews taking place week commencing 14th July 2025. Alcester Academy reserve the right to appoint before the deadline for a suitable candidate.

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. For shortlisted candidates, please be aware that online searches may be done as part of due diligence check.



### Epraise Leaderboard—for the past 7 days

### Top Students—past 7 days:

1	Tom	7WI	Ragley	32 points
2	Barney	7WI	Billesley	29 points
3	Rupert	7WI	Billesley	28 points
4	Alice	9TU	Greville	26 points
5	Elijah	7LX	Ragley	22 points
5	Robyn	7RA	Greville	22 points
7	Sienna	7KO	Billesley	21 points
7	Faye	7WI	Ragley	21 points
7	Ben	7TN	Billesley	21 points
10	Poppy	7WI	Ragley	20 points

### Top House—past 7 days:

1	Ragley	1504 points
2	Billesley	1449 points
3	Greville	1408 points
4	Oversley	1389 points

### Top Subjects—past 7 days:

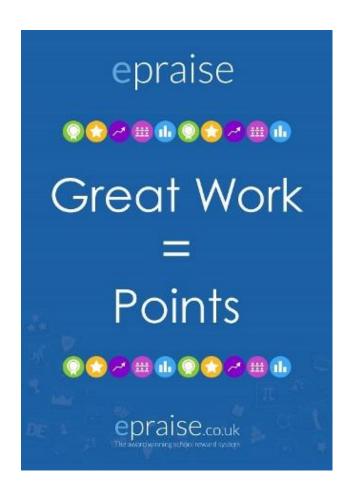
1	English	711 points
2	Science	499 points
3	History	444 points
4	Maths	330 points
5	French	282 points

### Top Staff—past 7 days:

1	Mr Rossiter	444 points
2	Mrs Marshall	289 points
3	Miss Lewis	286 points
4	Mrs Weatherley	284 points
5	Mrs Hirji	265 points

### **Top Tutors—past 7 days:**

1	7WI	420 points
$\frac{1}{2}$	7RA	348 points
		-
3	7TN	307 points
4	7KO	289 points
5	7LX	279 points



### **Could You Be Our Next School Governor?**

## Alcester Academy is seeking committed individuals to join our Governing Body

Our Governors come from a wide range of backgrounds and share a common goal: to ensure every student at Alcester Academy receives the highest quality education and support. Working closely with the Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team, and staff, Governors provide strong strategic direction and help shape the school's future.

We are proud of our welcoming, inclusive, and positive school ethos, and we believe that a strong Governing Body plays a vital role in sustaining this environment.

You don't need experience in education—just a willingness to contribute, learn, and make a difference. While the time commitment is flexible, we ask Governors to attend at least four meetings per term.

If you're interested in finding out more, please contact Mike Dean, Chair of Governors, at <a href="mikedean@alcesteracademy.org.uk">mikedean@alcesteracademy.org.uk</a>, or get in touch with the Academy office <a href="mailto:admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk">admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk</a>.

Mike Dean—Chair of Governors

# SUMMER OPEN MORNINGS AT ALCESTER ACADEMY



Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025



The Staff and Governors of Alcester Academy warmly invite you to our

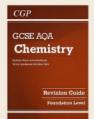
### Summer Open Mornings

Summer Open Mornings offer a pre-bookable guided tour of the school at 9.30am or 11.35am, with a member of the SLT. To book a guided tour call the main office on 01789 762285 or alternatively email <a href="mailto:admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk">admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk</a>.

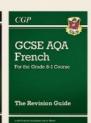
The school will also be holding
Guided Open Mornings in the Autumn term.
Respectfully, we ask families to book either a
Summer Open Morning or an Autumn Open Morning.

Alcester Academy Gerard Road, Alcester B49 600 Tel: 01789 762285
Email: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk
Website: www.alcesteracademy.org.uk

## WANTED-REVISION GUIDES







When you have completed your courses, please consider donating your revision guides to the school.

In return you will receive entry into a prize draw that will take place in leavers assembly. You receive 1 entry per subject.

Books should be handed in to Mrs Marshall in S6 by break on Monday 16th June.

# Extra Curricular Timetable

Summer 2025

### Monday

Lunchtime

Pride Group- E4 Acoustic Group- Hut ART- A1 & A2



### Tuesday

<u>Lunchtime</u>
Pop Band- Hut
ART- A1 & A2
Mr Palmieri's Maths Clinic
ALL YEARS- M1
Board Games - H3
<u>After School</u>
European languages club -L2

### Wednesday

**Lunchtime** 

Orchestra - Hut

ART- A1 & A2

Chess club- M3

Introduction to Media-E5

Public Speaking - H2

After school

Cooking Club -

Alternate weeks

Introduction to Spanish - L1

(Summer 2)

### **Thursday**

#### Lunchtime

Young Enterprise- IT3 Rock Band- Hut

Photography Club - A1

Lego club - S4

Warhammer club Y8- H5

ART- A1 & A2

#### After School

Art Club (GCSE only)- A1 & A2 Musical Theatre Club - Drama History Film club -H1

### Friday

#### Lunchtime

STEM/Science- T2

Year 11 Year book-H4

ART- A1 & A2

Endangerlings Game Club - PE 1

### **Attendance News**

#### Whole School Attendance this week is 92.9%

#### Top tutors this week:

7RA with 95.1% attendance 8DA with 97.7% attendance 9GA with 97.7% attendance 10BW with 94.7% attendance If your child is absent from school, please inform the Attendance Officer, Ms Louise Hatcher, of the reason before 8.30am each day.

This can be done through SchoolComms, by calling 01789 762285, or by emailing <a href="louisehatcher@alcesteracademy.org.uk">louisehatcher@alcesteracademy.org.uk</a>. Thank you, *Ms Hatcher* 



If a pupil is ten minutes late to school or lessons each day, they will miss seven days of learning over a year.



DfE data shows that pupils with more than 95% attendance achieve better GCSE results!

#### **Notice for Parents**

To comply with the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 and Data Protection expectations, it is vitally important that Alcester Academy keeps accurate and up to date information relating to every pupil on roll.

The information we are required to record includes:

- Pupil's full legal name (and if appropriate, their preferred name).
- The name, address and contact details of every person known to the school/academy who is a parent\* to the pupil with whom the pupil normally resides (this is the address that has been used to register with their GP).
- The name, address and contact details of any additional parent\*.
- Any other emergency contact details.

In order to gather this information, every year we send out data collection forms. Parents are asked to complete the form with as much information as possible and then return to the school, signed and dated. We would ask that even where there are no amendments to the data collection sheet, parents return the form, signed and dated.

Alcester Academy requests that if you change your contact number, move home or there are any other circumstances which may impact your child, the school is notified as a priority.

N.B. \*The Education Act 1996 defines a 'parent' as a). any natural parent, whether married or not, b). any parent who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility as defined in the Children Act (1989) for a child or young person c). any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.



If a pupil is ten minutes late to school or lessons each day, they will miss seven days of learning over a year.



DfE data shows that pupils with more than 95% attendance achieve better GCSE results!

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

#### UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to <u>each parent of each absent child</u>, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means <u>each</u> parent will receive 2 invoices 4 in total).
  - First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
  - Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.
- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted.
   Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.
- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A
  penalty notices will not be issued, and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal
  Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.

### \* SPORTS NEWS \* SPORTS NEWS \*

# Student Spotlight Dexter (year 9, Greville) Rugby

I am delighted to share that following a trial period with Gloucester RFC, Dexter in year 9 has secured a place in the U15 Academy starting next season. This is fantastic news for Dexter who has only taken up the sport of recently and looks to continue his development within the sport under the guidance of the coaches at Gloucester.



### This week's sport round up Year 9 Super 6 Athletics

Year 9 athletes in action at the South Warwickshire Super 6 competition. Boys—4th Place Girls—6th Place



## Will (year 10, Oversley) Athletics

I am pleased to share further success for Will within athletics following the Midland Counties Championships last weekend. Will achieved Gold in the High Jump and a Bronze (PB) in the Long Jump. To top his impressive performances Will went on to secure Gold in the 400m



Hurdles and in doing so achieving a PB of 58.8, which is the qualifying time for English Schools. Many congratulations on these achievements!

# Faith (Oversley) and Immy (Greville) Fencing

Well done to Faith and Immy in year 10 who are continuing to develop their experience and skill set within fencing. The girls fence every Monday evening with KK Fencing Club at Kenilworth Sports Centre with their coach and are making excellent progress within the sport.



### **Year 8 Super 6 Athletics**

Year 8 athletes in action at the South Warwickshire Super 6 competition Boys—4th Place Girls—4th Place



## U15 Girls Tennis v Princethorpe College

Our U15 girls tennis team took on Princethorpe College in the LTA league this week. Well done to everyone who was selected to represent the Academy in this fixture. All of the girls battled incredibly well throughout the matches against strong opposition.

Mr Moffatt

### \* SPORTS NEWS \* SPORTS NEWS \*

### **After School Sport**



# \*\*THIS WEEKS SPORT\*\*: W/B 16/6/25



Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday	Year 7 Super 6 Athletics – NA/PE U15 Girls Tennis v Arnold Lodge - MO	Stratford School Alcester Academy
Tuesday		
Wednesday	U15 Boys Tennis v Rugby School - MO U13 Cricket v Henley – NA/PE	Stratford School Henley School
Thursday	U13 and U15 Girls Tennis v Kings High – MO Year 7 and 8 Rounders - PE	Kings High Field

### CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



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