

Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN

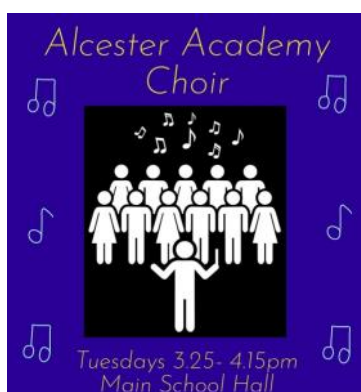


19th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Good afternoon. I hope that you have had a good week. This week we celebrated *World Religion Day* in school and Mrs Kowal led assemblies for the students. Would you believe that there are over 4000 religions around the world? If you want to pick this topic up at home, there are a number of great websites holding further information and resources for you. Here is just one of those: [World Religion Day 2024 resources - BBC Teach](#). Do ask years 7-10 about assembly this week. We had a fascinating insight into what AI says about religion.

We had thirteen students at choir this week for the first time. Within twenty minutes of the session, I was treated to the start of an Adele mash up, which was sounding fabulous. New recruits are most welcome—Tuesdays in the hall from 3.25pm-4.25pm.



In news this week: Attendance

Thank you all again for the push on attendance last week. The students enjoyed an extended break time on Tuesday as a reward for reaching 95.9% last week. I will continue to do this if we manage 95% + again. This is such an achievement. We have not been at 95% since pre-covid in 2019. The average secondary school attendance data has been published for last week and it was 91.6%.

Spotlight on new staff

We welcome Mr Law and Mr Palmieri to the maths team this term.

Mrs Goldsby has developed her role in school and will be supporting students as a teaching assistant, as well as her midday supervisor role.

As previously reported, Mrs Clarke will make the transition into the LSU team as our Pastoral Manager.

3:2 days

The structure of the day switches to 3:2s next week in light of written mocks starting for year 11s. We wish all students every success.

What's inside this week...

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Our KS4 options process—What did you say?

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LRC News—January 2024

Pages 11 & 12

Sports News

Year 7 and 8 finish time

We continue to release year 7 and 8 at 3.23pm in order to aid congestion in the corridors a little.

Thank you year 8s

Well done and thank you to the year 8s for their immunisations today in school.

Congratulations year 10 D of E

Congratulations to year 10s who spent Wednesday training in school with our D of E provider, Rezilient. The training team commented on how great the students had all been. We are so proud of you all.



Measles

We currently have no cases of measles in school. The national picture is growing however. We will keep a watching brief on this and ask that you notify us straight away if your child is diagnosed.

[National Measles Guidelines - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/national-measles-guidelines)
(www.gov.uk)

Demerits

The reasons for the demerits issued have now been released to parents and you should be able to see these via the App.

I would like to highlight however that the students have returned to school in a positive and mature way. Behaviour this week has been superb. I'm also grateful for your support within the community. Everything has returned to calm and order, with our students showing the community respect and pride.



Our KS4 options process— What did you say?

105 year 9-11 parents and carers responded to our recent survey about the options process at Alcester Academy, with 43% of year 9 parents making up the largest group. Thank you.

68% of respondents said that they felt that the two year key stage three was most appropriate, 13% had no preference and 19% of respondents saying that they would prefer a longer key stage three.

86% of respondents felt that there was an appropriate choice of subjects offered.

There were just 15 responses given around subjects that were not offered that parents would like to see. The replies to this question were tailored around combinations of subjects preferred rather than just curriculum areas.

85% of those responding said that their child had experienced an extra curricular trip or club in their key stage four time (years 9-11).

58% of those who responded were happy to offer the school more information and detail if required regarding why they supported the two year key stage three model.

What next?

Whilst these results prove interesting, and I am extremely grateful for your replies, without hearing from students now, they are in isolation. My next piece of work will be to ask the existing year 9-11 students for their opinions, and I'll report back to you after half term with these results.

This work is being conducted as research following the January 2022 Ofsted report where Inspectors said:

Pupils opt at the end of year 8 for the subjects they will study from year 9 onwards. As a result, some pupils do not study a wide range of subjects in year 9. Leaders should review their curriculum planning to ensure that all pupils are able to study a broad range of subjects commensurate with the national curriculum throughout years 7 to 9.

[Ofsted inspection of Alcester Academy](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-report/school/alcester-academy)
([ofsted.gov.uk](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk))

It remains essential that we explore this as school leaders, to be certain that the students get the very best possible experience at Alcester Academy. I look forward to keeping you updated in future weeks.

Have a say?

[Ofsted Parent View](#)

You can log your views on the school at any time using the Ofsted survey, Parent View. As yet, there are just six responses on this for 2023-24. Each year requires the input of answers once again. Remember, if you have any concerns, please raise these directly with us at school.



Friends PTA

Thank you to those parents who joined us last night for our Friends PTA meeting.



The next bingo fund raiser is on Friday 8th March 2024. Save the date!

Good news stories

Congratulations to Lottie in year 7. Last weekend, Lottie took part in the first weekend of three of the Worcester County Swimming Championships, taking part in the 1500m freestyle, and the 800m freestyle. She gained brilliant PBs in both events and finished 6th in the 1500m and 5th in the 800m. We do have some amazing swimmers on the student body!

Courtney represented Birmingham City in her water polo game last weekend. Congratulations on the team's second place, Courtney! Such an achievement!



We're wishing the performing arts team a great weekend ahead on the annual West End trip. The musical *Wicked* features this year. Such a fantastic production! I can't wait to hear all about it and share the trip report with you next week. Thank you to staff accompanying the students.

Wishing you a super weekend ahead.

Best wishes

Sarah Mellors—Headteacher

Alcester Academy Term Dates

SPRING TERM 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

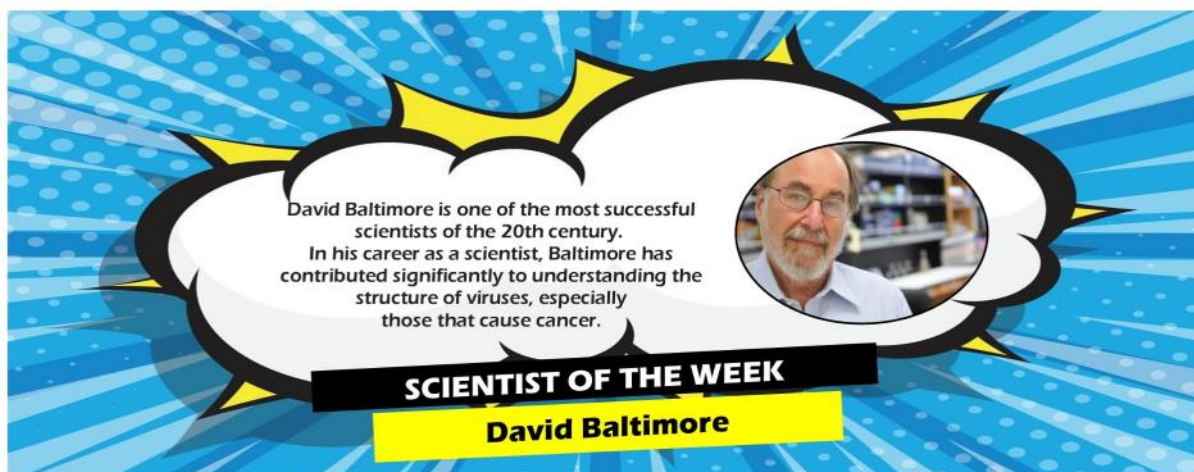
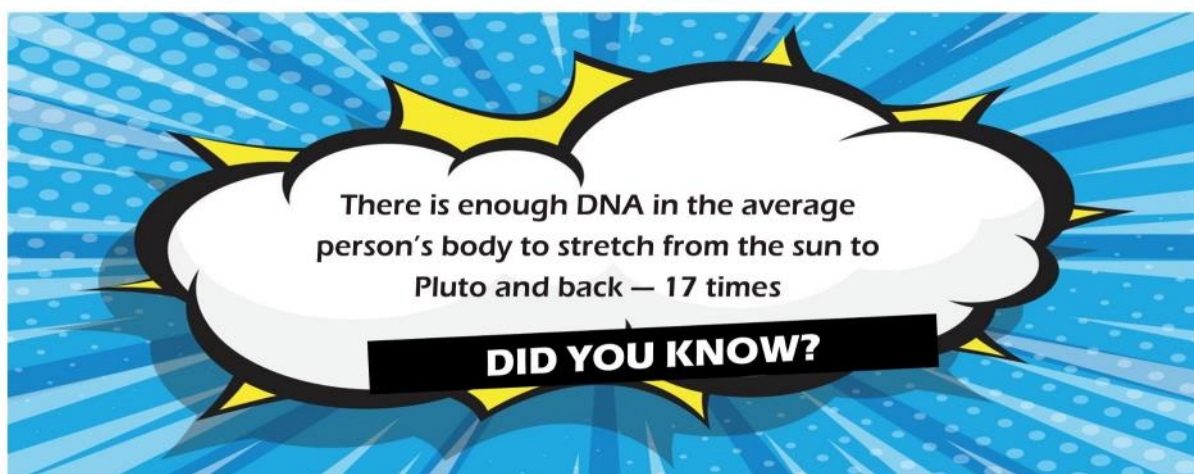
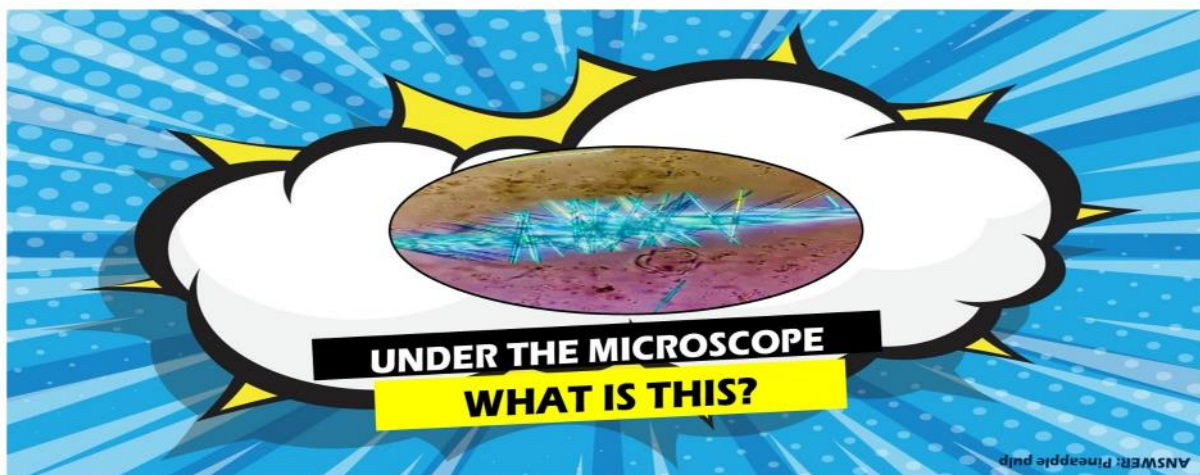
Summer Term begins Monday 8th April 2024

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



LRC News—January 2024

New AR Word Millionaires

Isla and Kaitlyn, both in year 7, have read over a million words and become Word Millionaires! Congratulations to both of you.

Congratulations, to Emily, Aaron and Hester, all in year 8 for reaching half-a-million words read.



Student Librarian news

We welcome two new student librarians, Tom and Jack, both from year 7. Hester in year 8 has completed her training and received the First Student Librarian Award, she will now continue with the Bronze Student Librarian Award.

Lions Young Leaders in Service Awards

All of our student librarians are given the opportunity to use their student librarian duties towards Lions Young Leaders in Service awards. The students log their hours over a twelve-month period, with the goal of completing either 25 (Bronze), 50 (Silver), or 100 (Gold) hours of service to the school, but can also add hours from volunteering their time to others, such as scouts, brownies, elderly family members or neighbours.

Five students were awarded certificates and badges on Thursday by David Henderson, from Alcester Lions.

* Jess, year 11—Silver *

* Skye, year 9—Bronze * Jess, year 10—Bronze *

* Em, year 10—Bronze * Jacob, year 10—Bronze *

If other students volunteer their time anywhere, then please do come and see Mrs Hands for details of how they can use this time to achieve these awards.



Warwickshire Secondary Book Award

We have a mixed group of year 7 and 8 students this year, who are all well into reading the six books chosen for the award. We had our first meetings this week. *Mrs Hands*



Warwickshire Police Cadets Recruitment 2024

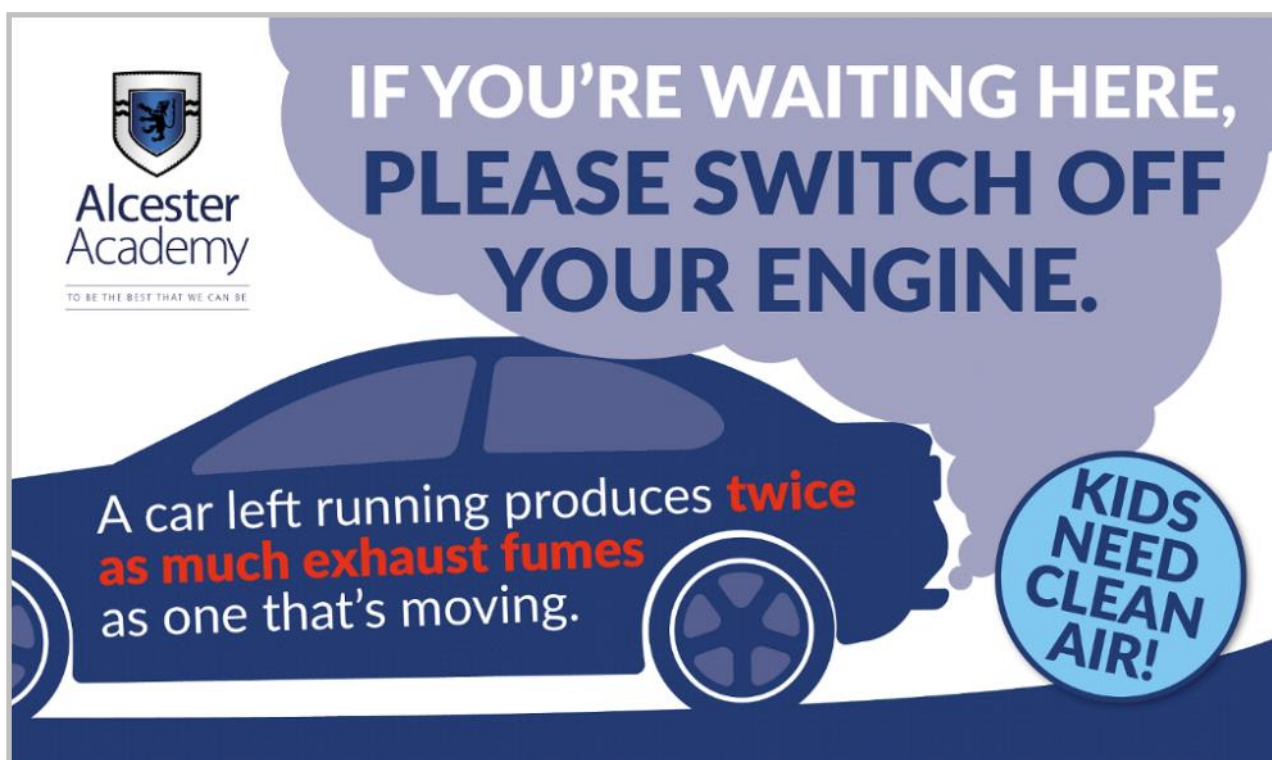
Warwickshire Police Cadets is for young people who wish to engage in a programme that offers them an opportunity to gain a practical understanding of policing, develop their spirit of adventure and good citizenship, while supporting their local policing priorities through volunteering, working with partner agencies and positive participation in their communities. We are recruiting now for new cadets to start in September 2024.

Warwickshire Police Cadets will be a perfect opportunity to meet new people, make friends, improve your life skills and volunteer in your community.

To become a Warwickshire Police Cadet you must live or be at a school in Warwickshire, and be aged 13 to 16 years old on September 1st 2024.

Recruitment is open until 29th February 2024.

Visit <https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/cadets> for further information.

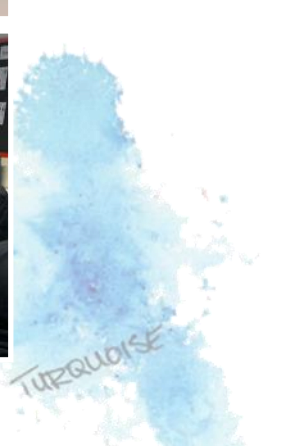


Digital Fashion Club

Our new Digital Fashion Club, on a Wednesday lunchtime in T4, is proving very popular! We had a huge turn out of pupils, ranging across years 7-9, all ready to learn more about how photography and Photoshop are used within the textile and design industry.

For the images shown below, the club members used Brusho ink and leaves to create really vibrant prints. These prints will be used in next week's session where the students will be turning them into repeat patterns.

Miss Nemeshanyi



Extra Curricular Clubs—Spring Term 2024

Monday <u>LUNCH</u> Science Club KS3 S3 Acoustic Group Music Hut Art rooms Available for all art students <u>AFTER SCHOOL</u> Ornithology T4	Tuesday <u>LUNCH</u> Young Enterpsie E6/5 Pop Band Music Hut Mock Trial E2 Art rooms Available for all art students <u>AFTER SCHOOL</u> Choir Hall 4.15 finsih	Wednesday <u>LUNCH</u> Chess/Board Game M4 BBC Young Reporters E1 (KS3 only) Digital Fashion T4 POKEMON club PE1 Art rooms Available for all art students <u>AFTER SCHOOL</u> Rock Academy Music
Thursday <u>LUNCH</u> Environment Club E2 LGQTQ+IA E4 Rock Band Humanities Film Club Top of the Tower Art rooms Available for all art students <u>AFTER SCHOOL</u> Art Club KS4 only	Friday <u>LUNCH</u> Chess/Board Game M4 Dance club Drama Studio Guitar Orchestra Music Hut Art rooms Available for all art students	Saturday Rock Academy 10am-11.30am



Year 11 Revision

Please find attached our revision timetable for this half term. Pupils need to ensure that they have their prom/hoodie card signed by their teachers after completing a successful revision session. *Mr Cooke*

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

Epraise Facts & Figures

Student Leader board:

1	Chloe	7KO	229 points
2	Noah	7RA	221 points
3	Ethan	7KO	219 points
4	Maddie	7KO	217 points
5	Phoebe	7KO	216 points
6	Zachery	7KO	215 points
7	Alfie	7LX	210 points
8	Bella	7KO	204 points
9	Lauren	7TN	200 points
9	Anna	7KO	200 points

Top Students—this week:

1	Zachery	7KO	20 points
2	Georgia	7WI	19 points
3	Mia	7LX	17 points
4	Grace	7RA	16 points
5	Corde	7LX	15 points
5	Lucy	11MR	15 points
5	Grace	11KA	15 points
5	Tegan	7KO	15 points
5	Lucus	7TN	15 points
5	Adam	11HE	15 points

Top Tutor—this week:

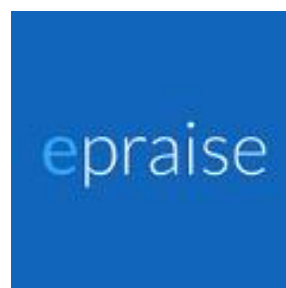
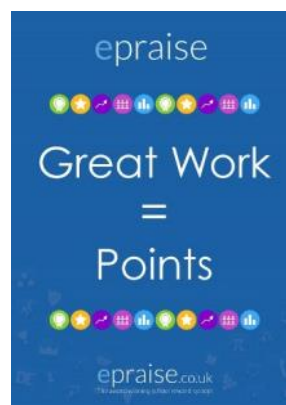
1	11MR	320 points
2	11HE	218 points
3	7KO	216 points

Top Staff—this week:

1	Mrs Marshall	483 points
2	Mr Yarrington	432 points
3	Miss Lewis	401 points

Top House—this week:

1	Oversley	1016 points
2	Billesley	1010 points
3	Greville	990 points
4	Ragley	911 points





The poster is divided into four quadrants by a central white rectangle. The top-left quadrant is blue, the top-right is red, the bottom-left is orange, and the bottom-right is green. At the top center, a golden trophy with a star on its front is surrounded by several golden coins with dollar signs. The central white rectangle contains the Alcester Academy crest (a shield with a blue lion on a silver background) and the text 'Alcester Academy' in a large, dark blue font, with the motto 'TO BE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE' in a smaller font below it. The bottom of the poster features the text 'Alcester Academy Charity House Competition' in a green, outlined font, followed by 'Competition ends Friday 9th February' in a smaller green font. The words 'COIN RACE' are written in large, bold, white-outlined letters across the bottom. Several golden coins are scattered around the bottom text. The background of the quadrants is decorated with various text prompts and illustrations of coins.

Which house will be able to collect the most coins ?

Which house will make the longest line of coins ?

Bring your spare coins to school

All proceeds go to charity

Alcester Academy

TO BE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE

Alcester Academy Charity House Competition

Competition ends Friday 9th February

COIN RACE

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Student Spotlight

Courtney – Water Polo

Congratulations to Courtney in year 9 who continues to excel within water polo. Courtney was selected to represent the City of Birmingham in water polo at a regional competition last weekend. The competition involved teams from across the country, with Courtney's finishing in an excellent 2nd position. Well done to Courtney and the City of Birmingham Water Polo team on this achievement.



This week's sport roundup

Year 9, 10 + 11 Girls Basketball

It has been a fantastic week for girls basketball at Alcester Academy, with year 9 and 10 competing at the South Warwickshire District tournament, and year 7 and 8 working hard in practise for their upcoming tournament next week.

Our year 9 and 10 teams put in some outstanding team performances with results summarised below. Well done to all involved!

Year 9—tournament winners.



Year 10—runners up.



Year 10 competing in the year 11 tournament—runners up.



* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Lunchtime Sport



SPRING 1 LUNCHTIME SPORT



- Lunchtime sports clubs to start w/b Monday 15th January 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	THURSDAY - MO
15/1	Girls 'Just Dance'	Year 11 Indoor Football	All years Table Tennis	Year 11 Indoor Football
22/1	Girls 'Just Dance'	Year 11 Indoor Football	All years Table Tennis	Year 11 Indoor Football
29/1	Girls 'Just Dance'	Year 11 Indoor Football	All years Table Tennis	Year 11 Indoor Football
5/2	Girls 'Just Dance'	Year 11 Indoor Football	All years Table Tennis	Year 11 Indoor Football

After School Sport



THIS WEEK'S SPORT: W/B 22/1/24



Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday	Year 7+8 Boys Sports Hall Athletics Competition- PW+MO	AGS
Tuesday	Archery (Selected) – Bowmen of Alcester Year 7 + 8 Girls Football- External Coach	Gym Field
Wednesday	Year 7+8 Girls Basketball tournament- PE+MO Year 10+11 Boys Basketball- PW	Shottery Gym
Thursday	Year 7+8 Boys Basketball- MO	Gym

Teacher of Maths

Recruitment incentive offered and/or TLR for suitable candidate

Closing date: 12 noon on Tuesday 23rd January 2024

Interviews: Week commencing 29th January 2024

(provisionally Monday 29th January)

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

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 mathematics department is friendly, hardworking and committed to making learning maths an interesting and enjoyable experience for all our students. The department is comprised of experienced teachers and a dedicated HLTA.

The maths department is proud of the progress that students make. As a team, we have an established record of excellent results; results in 2023 far exceeded National Averages.

Maths is taught across both KS3 and KS4 in groups that are set by mathematical ability. Students have four 60-minute maths lessons during each week. They follow the Pearson second edition scheme of work for KS3. During KS4 students follow a tailored scheme of work adapted from the Edexcel syllabus. At KS4, students can opt to study further maths and statistics as well.

We reserve the right to follow up references provided in person.

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.



Attendance Updates

Whole School Attendance: 92.9%

Top tutors this week:

7WI with 96% attendance

8TY with 98.1% attendance

9BW with 96.2% attendance

10SO with 96.7% attendance

11MO with 100% attendance

Top House this week:

Greville with 95%

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, *Mrs Hatcher*



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

Teacher of Science (Maternity Cover)

Salary: TMS

Contract Type: Full Time

Contract Term: Temporary (maternity cover)

Required: From February 2024 (start date negotiable)

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

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. Email address—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.



Teacher of Art and Photography - Maternity Cover

Starting June 2024 until June 2025 MPS/UPS

Interviews: Week commencing 4th March 2024

Closing date: Friday 1st March 2024 at 12 noon

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

A vacancy has arisen to become part of an outstanding art 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 thoroughly supportive teaching team which works within a highly successful art and design technology cluster. 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 art department is proud of the progress that students make. As a team, we have an established record of excellent results; last years' results far exceeded National Averages: the open block subjects achieved a P8 of +0.77 and the school was in the top 5% in the country for progress. This is a temporary 12-month post covering maternity leave.

Applicants will be considered from all points of experience, including newly qualified teachers. We are seeking applications from candidates with a specialism in photography, including digital aspects, but also a willingness to deliver KS3 Art. Experience of the external Set Task (examination) element of GCSE Photography would be beneficial, but not essential.

If you feel that Alcester Academy could be for you, please contact the Subject Leader, James Yarrington for informal discussion via email at: jamesyarrington@alcesteracademy.org.uk or simply complete the application form.

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.



CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

*A message for children and parents
about risks of ice and never to go onto ice from the RoSPA*

The link below offers useful safety advice:

<https://www.rospace.com/leisure-water-safety/water/advice/ice>



accidents don't have to happen



Beware - thin ice



**Want to chat about your
mental health?**

**Our helpline is available for
Coventry and Warwickshire
residents 24/7, 365 days a year.**

0800 616171

Wellbeing for Warwickshire
an open door to supporting your mental health

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY



STARS NETBALL ACADEMY

Starting 1st March 2024
at The Greig Leisure Centre, Alcester

- New to netball?
- Play for school team?
- Play for a club?

LEARN

BUILD

MASTER

Focus on skills, teamwork and most importantly have FUN!

Little Stars (School Yr 4-6) - Friday 5-6pm
Stars (School Yr 7-8) - Friday 6-7pm
Stars (School Yr 9+) - Friday 7-8pm

16 SPACES
20 SPACES
20 SPACES

To book a space and register your interest please contact:
starsnetballacademy@gmail.com
07789 554448