

# Alcester Academy

## WEEKLY BULLETIN



*2nd October 2020*

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the end of another COVID free week. The national picture continues to rise and we feel blessed that we have no cases still in school. HUGE thanks to you as parents/carers for helping to support this along the way. I extend this to students and staff. Our philosophy regarding acting with caution regarding illness is helping hugely.

My new mantra is to keep making bubble refinements so that 'tomorrow is better than today' and we find as a whole staff, that in making minor adjustments, we can operate effectively and more smoothly all of the time. The students continue to be superb in helping to support us with this in school. Whilst I miss the social interaction of bubbles mixing together, the behaviour is notably more positive in all areas of school as a result. We have made lunch times 'quicker and slicker' and four year groups can now rotate safely in one place. The

new card system is helping this a lot. As a result, the food offer is growing on a daily basis. Our fifth year group is using the new Snack Shack and we are adding a till point to this area shortly in order that we can speed up service by using the cards here too.

This week saw the return of the Wednesday roast dinner! My favourite day!

We have enjoyed watching the 'Big Assembly' led by the Diana Award for anti-bullying this week. This has been part of our tutor programme in KS3. Students have also begun watching our 'how to' Google Classroom video in tutor time in order to strengthen their IT awareness should we need to revert back to distance learning. The link for parents is mentioned below.



### Term Dates

#### AUTUMN TERM 2020

Half term  
Back to school

Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2020  
Monday 2nd November 2020

*School closed*

*Monday 14th December – Teacher training day*

Autumn Term ends

Friday 18th December 2020 at 12.40pm

#### SPRING TERM 2021

*School closed*

*Monday 4th January 2021 – Teacher training day*

Spring Term begins

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Half Term  
Back to school

Monday 15th – Friday 19th February 2021  
Monday 22nd February 2021

Spring Term ends (Easter)

Thursday 1st April 2021

I asked two of our new Year 7s to provide an update on starting secondary school for you this week:

### Why is secondary school so fun?

*These first few weeks of high school have been super fun and enjoyable because unlike primary school you do a lot more subjects such as: DT, IT, Food Tech, several different languages, Philosophy, Performing Arts and plenty more. In PE we do a lot more exciting sports like: football, table tennis, basketball, netball and lots more. Every day in between lessons we have to go into the corridors and walk to our next lesson. At primary school we just used to stay in the same classroom for the whole day with the same teacher, so this is much more varied and exciting!*

*Before I came to the Academy, I felt nervous but more excited - I was nervous about getting lost around the school (I haven't got lost at the academy even once yet!) but after just a day I was already easily finding my way around. I was also worried about making new friendships but even on the first day I made a friend and since then I've kept on making new friends.*

*The teachers are very caring, especially my form tutor who I know would help me out with anything.*

*There is no point in worrying about moving to Secondary School because after a week or two, you will get in the rhythm and you will feel completely normal. I can't wait to see what my Year 7 future at Alcester Academy brings!*

By Kobe 7NE

*Hi, my name is Jessica and I am in year seven. So far I am loving being at Alcester Academy in spite of COVID-19. I have really enjoyed being able to be with my friends again. I like all of my teachers (not to forget the dinner ladies and all of the TA's). They are always around and will give a nice smiley wave if you pass them in the corridor.*

*Being at Alcester Academy has changed my school life for the better, I love the freedom that I now have such as having a wider range of food to buy from the canteen and going to the LRC to do some of my homework. I really enjoy the Epraise system and I find it fun*

*trying to earn points to help my tutor group - 7HT- become top. I'm really enjoying being at the Academy and I can't wait to be able to use the school to its full extent when COVID-19 is over.*

Thank you to Kobe and Jessica for doing this. It is so uplifting to read.

Across the school, staff have also commented on their return:

*'Joining Alcester Academy as Head of Languages at such an unsettled time has had its challenges, however it only took days to settle in due to the amazing, friendly, helpful staff and wonderful students that I have the pleasure to teach. It is so good to be back in the classroom interacting with the students face to face, rather than on a screen. I have been amazed by how well students have adapted to the new regime and they appear to be enjoying having some normality back in their lives.'* Mrs Weatherley

*'It's great to be back because nothing beats the laughter and joy of learning in a classroom. Also, giving the students an opportunity to perform. Even with covid rules being applied, it's brilliant to see.'* Miss Sacco

*'To put it simply, I am delighted to be back doing the job I love and it is great to be making a difference again. It was never in doubt, but I am really impressed by the positivity and tolerance our young people have displayed with their return to school! They may not all want to admit it, but I can see they are really enjoying their learning within our very special AA community!'* Mr Cooke

*'Six months is a long time, but to be back now with the hustle and bustle of school life is fantastic. It's great to get to know another new year group and to see all the other students again. Not quite back to normal but it's SO good to be here!'* Mr Powell

*'It has been wonderful to be back into the classroom teaching the subject I love. The students have shown such maturity towards the 'new normal' and have been a pleasure to teach. Seeing colleagues again, and most importantly being back in the classroom has been truly wonderful. Long may it continue!'* Miss Bishop

'It's great to be back and hear music being created in the department again!' *Mr Hall*

'The students are the heart of the Academy and it's simply overwhelming to see the building come alive now we're all back together. Long may it continue!' *Miss Bartlett*

'Starting a new school is always a challenge, getting to know the students and staff is always a steep learning curve. Add to this the return to school in a pandemic just adds to the challenge. All the students and staff have been fantastic on the return to school which has made it very easy for me to join Alcester Academy. I was itching to get back into the classroom after lockdown and the move to Alcester has been made very easy thanks to all the students and staff. It's great to be back teaching face to face!' *Mr Bastock*

'The maturity and dedication in the year 11 pupils has been amazing to see. They have stepped up to the challenge and embraced opportunity to get the very best out of their final year.' *Mrs Farnell*

'There is clearly no substitute for face to face learning. Although we learnt and taught from home as best we could, the buzz of our classrooms with our amazing students is just the best. A school is just a building without all of the community inside it.' *Mr Hollis*

'I've never felt so glad to be back in the classroom! The students have been inspirational and they never fail to make me smile. My new year 7 tutor group are so positive with one of them saying to me in the first week, 'this school is so great!' I feel so lucky to do that job I do.' *Miss Taylor*

## Thank you former students

Speaking of showing academy values, many thanks to former Alcester Academy students Ryan, Ryan, John, Christian, Connor

and Charlie for spending Sunday morning with us in school turning the science labs into more traditional looking classrooms for our year 8 bubble. We are really grateful and it was lovely to see you all.



## Year 10 D of E students

Thanks to Mrs Evason for giving up her weekend for year 10 on their bronze D of E walks locally. The sun came out in full force and we heard it was a good couple of days for all involved. See the update later on.



## Black History Month

We are looking forward to celebrating Black History Month with students in school through lessons. History and MFL have already planned for this. Watch this space!





## Winter ready?

Huge thanks to Kerri Sparkes for continuing her fabulous volunteering on the school gardening plots. We are getting winter ready now and this has made such a big difference to the site.



Do you think that we can create our own 'poppy carpet' at the front of school just like the Tower of London? There's our challenge!

If we could get 100 poppies sponsored, it would be just amazing!

## Charity Drive

Alcester Academy remembering –  
11th November



### Sponsor a poppy?

In light of reduced events this year for the British Legion and Remembrance Sunday, we have decided to build our own 'Poppy Field' at the front of school in the grounds. Parents, families, staff or friends of the school can sponsor a perspex poppy for a £5 donation. This can be made in the normal way through the School Gateway. Your family details will be added to the poppy as these get displayed. Thanks to Mr Kirby for helping me with this idea.



## Non uniform day

Just a reminder that Friday 23rd October is no longer a teacher training day. All children are in school. This will be a non-uniform charity day for two great causes; Macmillan and Young Minds. Students can exchange their uniform for a £2 donation. Donations can be made via the School Gateway w/c 19.10.20. Please contact Mrs Savery in the main office if you need support with this process.

**MACMILLAN**  
CANCER SUPPORT  
RIGHT THERE WITH YOU

**YOUNG MINDS**  
fighting for young people's mental health

We do take photographs of the students that make an special effort for the bulletin. Charity colours are green and yellow this time. Macmillan is a charity dear to all of our hearts in some way I'm sure. If you are not familiar with Young Minds as a charity it is the UK's leading charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. They campaign, research and influence policy and practice. They have done some amazing work with children through lockdown.

Please ensure that student wear appropriate casual clothes for a school day. No bare shoulders as an example please!

## Lourdes Devices

Thank you to those students and parents waiting patiently for the delivery of Lourdes IT devices. They have now arrived at Lourdes main office and they will be configured for roll out to you. We do need outstanding paper work returned to school

now in order to issue these as quickly as possibly. Once we have these devices up and running, we hope to have another opportunity for parents and carers to lease these again.

## Year 11 mocks

We are planning to run year 11 mocks from Thursday 26th November. Further details will be published nearer this time. We traditionally like mocks to be before Christmas so that the students can then use the holiday time to have a full rest. These mocks proved to be essential last year in helping us to award accurate centre assessed grades. All students will be required to wear face coverings during the exams and will have the same seat for every exam. All students will need their own set of equipment. The same conditions will apply if students sit exams under access arrangements. We hope that we can still respect normal routines whilst being mindful of coronavirus guidance.

## Lockdown and fire drill

We will be running through our procedures in the event of a school emergency with students next week. These will all be COVID safe and are essential just in case we have to apply them in any genuine situation.

## Coronavirus updates

In the event of your child being off school for a short period of time, we would ask you to turn to work that is already on various Google Classrooms; this includes homework tasks and topics or themes. We have set up a 'coronavirus' website area now with details of everything on for you <https://www.alcesteracademy.org.uk/life-at-alcester-academy/coronavirus-covid-19->

In addition to this, the long term plans for each subject area on our website <https://www.alcesteracademy.org.uk/quality-of-education/subjects> This information will provide you with further, more specific information for students to research and read more widely around whilst at home. This can be complemented then with activities and lessons from <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize> and <https://www.thenational.academy/> if students search for similar themes.

If we have to ask a bubble to self-isolate as a result of a confirmed coronavirus case, we will move to a 'Blended Learning' situation; this will be a mixture

of staff offering on line and in school teaching remotely. Please ensure that all students know their Google Classroom codes now in order to make a smooth transition if we have to do this. Equally, we have now a new 'Distance Learning Strategy' in place if we move to a full, or local lockdown required again where all students are not in school.

In the case of having to close down a year group bubble during a school day, Public Health England will be involved. We have a safe and efficient exit planned for students that involves immediate contact with you as parents/carers. Students will be asked to leave at a designated time slot and we ask you to work with us in order to get this done safely and quickly. Thank you.

## Behaviour Policy Changes

<https://www.alcesteracademy.org.uk/life-at-alcester-academy/coronavirus-covid-19->

Please refer to the coronavirus section of the website for amendments to our existing Behaviour Policy in light of the pandemic. Key changes are in regard to how we are running detentions each week; these will be after school subject detentions if required for 40 minutes on a Thursday combined with the existing academy detention for escalated offences at 60 minutes each Thursday. As usual, you will be notified of any detentions in advance. Students will be kept in their year group bubbles in order to continue to be as safe as possible. We have added an appendix also for more serious offences linked specifically to unsafe behaviours at this time.

Naturally it is helpful if we don't have to run detentions. These can be avoided by students responding to the expectations in place.

## Purchasing food

Some very minor changes again this week as we make daily improvements within school:

	Break time	Lunch time
Year 7	Cards	Cards
8	Cash	Cards
9	Cash	Cards
10	Cash	Cards
11	Cash	Cards

'Cards' refer to the Cunningham's cashless cards that can be uploaded via the School Gateway. If students don't have cash available the catering staff will make the necessary adjustment to their School Gateway account after break.

### Live lesson streaming

In cases where staff may be self-isolating at home, they are working with us to live stream their normal lessons into the academy. In the same way that you are working cautiously with us on student illness, I am asking the staff to also apply the same caution. I'm very mindful that they are trying to protect their own families too. Parents will be updated if there are any concerns regarding close contact from staff to students. Equally, if a staff member does test positive for coronavirus, we will react quickly to apply the Public Health England guidance. As yet, I am not at all concerned that any staff member self-isolating poses a risk to their students thankfully.

### Google Classroom

Thank you to Mr Hall for adding a 'Google Training Room' to our Coronavirus website area. This should help you as parents with a 'how to...' guide if you get stuck with any function at home. Students will be shown this during tutor time.



<https://www.alcesteracademy.org.uk/life-at-alcester-academy/coronavirus--covid-19->

### School Photographs

Photographs for year 7-10 are now in school and should be making their way to you at home (maybe check school bags?). Year 11 photographs will be after Christmas all being well.

### Well done!

Thanks to Olivia in 7WI for her proactive and caring support of a fellow student this week when he fell off his bike after school. Thank you to the parents who stayed to help too. True academy values in action!

### IT at home

We are reaching out to parents/carers where children have said that they have no IT facilities at

home. I appreciate that could make blended, or distance learning tricky. We will be asking you to confirm as parents what provision these students have in order that we can prepare for any future on line learning.

### Buses

We are still hearing that the seating plans are not being adhered to on the buses. Please can I ask all parents to contact Warwickshire Transport if you hear of this in order that we can proactively make a change regarding this together. Much appreciated. Tel: 01926 412929. Our Chair of Governors, Mike Dean and I are meeting the Director of Education, Ian Budd again about this next week. Warwickshire Transport must be informed of occurrences if we are to expect any improvements to be made. Thank you.

**243 Bus** – we have had reports of students not wearing face coverings on the 243. Please remember that if students don't do this, further action could be taken to revoke the right to travel.

### Cycles/Scooters

We continue to receive concerns from parents about our cyclists and those students scooting to school each day. They must wear a helmet for safety on a bike. Scooting is permitted on paths and not the road. Some students are not abiding by basic road safety rules and I'd be grateful if parents could remind students of the dangers involved when being careless.

### Thank you – parking

I am very grateful to parents for respecting the Parish Council's wishes not to park on the grass verge up Captain's Hill and respecting the parking lines on Gerard Road. If cars waiting for children could switch off engines whilst waiting as our next action, this would help tremendously.

I'm excited to be handing over the bulletin next week to our year 11 Student Leaders! It will be super to hear about things in school for their own perspective. Huge thanks to those of you who wave back to me upon drop off and pick up each day! If only I could find a face covering where my glasses don't get steamed up, I could identify you all properly! One of many of our new problems I guess!

Wishing you a great weekend as always.  
*Sarah Mellors*



## Photograph of the Week



**This weeks picture is by Freija - year 10 Photography student**  
**Freija is exploring depth of field, with an image called *Tree Cobwebs***

## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award expedition

After the disappointment of not being able to go on expedition during the summer, 50 year 10 students completed their Bronze award practice expedition last weekend. The sun shone as the students walked through the Cotswolds. In teams of 6/7 the students followed routes they had planned back in February. Although some groups may have taken a longer route than planned all students thoroughly enjoyed their weekend. Sadly due to the pandemic the students weren't able to camp. In spite of this all the students had a great time and are looking forward to their qualifying weekend in November.



## Ofsted Parent View

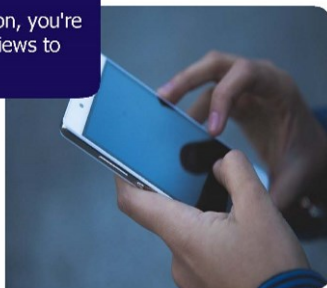
### Are you a parent?

Have you heard of Ofsted Parent View?

Ofsted Parent View is an online questionnaire for you to give your views about your child's school.

You can fill it in at any time of the year.

During an Ofsted inspection, you're also invited to give your views to inspectors using it.



<http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

History Revision takes places every Tuesday at 1.45pm in M5

All revision notes and practice exam questions are online in Google Classroom: **jblii45**

Hope to see our year 11 historians there!

Thanks! Miss Bishop



## U16 PLAYERS WANTED

**EVESHAM UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB** are excited to announce they are looking for players age 16 years for the opportunity to play in the Mid Week Floodlit League.

(This does not effect the Saturday League Teams, you have the opportunity to play for both)

If you are in Year 11 or above and have a passion for football, we are looking for you. We can offer quality coaching and the opportunity to develop through our clubs development system. If you would like to be part of an amazing club with fantastic facilities, a new 3G pitch and a great social atmosphere, please contact us on the number below



Contact Les  
07831 138224





## A diary of a year 7's summer holiday – Mim

We caught the 5.00am ferry from Southampton to Cowes to the Isle of Wight, so we were on the island by 6am and on the south side of the island by 6.45am. At 7am we were the only family on Sandown beach, it was sunny, showing a hint that the day ahead would be very warm indeed and Dad couldn't wait to go for a walk and hunt for fossils. We call him the 'fossil magnet' as it doesn't matter where we go or what we do he finds a fossil or two!

Mum and I were tired, we didn't fancy a long walk so stayed near the car, and I had fun having the beach all to myself. When Dad came back from his walk, he had the biggest grin on his face. We knew instantly that he'd found something and when we asked what he'd found and he showed us two fantastic vertebrae it was brilliant. He had also filmed them as he picked them up so we got to see that too.

The next day we took the vertebrae to the Dinosaur Isle Museum to get them identified, the palaeontologists looked at them and seemed really excited, they were trying to compare the bones to specimens they had in their displays and others in storage, they were checking reference books and just didn't know what to say, they had a few ideas but more questions than answers.

One of the Palaeontologists started to drill away carefully at the matrix from around the bone, (Matrix is the rock which the fossil is surrounded in). He was getting really excited and called a new man over who had just come in. They said they had not seen anything quite like it and they needed to get the bones prepped up so they could do some tests, they could be really important finds as one man had found something similar at the same beach and from the same strata only a few months earlier but he had decided to keep his find. Dad decided to donate the bones to the museum so they could study them properly and get a better idea of what they were dealing with....

We heard later that year that the bones could be from a new species, but more investigation was needed to be done to prove the theory. By Christmas it had been proven and some scientists from the University of Southampton were writing a paper to announce to the world their findings. By this point two more parts of the dinosaur had been

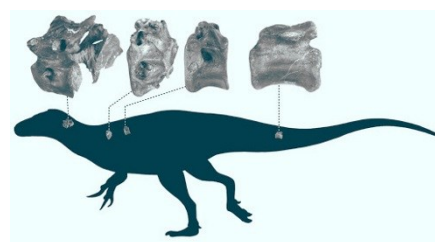
found by two separate people and had also been donated to the museum so now we had four bones in total...

Then in July we were told that they would be announcing the new species in August, but because of lockdown we wouldn't be able to go back to the Isle of Wight or Southampton, so we had to do our bit to do the press release from home. We did the interviews over Skype and FaceTime and had the BBC and ITV come film us in the garden all done in a socially distanced way. It was fun but a bit nerve wracking, they asked lots of questions and filmed the same question from lots of different angles, and then not all of the interview gets used.

One thing they all asked was "how on earth to you say the name?" Dad had to teach me I'd read it but Latin is tricky, Vectaerovenator Inopinatus. By the end of that day of filming and interviews I can now say it easily. Vect-aero-ven-at-or In-op-in-are-tus.

Many congratulations to Mim and her family. We are hoping to invite Professor Gostling to speak virtually to our year 7s about the find and we'll keep you updated on Mim's prehistoric progress!  
*Mrs Mellors*

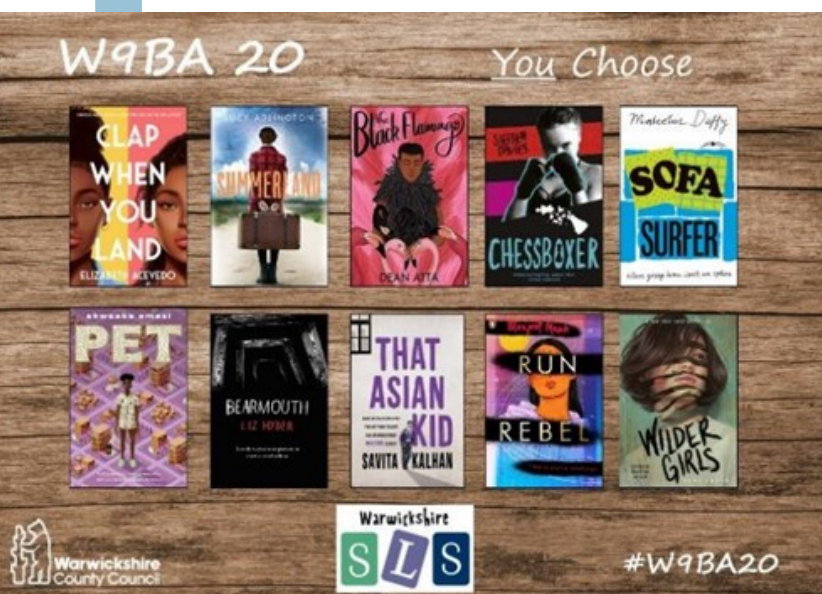
<http://www.sci-news.com/paleontology/vectaerovenator-inopinatus-08736.html>



## LRC News

### W9BA 2020

Shortlisting for the Warwickshire Year 9 Book Award began this week. For this award the students themselves choose the four books for the shortlist from a longlist of ten books that were chosen by staff at Warwickshire Schools Library Service (WSLS).



Last Thursday we held a 'speed shortlisting' event. The students were given five minutes with an extract from each of the ten longlisted books and watched a video from each of the authors. They then each voted for the four they thought they would most like to continue reading. The results from Alcester Academy have been sent off to WSLS to be counted with votes from all the other Warwickshire schools that are taking part.

Eleven Alcester Academy students are taking part this year and they are looking forward to seeing which four books have been chosen and can't wait to start reading!

### Accelerated Reading

#### RENAISSANCE

## Accelerated Reader

The Accelerated Reading system is now available for all students in year 7 and English sets 2 to 5 in year 8 to quiz on the books they are reading.

Please only quiz on new books that you have read since the start of September.

To access Accelerated Reader quizzing at home: Make sure are using Google Chrome and this link/URL to access the system:

<https://ukhosted26.renlearn.co.uk/1893467/>

Then type in your username (your school network name) and the password - abc

### Online LRC

For reading ideas and up-to-date news about the LRC, please join the LRC Google Classroom.

dt6iw3u

### Twitter account

The LRC has its own twitter account, please follow us for all our latest news:  
[@AA\\_LRC\\_Library](https://twitter.com/AA_LRC_Library)



Mrs Hands



## European Day of Languages – 26 September 2020

The Modern Foreign Languages faculty would like to congratulate 7NE, 8YA and 10RO on winning the European Day of Languages tutor quiz competition. They have all enjoyed a French breakfast this week.

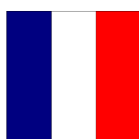
We would also like to thank Miss Bayliss for her contribution to the day—very much appreciated.

Next week we will be sending our winning Routes into Languages competition entries to Aston University. Winners will be congratulated in next week's bulletin.

*Mrs Weatherley*



## Language Idiom of the Week



**To make a fresh start**  
French: Tourner la page.

Literal meaning: To turn the page.



German: Einen neuen Anfang machen.  
Literal meaning: To have a new beginning

## Linguists of the month—September 2020

### Year

7  
8  
9  
10  
11

### French

Olivia Wright  
Jess Shephard  
Tom Hunter  
Tiago Costa  
Michael McDermott

### German

Alex Powell  
Skye Parker  
Dani Nolan  
Holly Taplin  
Dan Hughes



## LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

### UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. 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.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

*Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.*

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required 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, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

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

**Warwickshire School pupils recorded 31,196 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Autumn term 2019.**

## Now is the time to visit open events at sixth forms and colleges

Post-16 Open Events 2020—The time is fast approaching for our year 11 students to start exploring all the post-16 options that are available to them.

Open events at the following are:



Stratford-upon-Avon College's school leaver virtual open event. With open events and campus tours not possible currently, they have collated a range of content to give you an experience as close to a real open event as possible. Visit : <https://www.stratford.ac.uk/news-and-events/virtual-open-event/school-leaver-virtual-open-event/> and follow the steps. You can also book a chat if you have any questions.



WCG – A group of colleges. Royal Leamington Spa, Rugby, Moreton Morrell, Pershore, Warwick Trident, Evesham and Malvern Hills. Virtual (online-only) Open Events in October & November. Book a place. Bookings open end of September. College Tours – Open October & November. Book a place (first come, first served basis). Bookings open the end of September. Visit <https://wcg.ac.uk/openevents>



HOW - visit [howcollege.ac.uk /openevents](http://howcollege.ac.uk/openevents)



Hartpury – visit <https://www.hartpury.ac.uk/courses/open-days/>. Virtual open days are: Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September/Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October/Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Book your place.



AGS – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November. More details to follow.



St Benedict's – Virtual open evening - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November. More details to follow.



Stratford High – Virtual tour & online events these will run throughout November/December/January. Visit <https://www.stratforduponavonschool.com/> for more details.



Chipping Campden – Virtual open evening – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November. See school website for more details.



Prince Henry's - TBC

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Hale who is based in the Career Zone or email: [paulahale@alcesteracademy.org.uk](mailto:paulahale@alcesteracademy.org.uk)

**It's time to start being proactive and plan for your future**

## Covid-19 related pupil absence

*A quick reference guide for parents and staff (September 2020)*

What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
...my child has Covid-19 symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us</b></li> <li>- Self-isolate the whole household</li> <li>- Get a test</li> <li>- <b>Inform the school immediately about the test result</b></li> </ul>	...the test comes back negative <b>or</b> a period of 10 days has passed since the symptoms started, and the child feels well.
...my child tests positive for Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- <b>Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days).</b></li> <li>- Self-isolate the whole household.</li> </ul>	...10 days have passed since symptoms began, even if they still have a cough or loss of taste/smell. <i>(These symptoms can last for several weeks.)</i> <b>AND</b> the child feels well.
...my child tests negative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- Discuss when your child can come back (same day/next day).</li> </ul>	...the test comes back negative.
...my child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- Ring on each day of illness.</li> </ul>	...after 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea (as per attendance policy)
...someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- Self-isolate the whole household.</li> <li>- Household member to get a test.</li> <li>- <b>Inform school immediately about test result.</b></li> </ul>	...the test comes back negative.
...someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- <b>Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days).</b></li> <li>- Self-isolate the whole household.</li> </ul>	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.
...NHS test and trace has identified my child as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- <b>Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days).</b></li> </ul>	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.
...NHS test and trace has identified a household member (other than my child) as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>The household member must self-isolate for 14 days.</b></li> <li>- Child can continue to attend school.</li> </ul>	...child can continue to attend school
... a sibling attending another school has been sent home to self-isolate due to their being a positive case in their school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Sibling must self-isolate for 14 days.</b></li> <li>- Alcester Academy child(ren) can continue to attend.</li> </ul>	...child can continue to attend school



... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that is NOT on the exempt list of countries.	<b>If returning from a destination where quarantine is needed*:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- minimum of 14 days self-isolation for all those who travelled.</li> <li>- contact school to inform us you are back in the country and we will agree an earliest date for possible return to school.</li> <li>- Self-isolate the whole household.</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">*Foreign, Commonwealth &amp; Development Office (FCDO)</a> – for up to date travel information</p>	...the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that IS on the exempt list of countries.	<b>If returning from a destination where quarantine is NOT needed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Check the current <a href="#">Exempt countries and territories list</a> to confirm the country you have travelled from or through is on the exempt list.</li> <li>- Ring school to inform us you have returned to the UK and agree a return date to school.</li> </ul>	... you have informed the office of your return to the UK <i>(the office will ask you a few questions about your travel).</i>
...I have travelled from a country that requires us to quarantine (but my child didn't travel).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As long as you do not have / have not had symptoms in the last 14 days, your child can continue to attend school.</li> <li>- The person who has travelled MUST NOT leave the house, including to do pick-ups and drop offs <i>(please contact school if you need support getting your child to school).</i></li> </ul>	...child can continue to attend school
...we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again.</li> </ul>	...school inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again. ...you receive medical advice that your child may return to school.
...my child's bubble is closed due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Child must not come to school.</b></li> <li>- Support your child at home with remote education provided by your school.</li> <li>- Your child will need to self-isolate for 14 days.</li> <li>- <b>Other siblings may continue to attend school.</b></li> </ul>	...school inform you that the bubble will be reopened.
... I am unable to get a test for someone in the household who has symptoms	<b>If you are not able to get a test in the first 5 days of having symptoms, your child and anyone they live with must stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days. Anyone in your support bubble must also stay at home.</b>	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.

## School Attendance — up to 1.10.20

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Whole School
95.8%	93.9%	94.9%	91.9%	92.7%	93.9%

## Top Tutors per Year Group — well done!

7BW, 8CA, 9AN & 9BI, 10HL and 11DY