Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN

22nd November 2024

Dear parents and carers,

What a week! In fact, what a truly fabulous week for our Alcester Academy students as we close the week on the final night of our wonderful school production this evening.

Huge thanks to the 112 students involved in this for their tireless commitment and endurance. This is a record number of students illustrating the positive culture and support that this experience provides each year. I have included just a couple of images today for your pleasure from our in-house photographer, Mr Hollis. The performing arts team will publish a greater report on the various events taking place very soon for you.

It was a delight to share Tuesday's matinee performance with our priority area primary schools. We love seeing our primary colleagues and prospective students. We were also delighted to host the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, former Mayor and other dignitaries over the week.

I'd like to offer my particular thanks to the performing arts staff; Miss Sacco, Mr Hall and Mr Badham for creating this amazing opportunity for the students. Miss Lee and Mrs Austin have helped tremendously, alongside Mrs Lewis, Mrs Haynes and many of our guest adult helpers. We have had numerous sponsors involved this year without whom, we simply could not put on such a performance. Thank you all! Finally, to Osian (Ragley) in year 11 who has directed the performance with flair, expertise and great confidence. On behalf of the staff and governors, we are extremely proud indeed!

What's inside this week...

Page 4	***Text Academy***
Page 10	***Epraise Leaderboard—past 7 days***
Page 14	***Sports News***

As parents, I am very grateful for the time that you all take to support the show preparation needed at home. I'm certain that learning lines and routines takes great patience and time. Thank you for the lifts to, and from school for our full rehearsals, for the costumes that you have provided and for the reassurances along the way. It has truly been a team effort.

Let's look forward now to next year! After a good rest of course!

Save the date:

Tuesday 17th December 2024—
Alcester Academy Christmas Concert at St Nicholas' Church, Alcester. 6.30pm. Details to follow.

Weather Conditions

A big shout out to our site team and Miss Buckthorp for gritting the school pathways at 6am on Tuesday morning! And to you all for making it in safely. Whilst we were expecting colder temperatures, I'm not certain that we knew the snow was arriving! Might I add how

mature the students were in their conduct on this day too. They were a real credit!

Free School Meals Update

MiQuill are thrilled to announce a change to the way free school meals (FSM) are administered. Any FSM eligible child is now able to roll over unspent daily amounts to enjoy something extra later in that week.

Please note, students will not be permitted to make purchases for friends, and any accumulated unspent balance will be cleared each Friday afternoon so will not be carried into the following week.

If you have any questions about this change, please contact the school office, admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

Year 11s

A record 93 students were present for Saturday revision last weekend. Thank you to the English and maths staff for being in over their weekend. Tomorrow is history and RE. We continue to wish the students all the best for mocks starting next week. The MFL speaking exams began this week in earnest.

Consultation on the staggered end to the school day

I have written to you separately about this. Thank you all for your support around this.

Parent Social Media Policy

Please can I remind parents that we do have very rigid guidance around negative views of the school being posted on social media platforms.
AA_Social_Media_Policy_for_Parents.pdf

As headteacher, I am open to hearing your views on any personal level, and ask that parents respectfully follow the guidance published in school policy. Thank you all.

Farming update

I'm delighted to include a report from Jess (Oversley) in year 11 this week. Please see page 7.

Save The Children Christmas Jumper Day

This will be held on the last day of term. Donations to Save the Children can be made via School Gateway. Christmas Jumpers are compulsory of course!

Farewell Mrs Jones

Next Friday, we say farewell to Mrs Jones. Mrs Jones has worked at the school for 14 years. I'd like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Mrs Jones for her dedication and commitment to the school in numerous ways over this period of time. We wish you all the very best for the future.

And finally, I wish you all a lovely weekend. I hope that the students enjoy the Gloucester Rugby trip today. We'll update you more on this next week. And, we're looking forward to seeing many of you at the Rock Academy Brit Pop Night at the Grieg Hall next Tuesday! Our bands are sounding better than ever before—if that is possible?

Regards

Sarah Mellors—Headteacher

Anti-Bullying Week at Alcester Academy

This week in assembly and tutor time we have been thinking about Anti-Bullying Week 2024.

The theme this year is Choose Respect. We have been considering how we all need to choose respect for others in school, the community and how this links in with bullying.

We will not tolerate any kind of bullying at Alcester Academy. We work hard with students to ensure they feel supported if they find themselves being bullied and we try to educate how this impacts on others.

We aim to provide an environment in which young people flourish both academically and socially. We aim to foster a healthy and safe community where individuals take responsibility for themselves and show respect for others emphasising the importance of positive relationships amongst all members of the Academy community.

Anti Bullying Policy

Here are two quotes from the Anti-Bullying Alliance website:

From playgrounds to parliament, our homes to our phones, this Anti-Bullying Week let's 'Choose Respect' and bring an end to bullying which negatively impacts millions of young lives.

Imagine a world where respect and kindness thrives — it's not just a dream, it's in the choices we make. Join us this Anti-Bullying Week and commit to 'Choose Respect'. What will you choose?

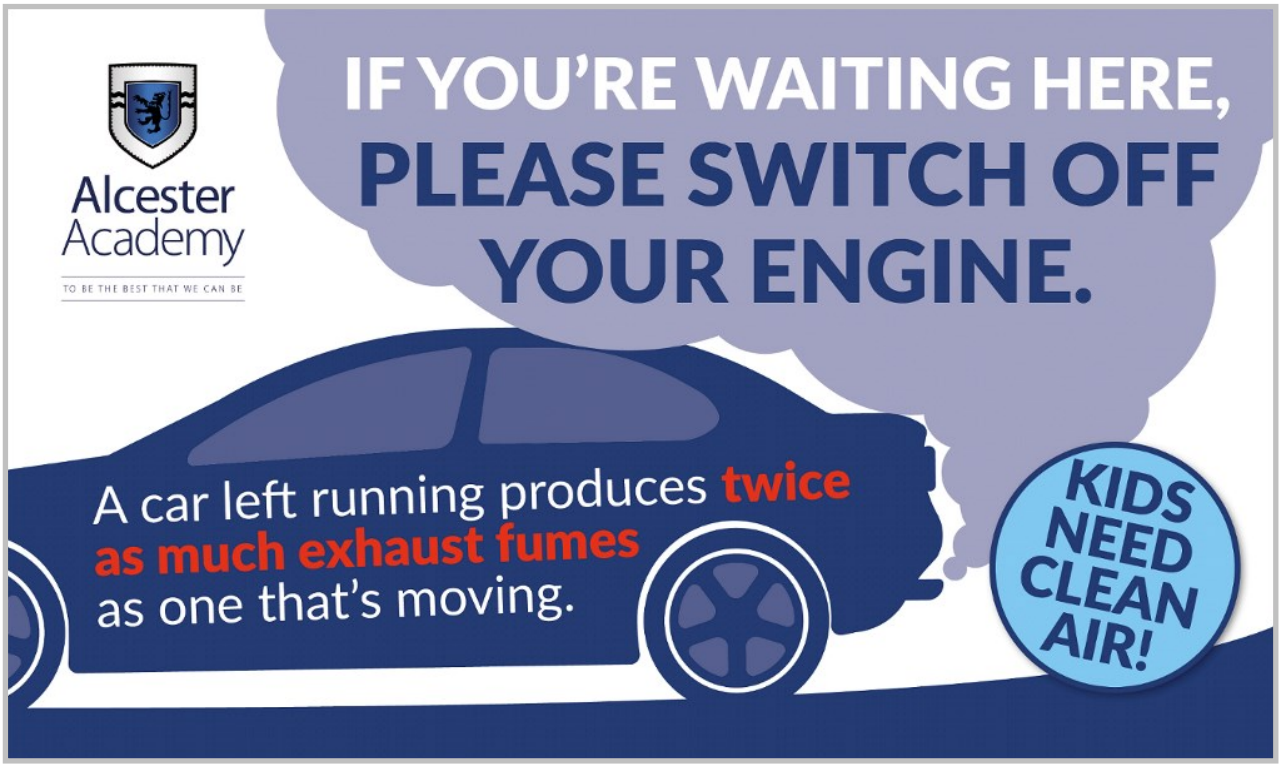
ALCESTER
ROCK ACADEMY
britpop night!
@thegreig hall
Tuesday 26th Nov
7pm
Tuesday
SPONSORED BY
UPSTAGE LTD
Adults £5.00
Concessions £3.00
The Grieg Hall Kinwarton Road Alcester B496AD

Year 11 Revision Timetable

Day	Lunch 1.50-2.20pm	After school 3.30-4.15pm
Monday	**Sport Studies** *Study space - PE1*	
Tuesday	**Science** *Chemistry Clinic - S1* **Media Studies Catch Up** *Study space - English department rooms*	**English**
Wednesday	**Science** *Science rooms*	**French** **DT** **Computer Science**
Thursday	**ICT (iMedia)** *Study space - English department*	**Maths**
Friday	**Geography, German** *Study space - maths department* (M3)	**Science triple award**

Saturday School dates:

- 9th November - French (H) 9-10.30am
- 10th November - Geography virtual 1-3pm
- 16th November - English 9-10.30am and maths 10.45-12.15pm
- 23rd November - History 9-10.30am and religious studies 10.45-12.15pm



We Wore Our Wellies to School

On Tuesday 19th November, my friends and I went into school with our wellies on, not because it snowed but to show our support for my mum, brother and more than 15,000 other farmers who joined the rally in London. Farmers are angry about the changes made towards farming as an industry in the last budget.

Our family have been farming Oversley Hill Farm for the past 150 years and my mum is the 5th generation farmer. Over the past three years the weather has been very bad for growing meaning the harvests have been really poor and prices for our wheat are the same as they were five years ago. With all the price increases on fertilizer, seed, fuel and much more, family farms like ours are struggling to make any money. The government plans to now limit funding and make us pay more tax which would mean the future of our family farm could be in trouble. It might not be there for Fliss, Josh or I to farm when we are older.

What farmers would really like you to do is buy British food whenever possible and support local if you can. I hope you understand how important this is for our country's food security.

Jess (Oversley), year 11

Attendance Updates

Whole School Attendance this week is 92.6%

Top tutors this week:

7TN, 8DA, 9PA, 10BW and 11SI.

Years this week:

Year 7 with 92.8% attendance

Year 8 with 93.7% attendance

Year 9 with 94.5% attendance

Year 10 with 88.6% attendance

Year 11 with 93.24% attendance

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

Important Dates to Remember—Parents' Evenings

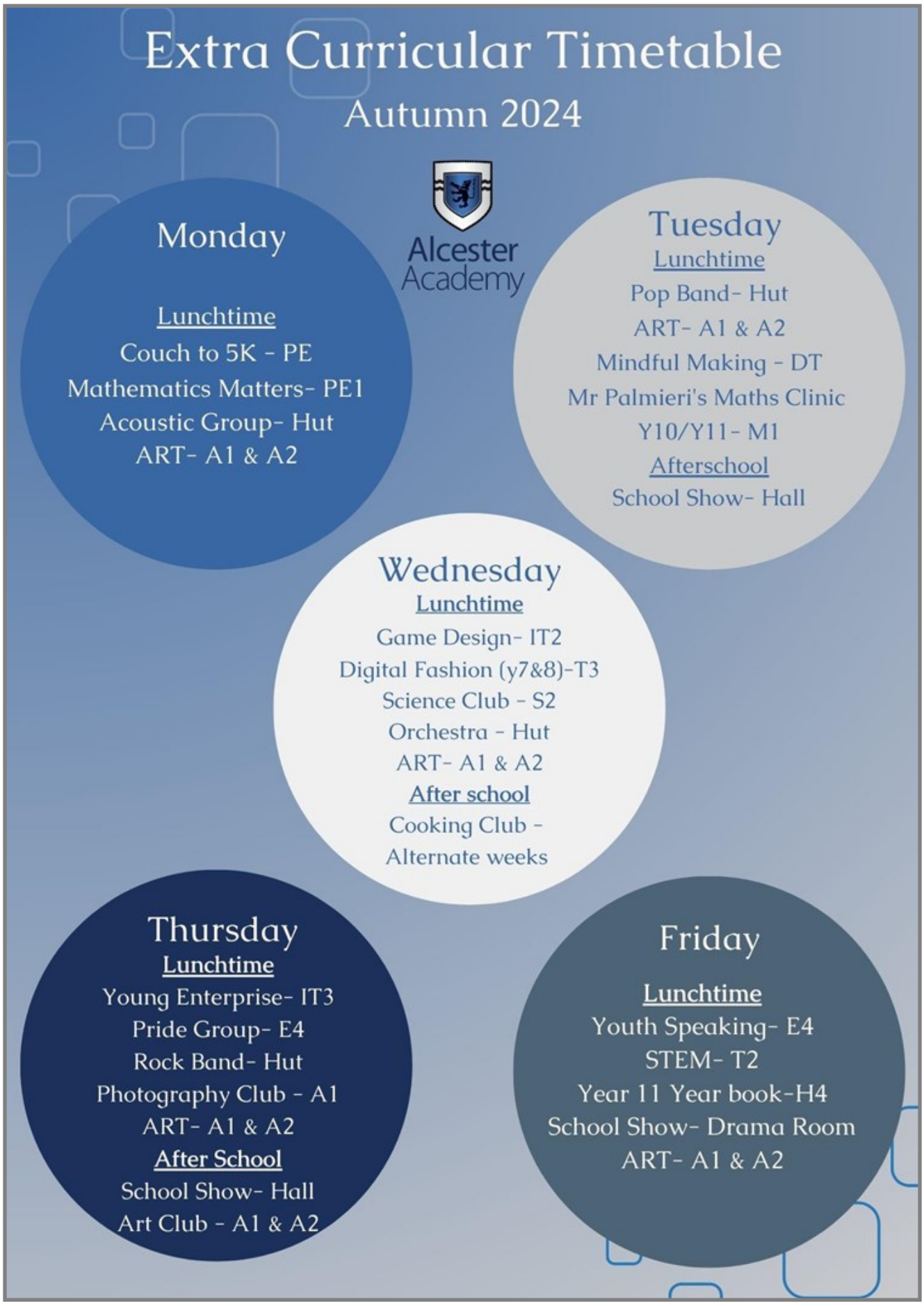
Thursday 5th December 2024	Year 10 Parents' Evening SchoolCloud
Thursday 9th January 2025	Year 11 second Parents' Evening. Live in school
Thursday 6th February 2025	Year 8 Parents' Evening SchoolCloud
Thursday 3rd April 2025	Year 9 Parents' Evening SchoolCloud
Thursday 1st May 2025	Year 8 Options Evening. Live in school
Thursday 12th June 2025	Year 7 Parents' Evening SchoolCloud

SchoolCloud is an online video service

Some key dates for this half term

Monday 25th November 2024	Year 11 Mocks—Day 1. School day changes to 3:2s.
Tuesday 26th November 2026	Rock Academy Night at the Greig Hall
Friday 29th November 2024	*Stars in our School Day* to celebrate support staff
Thursday 5th December 2024	Year 10 parents' evening online
Friday 6th December 2024	St Nicholas' Night, Alcester
Thursday 12th December 2024	Friends meeting online 7pm
Tuesday 17th December 2024	Christmas Concert at St Nicholas Church, Alcester
Wed/Thursday 18/19th December 2024	Reward Trip Days
Friday 20th December 2024	Break up 12.40pm. This will be our fundraiser for Save the Children, with the annual Christmas Jumper Day. Donations will be via the School Gateway.

This is not necessarily a complete and final list of half term activities.


Extra Curricular Timetable
Autumn 2024
Alcester Academy
Monday
Lunchtime
Couch to 5K - PE
Mathematics Matters- PE1
Acoustic Group- Hut
ART- A1 & A2
Tuesday
Lunchtime
Pop Band- Hut
ART- A1 & A2
Mindful Making - DT
Mr Palmieri's Maths Clinic
Y10/Y11- M1
Afterschool
School Show- Hall
Wednesday
Lunchtime
Game Design- IT2
Digital Fashion (y7&8)-T3
Science Club - S2
Orchestra - Hut
ART- A1 & A2
After school
Cooking Club -
Alternate weeks
Thursday
Lunchtime
Young Enterprise- IT3
Pride Group- E4
Rock Band- Hut
Photography Club - A1
ART- A1 & A2
After School
School Show- Hall
Art Club - A1 & A2
Friday
Lunchtime
Youth Speaking- E4
STEM- T2
Year 11 Year book-H4
School Show- Drama Room
ART- A1 & A2

Epraise Leaderboard—past 7 days

Top Students—past 7 days:

1	Ffion	10MA	Oversley	41 points
2	Zara	9GA	Oversley	37 points
3	Ranveer	8RO	Greville	28 points
4	Caiden	8DA	Greville	21 points
4	Ollie	10MO	Oversley	21 points
4	Em	11HE	Ragley	21 points
7	Lucy	8RO	Billesley	20 points
7	Archie	11HE	Ragley	20 points
9	Macie	8SO	Billesley	19 points
9	Wilf	8AN	Billesley	19 points

Top House—past 7 days:

1	Ragley	1567 points
2	Billesley	1558 points
2	Oversley	1558 points
4	Greville	1533 points

Top Subjects—past 7 days:

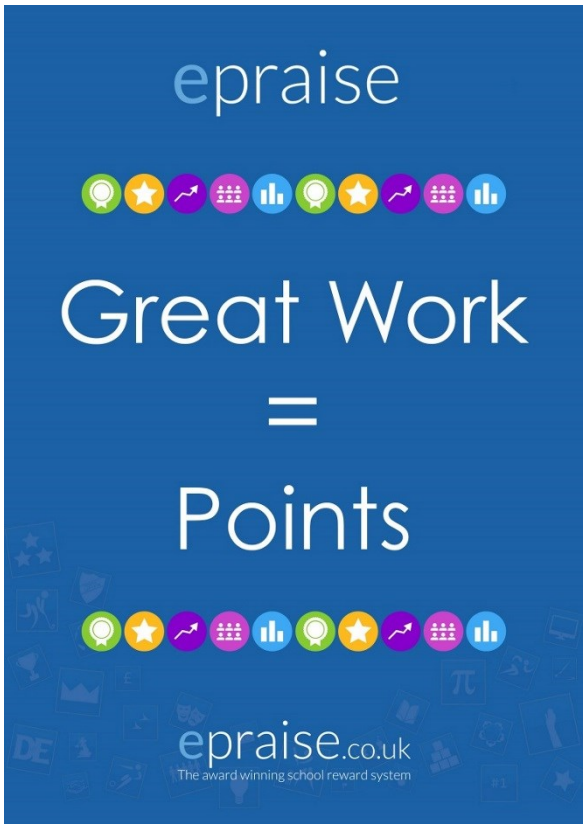
1	Maths	537 points
2	Art	530 points
3	English	454 points
4	Science	442 points
5	IT	410 points

Top Staff—past 7 days:

1	Mr Martin	619 points
2	Mr Yarrington	481 points
3	Mrs Hirji	472 points
4	Mr Rossiter	312 points
5	Mrs Gorner	259 points

Top Tutors—past 7 days:

1	8RO	332 points
2	8NA	325 points
3	8DA	313 points
4	8AN	304 points
5	11HE	300 points



Subject Lead for English

Member of the Extended Leadership Team
Salary scale: Leadership Group 2 (6-10)
Easter 2025 start or earlier
Closing date Friday 29th November 2024 at 12 noon
Interview date to be set

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

The Post

This is an exciting opportunity for a strong middle leader with a proven track record of personal, exemplary student outcomes. The successful applicant will be able to demonstrate experience of effective leadership and 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 and 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. The school currently offers numerous extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities, and for year 11s, numerous lunchtime, after school and key Saturday sessions.

The additional role within the extended leadership team will be determined around the successful candidates' strengths and the needs of the school at the time of appointment. Responsibilities will include the ability to contribute to the design and planning of interventions to promote outstanding progress at GCSE.

The Application Process

Please complete an Alcester Academy application form which can be found on our website www.alcesteracademy.org.uk/academy-information/vacancies. A written statement in support of your application is also essential. We do not consider CVs. Please email your completed application and any supporting documents to admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk. The application deadline is 12 noon on Friday 29th November 2024. An earlier shortlist may be created if there is an overwhelming number of applications.

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

We look forward to receiving your application.

Alcester Academy

Teacher of MFL (German and French)

Maternity Cover (Part-time 0.6 Wed - Fri)
Starting March 2025 MPS/UPS
Starting at TMS1 FTE £31,650
0.6 = £18,900 up to UPS3 Grade depends on experience
Closing Date: Friday 29th November 2024
Interviews: Week commencing 2nd December 2024

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

A vacancy has arisen to become part of an outstanding MFL department 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. The successful applicant will join an ambitious and thoroughly supportive teaching team who work in collaboration with a highly successful MFL department. 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 at Alcester Academy study French and German at KS3 and KS4. The MFL department is proud of the progress that students make. Languages at Alcester Academy are positively promoted and student enthusiasm and uptake is high. This is a temporary, yet exciting, post covering a maternity leave.

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 Subject Leader, Zoe Weatherley, for an informal discussion, or simply complete the application form.

The Application Process

Please complete an Alcester Academy application form which can be found on the school website. 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 29th November 2024 at 12 noon with interviews taking place week commencing 2nd December 2024.
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.

Alcester Academy

Administrator

Part Time – 8 hours per week
Working Term Time Only (39 weeks including 3 Teacher Training days)
Scale B FTE £3,656 starting salary (Actual pro rata for 8 hours per week £4,380)
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 13th December 2024
Interviews: Week beginning 16th December 2024
Starting: January 2025

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

Purpose of the Role

To provide effective administrative support to the academy, maintain academy management information systems related to the pastoral team.

Main duties and responsibilities include:

- Student filing to include the creation of high profile or vulnerable cases
- Referrals to external agencies; calls or documents to be completed
- Support as needed with Subject Access Requests
- Support for the administration of Super Learning Days
- Minute taking at high profile meetings such as permanent exclusion panels
- Creation of student voice surveys and evaluations using Google Forms or similar
- Liaising with external agencies
- Health and Safety
  To ensure the school meets its Health and Safety responsibilities regarding Data Protection guidance and legal requirements.
- Ensuring all visitors comply with safeguarding requirements.

This job description is intended to be a broad outline of duties and is not intended to be exhaustive. The post holder will be expected to take on other duties and responsibilities commensurate with the grade of the post as reasonably directed by the Headteacher.

The Application Process

Please complete an Alcester Academy application form which can be found on the school website. 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 13th December 2024.
Interviews will take place during week beginning 16th December 2024
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.

Alcester Academy

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Student Spotlights

Will—Oversley—year 10
Marijke—Oversley—year 10
Keegan—Oversley—year 7

Congratulations to Academy students Will, Marijke and Keegan who represented the county at cross country at an inter-county event held in Dudley this weekend. It is a brilliant achievement for these students to reach the county standard and represent Warwickshire and we are very proud of their achievement.

Fixture round up for the week
Year 9 Basketball v St. Benedict's

Our year 9 basketball team took on St. Benedict's in an entertaining match with some fantastic talent on show from both schools. Well done to all who represented the school within this fixture and especially to Noah (Billesley, year 8) who represented the age group above.

Year 7 South Warwickshire Basketball tournament

It was the first experience for our year 7 basketball team participating in the annual South Warwickshire tournament. Our students relished the opportunity to compete against the local district schools and put in some brilliant team performances throughout the evening. Many congratulations to all of the students representing, and a special mention to the year 7 A team who came away undefeated on the evening with four wins and a draw across all competitive

matches.

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Next Week's After School Clubs

****THIS WEEKS SPORT**: W/B 25/11/24**

Day	Extra-Curricular Club	Location
Monday	No clubs – Staff meeting	N/A
Tuesday	Year 9 Boys 7 a-side Football tournament All years Girls Basketball	Kineton Gym
Wednesday	U13 Rugby v Shipston Year 7 and 8 Netball	Shipston RFC Gym
Thursday	Year 9 Netball Friendly	AGS
Friday	Year 11 Rugby v AGS (Afternoon kick off)	AGS

Next Week's Lunchtime Clubs

AUTUMN 2 LUNCHTIME SPORT + INTERVENTION

- Lunchtime sports clubs to start w/b Monday 4th November on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Lunchtime sport and intervention 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	MON- NA	MON - MO	WED - PE	FRI - TU
4/11	BOYS BASKETBALL (KS4)	SPORT STUDIES INTERVENTION–ICT3	GIRLS BASKETBALL (KS4)	YEAR 8 TABLE TENNIS
11/11	BOYS BASKETBALL (KS3)	SPORT STUDIES INTERVENTION–ICT3	GIRLS BASKETBALL (KS3)	YEAR 8 TABLE TENNIS
18/11	BOYS BASKETBALL (KS4)	SPORT STUDIES INTERVENTION–ICT3	GIRLS BASKETBALL (KS4)	YEAR 8 TABLE TENNIS
25/11	BOYS BASKETBALL (KS3)	SPORT STUDIES INTERVENTION–ICT3	GIRLS BASKETBALL (KS3)	YEAR 8 TABLE TENNIS
2/12	BOYS BASKETBALL (KS4)	SPORT STUDIES INTERVENTION–ICT3	GIRLS BASKETBALL (KS4)	YEAR 8 TABLE TENNIS
9/12	BOYS BASKETBALL (KS3)	SPORT STUDIES INTERVENTION–ICT3	GIRLS BASKETBALL (KS3)	YEAR 8 TABLE TENNIS

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Get ready to light up the dark winter evenings!

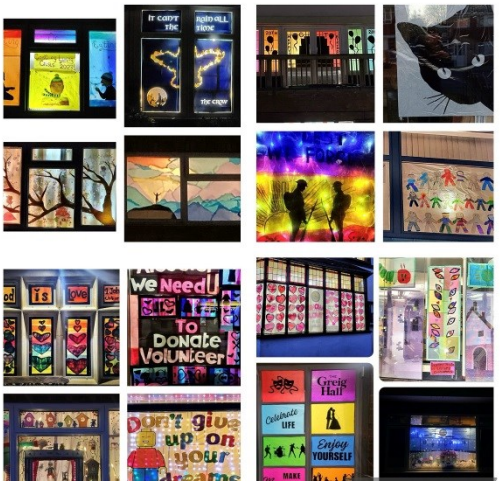
Join us in creating a magical outdoor gallery in Alcester, as Window Wanderland returns.

Window Wanderland is back in January 2025!

Join in the fun and create a magical window display in your community. This free event is for everyone!

Find out more and get involved here:

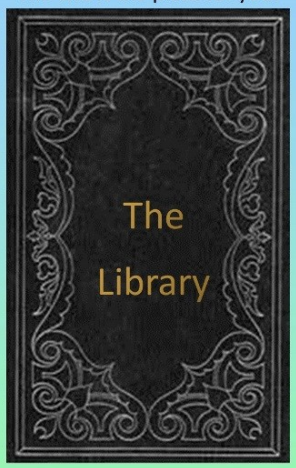
www.windowwanderland.com/area/alcester/

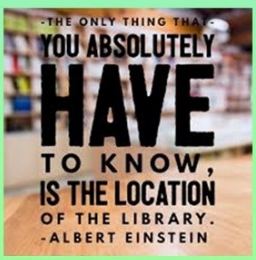


Need a quiet place away from the loud and busy school?

Want to catch up on work?

The LRC is the place for you!





Opening times:

Monday: 8:45—not open afterschool

Tuesday: 8:30—4:15

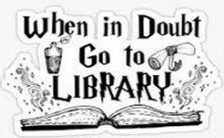
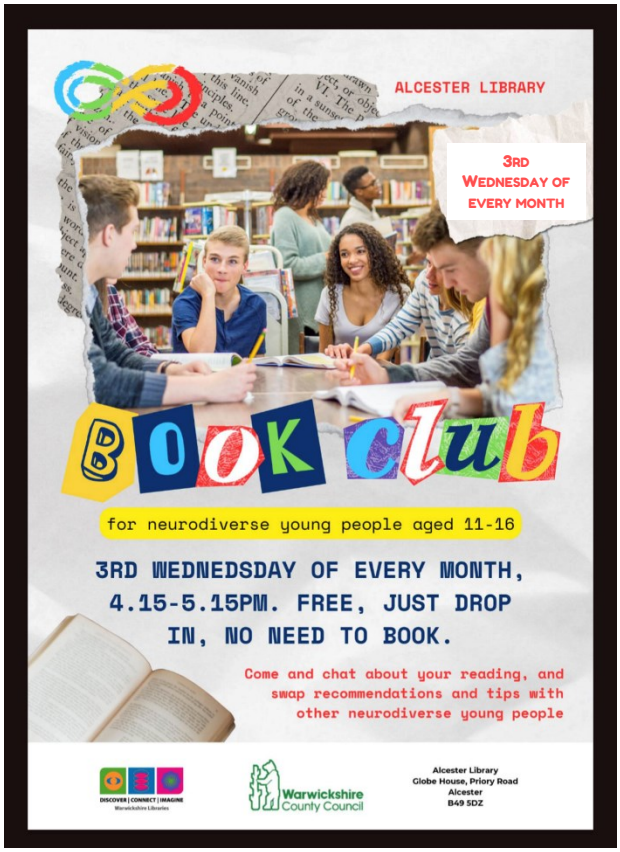
Wednesday: 8:30—4:15

Thursday: 8:30—4:15

Friday: 8:45—not open afterschool

Many adventures start with the opening of a book.

The library is an open space for everyone!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