Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN



24th November 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Good afternoon. We close this week extremely positively on the euphoria of Aladdin. I cannot wait to see it fully from start to finish this evening with oozes from the students as a many of you. I have caught various scenes and songs, but I have not yet had the pleasure of the entire performance. We have showcased lots of photos in this bulletin for you to see.

I offer my sincere thanks to all of the students in the cast and crew for the months of dedication given to this project, and

to parents for all of your support from home with this, too.

Each year, the standard continues to get better and better, and the self-confidence that result of their work is quite something to see. I'm extremely proud of all of the students involved. It goes without saying, that this standard of production simply cannot happen without the commitment of a team of staff. Miss Sacco leads an incredible group of specialists who champion each of the students along the way.











What's inside this week...

Pages 4 & 5 Aladdin Show Review by Grace, year 10

LRC Updates Page 6 Pages 14 & 15 Sports News

My thanks go to Miss Michelle from Strong Feet Dance, to Mrs Haynes and Mrs Walters for the spectacular costumes this year yet again, to Mrs Lewis for props, to Miss Lee and Mrs Clarke for fantastic support, to Miss Owen and Miss Owen, Wave Electrical Services and to Mr Badham and Mr Hall! Katie in year 11 has been a fantastic producer this year. What an amazing job. I really hope that I haven't missed anyone out! Naturally then, there are so many staff who come to watch the show and help out on each evening. I'm very grateful for this too.

I wish Miss Sacco a very restful and relaxing weekend ahead after everything that she has done to help make this year happen yet again. It truly has been another magical week at the Academy.

Sponsorship

Thank you to our show sponsors this year; Talking Tortoise, Whitespace Meditation, FullFibre, Kip McGrath, Strong Feet Dance Academy, Choirs Connected, RJ Wilber, Beauty and Lashes by Amy, Broom Joinery, WolfPack Girls' Football, Lucarelli Restaurants and Arc Electricals.





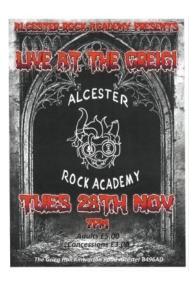
Primary matinee

Thank you to Coughton Primary, Our Lady's, St Nicholas Primary and Tudor Grange Haselor for joining us on Tuesday for the matinee and full dress rehearsal. We always love seeing you!

In other news this week, we welcomed our School Improvement Partner into school, David Turner. This was the first of two visits before Christmas where David is working alongside subject teams to look at the curriculum intent, implementation and impact.

Rock Academy

Don't forget that our Rockers perform next Tuesday night at the Greig Hall. I cannot wait! Please make sure that you have tickets via the Gateway.



Good luck year 8s

Good luck to our year 8s as they step into Exam Week next week. This starts the options process off. Parents can expect a written report before Christmas and then the first parents' evening in February.

Good luck year 11s

Good luck to our year 11s for their core assessments coming up.

We were joined this week by a member of the senior team from KES for those year 11 students interested in making applications. Mr Cooke has followed this up with an email to specific parents in order to communicate the detail of this fully.

Curriculum Survey

Thank you to those parents in years 9-11 who have completed this survey. If you haven't had chance yet, I'll leave this open over the weekend. The results are really interesting, and I will share these with you in due course.

School Performance and attainment

We were delighted to see the IDSR published for the school last week. This is the Inspection Data Summary Report, a DfE document that is published after school outcomes each year. This further confirmed that outcomes from summer 2023 were significantly above average in every identified group.

Communication to school

Could I ask you to contact your child's tutor in the first instance as required please. This is school policy. More and more emails are being directed to the senior team in the first instance. Beginning a dialogue with the tutor first, should direct your query to the most appropriate person and then avoid any disappointment in terms of a response time.

Kinwarton Parish

Thanks to the Parish for championing our need to have any grit bin adjacent to school. This has now arrived just in time for the winter months ahead.

Staff training

All staff completed Warwickshire Prevent training this week. <u>Prevent in Warwickshire</u> (safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk). Thank you to Geoff Thomas for delivering some inciteful information to us all that will be extremely useful.

Prevent in Warwickshire

Warwickshire is a relatively safe place to live, and most crime types are continuing to reduce. However, we also live in a global community which means we are affected by trends and events that occur at the international level. At present, we need to consider the international threat of terrorism and those people who are pulled into groups that support extremist causes.

Christmas Jumper Day 2023

Don't forget that Christmas Jumper Day is Friday 22nd December. Donations to Save The Children can be made via the School Gateway. Thank you.



PTA

Thanks to parents for attending the PTA meeting last night. Minutes of these meetings are always available on the website for you. Our next event will be another family bingo on Friday 8th March for Easter. Save the date!

We have a really busy few weeks ahead now as we creep closer to Christmas. I know that is the same for you all as families too as you begin preparations. Whatever you are doing this weekend, I wish some rest and quality family time. Have a good weekend.

Sarah Mellors—Headteacher

Community concerns after school

Please be aware we are receiving more concerns from the local community regarding students hanging around the Tesco precinct for prolonged periods of time after school due to later collection by parents.

We are concerned that this may become a safeguarding risk for students, and particularly now that it is dark much earlier. It is really not appropriate for students to be hanging around for several hours until they can be collected and I do worry for their safety. Students should be either getting on their school transport, walking home or being collected by parents/carers at the end of school.

If students are waiting for an activity in Alcester, such as Youth Club, they should go home first and then return at the time the activity begins.

We do really appreciate your support with this, if you are struggling for transport, please contact the school and we can signpost you to get further assistance.

Miss Buckthorp

Aladdin Show Review

Jasmine meets Aladdin—they are perfect for each other, but Aladdin doesn't live up to Jasmine father's expectations for a husband to his royal daughter.

How will they be able to convince her father that they are right for each other, without

falling into traps, finding out his secrets and the truth about his past?

Enter 'a whole new world', with the actors that bring the play to life on stage.

The lighting and the costumes illuminate the stage alongside the talent and enthusiasm from the cast. Anyone watching the show will be left 'speechless' by the ability of the students and the confidence and bravery they show.











This includes all of the crew backstage and choreographers, not to forget Miss Walters and Mrs Haynes making and designing the costumes.

Once again Miss Sacco has produced a theatrical masterpiece!

Grace, 10AN.











WARWICKSHIRE SECONDARY BOOK AWARD

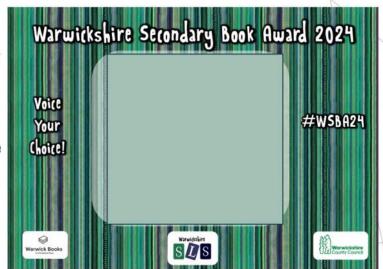
17 students from years 7 and 8 have been invited to take part this year! If you registered your interest, look out for an invite in your Gmail account.

They will read six books between Christmas and March, take part in various activities around the books, vote for their favourites, and then attend a final award ceremony with some of the authors!

Which books will they read?

Which will be their favourite?

Mrs Hands



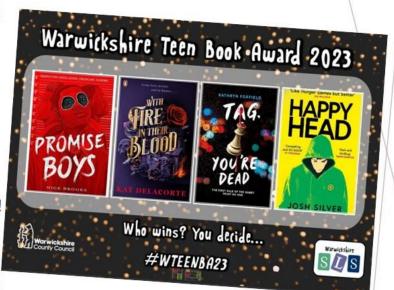
WARWICKSHIRE TEEN BOOK AWARD

Students from year 9 took part in choosing this year's books from a long list of 10.

5 students are reading the 4 books that were short-listed. They will vote for their favourite later this month, and then attend a virtual final award ceremony with some of the authors!

A review of each book will be posted on Instagram once they have voted - @aa_Irc

Which book will they choose?



Mrs Hands

Epraise Data

Student Leader board:

1	Noah	7RA	163 points—First week at No.1
2	Zachery	7KO	159 points—First week at No.2
3	Alex	8SI	151 points—Second week at No.3
4	Alfie	7LX	149 points
5	Chloe	7KO	148 points
6	Maddie	7KO	146 points
6	Amber	7WI	146 points
8	Ethan	7KO	142 points
9	Harry	8TY	139 points
10	Isabella	7RA	136 points



Top Students—this week:

1	Alfie	7LX	20 points
2	Maeve	8TU	18 points
3	Jude	7WI	16 points
4	Jess	7TN	15 points
4	Mia	7WI	15 points
4	Lily	7TN	15 points
7	Maddie	7KO	14 points
7	Kaitlyn	7WI	14 points
7	Eva	8TY	14 points
7	Anthony	8GA	14 points



Top Tutor—this week:

1	7LX	239 points—Second week at No.1
2	7RA	222 points—First week at No.2
3	$7\mathrm{KO}$	207 points—First week at No.3
4	7TN	204 points
5	$7 \mathrm{WI}$	198 points

Top Staff—this week:

1	Mrs Gorner	299 points—First week at No.1
2	Mr Rossiter	291 points—First week at No.2
3	Mr Yarrington	285 points—First week at No.3
4	Mrs Weatherley	226 points

4 Mrs Weatherley 226 points 5 Miss Lewis 220 points



Top Subjects—this week:

1	English	677 points—Second week at No.1
2	Maths	440 points—Second week at No.2
3	History	428 points—Second week at No.3
1	Caionao	202 points

4 Science 303 points 5 Art 270 points

Dates for your diary this half term

Week of 27th November—Year 8 exams in the hall.

Tuesday 28th November—Rock Academy Concert. Greig Hall. Tickets needed.

Wednesday 29th November—Previous Year 11 certificate collection at 4-5pm.

Friday 1st November—D of E training. Year 10.

Friday 1st November/Monday 4th November—Year 11 core mocks in class.

Tuesday 5th December—Year 10 CV writing workshop.

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

Wednesday 13th December—Year 10 mock interview.

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

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

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

Year 8 written reports out before term ends.

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

Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children.

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

We will advertise Christmas dinner days nearer the end of term.

Alcester Academy have organised another Bag2School collection for Tuesday 28th November 2023. A letter has gone out via email with full details.

Please send any unwanted clothes, shoes and linens to school at any point after half term in a bin bag

or other suitable bag.

Feel free to contact Mrs Farnell for more information.



Alcester Academy Term Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Autumn Term ends Friday 22nd December 2023 at 12.40pm

SPRING TERM 2024

School closed Monday 8th January 2024—Teacher training day

Spring Term begins Tuesday 9th January 2024

Half Term Monday 12th – Friday 16th February 2024

Back to school Monday 19th February 2024

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

SUMMER TERM 2024

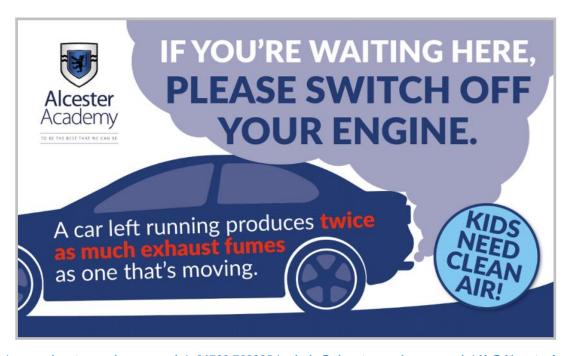
Summer Term begins Monday 8th April 2024

May Bank Holiday Monday 6th May 2024

Half Term Monday 27th – Friday 31st May 2024

Back to school Monday 3rd June 2024

Summer Term ends Friday 19th July 2024 at 12.40pm



Extra Curricular Clubs

Monday

LUNCH

Science Club KS3

Acoustic Group Music Hut

AFTER SCHOOL

Ornithology T4

Tuesday

MORNING

Morning Sports Club

LUNCH

Young Enterpsie

Pop Band Music Hut

Game Design

AFTER SCHOOL

School Show Hall

Wednesday

LUNCH

Chess/Board Game M4

> BBC Young Reporters El

AFTER SCHOOL

Rock Academy

LGBTQIA+ club

Thursday

LUNCH

Environment Club

Rock Band Music Hut

Humanities Film Club Top of the Tower

AFTER SCHOOL

School Show HAll

Art Club

Friday

LUNCH

Chess/Board Game

Guitar Orchestra Music Hut

Saturday

Rock Academy 10am-11.30am

School Show 10m-4pm

7th October 21st October 11th November 18th November

Attendance Updates

Whole School Attendance: 94.5%

Top tutors this week:

7KO with 98.6% attendance 8TY with 96.7% attendance 9SA with 95.5% attendance 10PW with 96.9% attendance 11MO and 11ES with 100% attendance—wow!

Top House this week:

Ragley with 96.1%

Reminder

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.





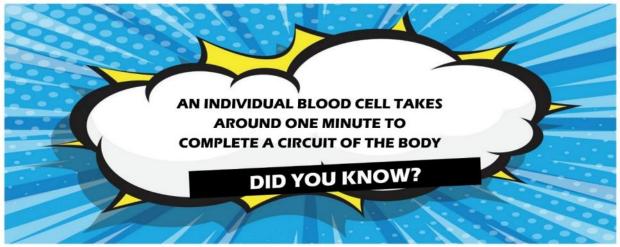
Year 11 Revision

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

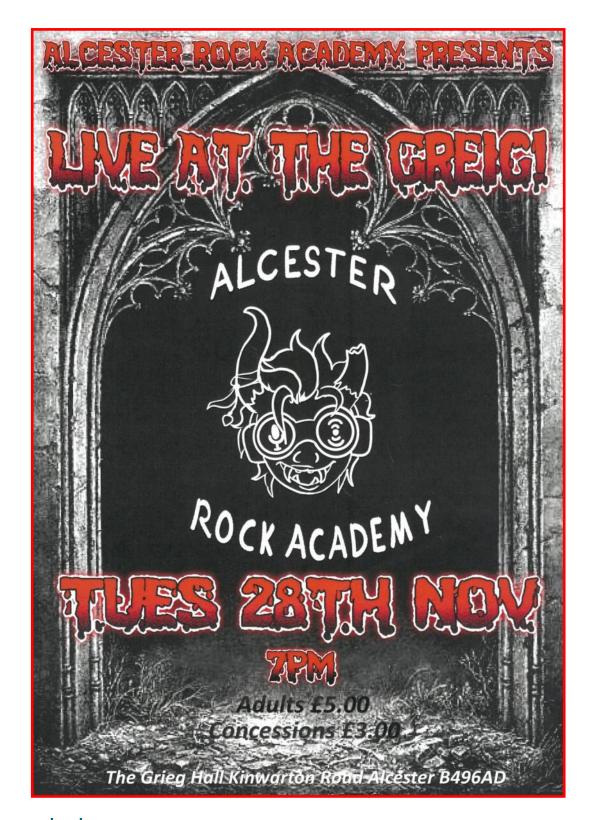
Day	Core LUNCH	Core AFTER SCHOOL
Monday	Study Room M5	
Tuesday	Study Room S5	English
Wednesday	Study Room E2	Science
Thursday	Study Room E2	Maths











Live music gig

Alcester Rock Academy—Live at the Greig—is on Tuesday 28th November from 7pm, at the Greig Hall, Alcester.

Tickets are now on sale on the School Gateway. Adults—£5 and Concessions—£3

Come along and support our musicians! $Mr \ Badham$

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Lunchtime Sport



HT 2 LUNCHTIME SPORT



- · Lunchtime sports clubs to start <u>w/b Monday 6th November</u>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 <u>suitable footwear</u> to be allowed into the gym

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

After School Sport



THIS WEEK'S SPORT: W/B 27/11/23



Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday	Year 8 + 9 Netball v AGS	AGS
	Year 9 Basketball–PW	Gym
	Year 11 Football- MO	Top Field
Tuesday	External Archery Coaching (Selective)– PW	Gym
	KS3 Girls Football- External coach	Field
	Year 7 + 8 Rugby- MO	Field
Wednesday	Year ⁊ Basketball – PW	Gym
	Year 10 + 11 Girls Netball- PE	Courts
	All-years girls Rugby- MO	Field
Thursday	Year 7 + 8 Girls Netball- PE/MR	Courts
	KS4 Sport Studies Badminton/Tabletennis assessments- MO	Gym
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Please note that all outdoor practise will now finish at 4.15pm due to the lack of light

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Student Spotlight: Jake—Rugby Union

Year 9 Jake, in Billesley house, has been making outstanding process within rugby. Following a number of recent trials Jake has been selected to attend the Midlands Rugby Academy (West) DPP programme in the new year. Jake will be guided by the coaches along with some of the strongest players in the region where he will receive specialist coaching to support his journey to play the highest level of Rugby that he can. Jakes journey throughout the programme will consist of several blocks of training followed by competitive matches played during half-term.

We are all incredibly proud of Jake for his selection onto the programme and wish him the best of luck as he continues to develop within the sport.



The South Warwickshire Girls Indoor Rowing Tournament took place at Alcester Academy this year. It was great to see eight boats entered into both age groups. Each girl rowed an individual race – 2 minutes for the year 7/8 girls and 3 minutes for the year 9/10 girls. Both age groups then did an 8 minute relay, changing the rower every minute. We entered one team into the year 7/8 competition, Felicity (Oversley), Tilly (Oversley), Lily (Ragley) and Daisy (Greville) finished 3rd overall with a combined distance of 1901m. Felicity achieved our top individual distance of 487m.

We entered two teams into the older age group. Emily (Ragley), Evin (Billesley), Olivia (Billesley) and Jess (Oversley) finished a very creditable 5th overall with a combined distance of 1822m. Summer (Billesley), Georgia (Ragley), Amelia (Greville) and Chloe (Billesley) finished in an amazing 2nd position overall with a distance of 1996m. Their top individual distances were from Summer year 10: 721m and Georgia year 9: 720m.

An wonderful performance form all the girls but most importantly they demonstrated outstanding team work and supported each other brilliantly along with Emmy and Jess who came to support with relay changeovers!











Teaching Assistant Level 3

Full Time Working, term time only
(39 weeks including 5 Teacher Training days)
Scale H range 14 - FTE £27,334 starting salary (Actual pro rata £23,511)



Starting: As soon as possible

Closing date: Friday 1st December at 12 noon Interviews: week commencing 4th December 2023

Learning Support at Alcester Academy

Working under the supervision of the SENCO and teachers, assist and support teaching and learning, working with individuals or groups, and assist in providing general care, safety and welfare for pupils.

The Post

This is a full time, term time only post working 39 weeks per year (incl. 5 teacher training days) for an experienced teaching assistant ideally with an NVQ Level 3 (or equivalent). You will be working predominantly with a student with an EHCP but also other students with a variety of SEND needs. We are particularly interested in hearing from applicants with experience of working with children with communication and interaction needs, including autism, though this is not essential.

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

Teaching Assistant

Full Time Working, term time only (39 weeks including 5 Teacher Training days)

Scale F range 6-11 FTE £21,968 starting salary (Actual pro rata £18,811)

Closing date: Friday 1st December 2023 at 12 noon Interviews: Week commencing 4th December 2023



The Post

This is a full time, term time only post working 39 weeks per year (incl. 5 teacher training days). We are particularly interested in hearing from applicants with experience of working with children with communication and interaction needs, including autism, though this is not essential. This is a temporary post for 12 months in the first instance with a view to becoming permanent after this period.

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

Pastoral Leader

Salary Scale K point 23 FTE £32,076 (Actual pro rata £27,713)
Closing date Friday 15th December at 12 noon
Interview date WC 18th December 2023



Job Description - Pastoral Leader

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

The application deadline is 12 noon on Friday 15th December 2023 Interviews will take place during week beginning 18th December 2023

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

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

Second i/c of maths

MPS/UPS + TLR Subject to experience

Closing Date: Friday 8th December 2023 12 noon

Interviews: Week commencing 11th December 2023



The School

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

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

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

The Post

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

Teacher of Science (Maternity Cover)

Salary: TMS Location: Alcester, Warwickshire

Contract Type: Full Time

Contract Term: Temporary (maternity cover)

Required: From February 2024 (start date negotiable)

Closing Date: Friday 8th December 2023 at 12 noon



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

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

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

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

Alcester Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Enhanced DBS disclosure is required for appointment to this post.

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY





SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2023 14.00 TO 16.30

WINTER WARMTH IN ALCESTER

Energy bills are set to rise higher than last year for millions this winter and it seems that difficult times will continue for many.

Act on Energy and Alcester Town Council will be hosting a drop-in session on how to tackle this winter with advice on fuel poverty, cost of living and discounts on energy bills for eligible households and how local climate action can save money and improve lives in Alcester.





An event to help Alcester residents hosted by Act on Energy and Alcester Town Council

Advice on heating and energy issues Finance & Debt Climate Change Food Bank Health Watch

Advice on Benefits and home energy efficiencies

Free refreshments Kids' activities

ERIC PAYNE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Off St Faiths Road Alcester

B49 6AG

For further details:

info@alcester-tc.gov.uk susan@actonenergy.org.uk

COME ALONG...

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY