Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN

27th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Good afternoon.

As we head into the Easter break, I wanted to thank you all for your support over another extremely busy and fulfilling term at school. I hope that you found last week's edition of importance with a precis of some of the latest education consultations. Thanks also to Mr Anderson for the IT safety edition.

SLT will be available for drop in on Wednesday 15th April 3.30-4.30pm if you have any queries over the consultations currently circulating. No appointment is needed. We have already begun to look seriously at the implications of these consultations and hold discussions with the Governing Body.

This week, we celebrated World Maths Day. Miss Elliott, Head of Maths took assemblies. The international maths competition was a focus of the week during some KS3 lessons, and Miss Hirji also spent the week with students in the LRC at lunchtimes. This years theme is *United By Numbers* with eighty countries participating worldwide.

Today, we concluded term by enjoying the Annual Easter Egg Hunt around school. 650 chocolate vouchers were available to the students for exchange at breaktime; this is our way of thanking them all for their hard work and commitment throughout this term. Well done everyone!

What's inside this week

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Recent school updates

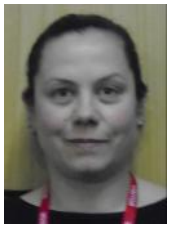
Congratulations to students who attended Sports Awards Evening last night. We all enjoyed gathering to celebrate the achievement of our young athletes and Mr Moffatt, Head of PE will write in more detail after Easter about the event. We always appreciate your support as parents/carers in helping to get students to, and from, fixtures and practises throughout the year. Special thanks to Will and Marijke in Year 11 for their individual, and very special reports as part of the evening.

Our Young Enterprise Team; PatchPals were recently in Leamington at the Trade Fair. This event was nearly a total sell out for them, and it was a proud moment indeed to watch them competing against sixth form teams from other Warwickshire Schools.

Thank you Mrs Kirk, English

Today, we say farewell, and a sincere thank you to Mrs Kirk in the English department. Mrs Kirk is returning to teach in further education. We wish you all the best.

Hello and welcome Miss Stenning!



I'm Miss Stenning, the new teaching assistant. I am very excited to be at Alcester Academy and to get to know you all.

In my spare time I provide a taxi service for my three daughters!

I love watching sport especially football, playing darts and golf when it is sunny enough! I also enjoy quizzes and learning lots of random facts—my speciality is geography and I can name all of the countries in the world!

Year 7 Parents and Carers

It was a delight to see so many of you in person at Parents' Evening last week. Do get in touch after Easter if there is anything still unresolved.

Thank you PTA—Friends of Alcester Academy

Another magnificent family bingo night was held recently raising £1032 for the school. I'm grateful to the parents who make this happen each time.

Year 11 Easter Sessions

Invitations have been sent out for year 11 Easter Schools happening:

Tuesday 7th April
Art: 9.00am-12 noon

Thursday 9th April
French: 9.00am-10.30am
German: 10.30am-12 noon
Further maths: 10.30am-12 noon

SLT will be on duty in school with subject staff for these opportunities.

In addition, the school office is also processing invites for individual pupils for **History on Wednesday 8th April**. If your child has not received an invite for History, they are not expected to attend please.

Do note that these sessions rely on the goodwill of staff. We are looking forward to seeing year 11s.

Congratulations to a number of year 11 who received their CAMNAT Sports Studies results last week. Many of these were incredible. And, our Year 11 Performing Artists received their results too this week. These are equally as super. Congratulations

Those year 11s meeting the incentive criteria today, have gone off to enjoy some R and R at Redditch Tenpin bowling. Over 85 students were eligible to attend this as a reward for their hard work and commitment over recent weeks.

Some key dates after Easter

It is a very short half term directly after Easter. Here are just a few important first dates for you:

Return to School
Monday 13th April. All year groups.

Week of 13th April
Year 8 Option Taster lessons (in class time)

Week of 20th April
Year 11 MFL speaking Exams start followed by Art exams

Wednesday 29th April
Year 8 Options Evening LIVE. 6-7.30pm

Friday 1st May
School Closed TEACHER TRAINING

Monday 4th May
School Closed MAY DAY

I will write with a lot more key dates after Easter.

Safeguarding over Easter

You can always find essential Warwickshire safeguarding advice on the school website homepage over the holiday periods:

If you have concerns that a child is suffering any form of abuse, neglect or cruelty contact the Warwickshire Children and Families Family Connect immediately by calling 01926 414144.

Lines are open Monday to Thursday 8.30am – 5.30pm, Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm.

If you need to get in touch out of usual office hours, please contact the Emergency Duty Team immediately by calling 01926 886922.

If you think that a child is at immediate risk, contact the Police immediately by calling 999

Scooting to school

I'm becoming increasingly concerned about the speed of our younger students on scooters. I've now received several concerns from members of the public who have averted an accident luckily. Please can I ask parents of children who scoot to school, to speak to them about road awareness. Thank you.

The following information might be of use:
How To Scoot Safely—Safety Rules for Scooter Riders—Micro Kickboard

Inclusion

Parenting neuro divergent teenagers
You might be interested in these course advertised by the Warwickshire Family Information Service: Parenting neurodivergent children online parenting course | Family Lives

Neurodiversity Padlet for parents and carers. Filled with so many resources. I highly recommend this. Neurodiversity

Challenging Teens?
Challenging behaviour in teens free online parenting course | Family Lives

Co-parenting
Co-parenting after divorce or separation free online parenting course | Family Lives

Family Lives provide support to parents
WhatsApp Support Service | Family Lives
Message us via WhatsApp on 07441 444125 to connect with experienced professional family support workers and highly-trained volunteers.

There are also some terrific resources for parents on: Strategic Parenting Raise happy and successful kids related to ADHD, behaviour, screen time and anxiety to name just a few areas.

Back to Basics After Easter

We continue with our focus on improving behaviour and standards after Easter with a focus on equipment. We all do expect students to attend school with the equipment necessary to learn.

Over Easter

Please can you be sure to replenish student equipment and any uniform items as needed over Easter? Huge thanks for this.

And, don't forget that if students wish to, they can move to summer uniform. This consists of: school skirt, trousers or shorts and a sky blue polo top with blazer on top, or the regular, full uniform to include shirt and tie.
Alcester Academy | Uniform

Money Savers over Easter

Families can enjoy a free Kellogg's breakfast every day during school holidays at all Morrisons Cafés nationwide:
Breakfasts for every break: Morrisons partners with Kellogg's to extend popular 'Breakfast Club' for every school holiday

Easter Opportunities for students

Tech Mentor - Build tech that makes a difference
An online STEM opportunity for £15.

Welcome Back

Miss Heitmuller! It is lovely to see Miss Heitmuller return following her maternity leave.

Thank you staff and Governors

Sincere thanks to the staff for providing endless opportunities for the students over the spring term again. The school community enjoyed looking back on the events of the spring term in an online whole school assembly yesterday. And, thank you to the Governing Body for the hours given to supporting us all.

I wish everyone a restful break with the hope of a bit of sunshine along the way! Happy Easter!
Sarah Mellors—Headteacher

Christopher Edge Author Visit
A Cosmic Reward for Our Star Readers!

We were absolutely thrilled on Thursday 19th March 2026, for our school to host a truly out-of-this-world event in partnership with the Stratford Literacy Festival.

We welcomed the award-winning author Christopher Edge for an exclusive workshop and presentation! Known for his mind-bending stories that masterfully blend *big science* with *big heart*—such as *The Many Worlds of Albie Bright* and the pulse-pounding *Escape Room*—Christopher is a master at sparking curiosity and imagination.

The students spent an exciting hour working out how to escape from Christopher's virtual escape room and where then able to ask him questions about himself, his writing and his books. At the end of the session students were able to have books and bookmarks signed and photos taken.

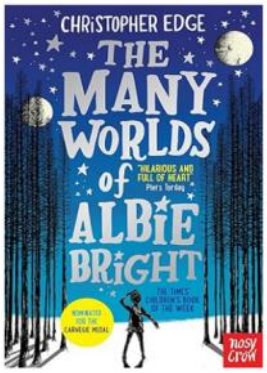
At the Academy, we believe that consistent reading habits aren't just a requirement—they are an achievement worth celebrating. The visit was a special reward for some of our most dedicated year 8 readers, who have consistently met our high expectations for independent reading and have successfully quizzed on more than the required two books per half-term. Their hard work and commitment to their reading goals earned them a seat at this inspiring session.

We would also like to say a special thank you to the Friends of Alcester Academy for helping with the funding for this opportunity.

You can find out more about Stratford Literary Festival by following this link: https://www.stratfordliteraryfestival.co.uk/.

Mrs Hands—LRC Manager

Stratford Literary Festival



Student of Term and Best Progress of the Term Spring Term 2026—Congratulations

Student of the Term—Highest attainment in year group this term

Charlotte	7WI
Teddy	8BI
Henry	9DA
Freya	10GA
Lottie	11GO

Progress—Best progress across all subjects this term

Oscar	7WI
Efa	7LX
Alessandro	8RW
Jessica	8SA
Alfie	9RO
Victoria	9SO
Alex	10HR
Matilda	10YA
Megan	11GO
Sam	11HE

Bromcom Positive Points Leaderboard Spring Term 2026—Congratulations

Top Positive Point Students Spring Term:

1st Place	Year 7	Charlotte	7WI	86 points
2nd Place	Year 7	Lucy	7TN	82 points
3rd Place	Year 7	Sophia	7TN	79 points
1st Place	Year 8	Theo	8SA	91 points
Joint 2nd Place	Year 8	Dyl	8MO	88 points
Joint 2nd Place	Year 8	Liv	8RW	88 points
1st Place	Year 9	Jada	9NA	65 points
Joint 2nd Place	Year 9	Evie	9RO	60 points
Joint 2nd Place	Year 9	Phoebe	9SO	60 points
1st Place	Year 10	Oscar	10YA	111 points
2nd Place	Year 10	Eva	10KI	90 points
3rd Place	Year 10	Min-Seo	10GA	88 points
1st Place	Year 11	Immy	11HE	60 points
2nd Place	Year 11	Ashlyn	11GO	55 points
3rd Place	Year 11	Dylan	11GO	54 points

Data taken on Wednesday 25.3.26.

EASTER Egg Hunt

This morning saw our annual Easter Egg Hunt take place, with over 600 Easter Eggs on offer! The students had to find a token and then go to the hall to claim their reward prize. It was a lovely way to end the term. *Miss Buckthorp*

Careers Inspiration: Paramedic Insights

NHS
West Midlands
Ambulance Service
University NHS Foundation Trust

We were delighted to welcome Alcester Academy parent Tim Cronin into school this week, where he hosted a Careers Zone drop-in session for students interested in pursuing a career as a paramedic.

Tim has a wealth of experience, having worked for the West Midlands Ambulance Service in a variety of roles. He is currently a Community Response Manager, and he shared valuable insights into the realities of working within the ambulance service. Students benefited from hearing first-hand about the skills, challenges, and rewards associated with this vital profession.

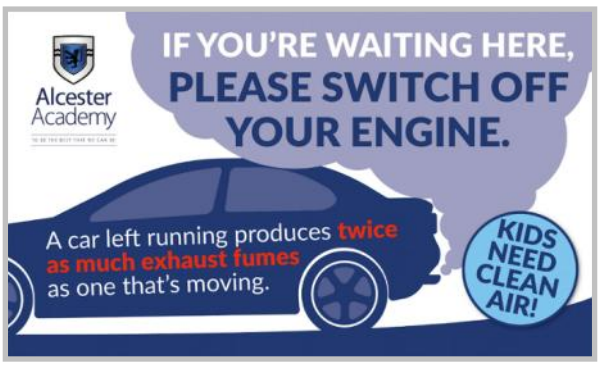
During the session, Tim explained the different pathways into becoming a paramedic, including both university courses and apprenticeship routes. This helped students to better understand the options available to them and the steps they can take to achieve their career goals.

Opportunities like this are incredibly important in helping young people make informed decisions about their futures. Learning about different careers allows students to explore their interests, understand the qualifications required, and gain inspiration from real-life experiences.

Attending drop-in sessions such as this also provides significant benefits. Students can ask questions in an informal setting, receive tailored advice, and build confidence in thinking about their next steps. These interactions help to bridge the gap between education and the world of work, ensuring students are better prepared for life beyond school.

We would like to thank Tim for giving his time to support our students and for providing such an engaging and informative session.

Miss Bartlett



PatchPals Shine at Young Enterprise Trade Fair

Recently, Alcester Academy's Young Enterprise team, 'PatchPals', participated in the Young Enterprise Warwickshire and Coventry Trade Fair held at The Royal Priors, Leamington Spa. The team excelled at promoting their products, demonstrating outstanding effort throughout the event.

The Young Enterprise scheme itself consists mainly of sixth form students, so our year 10 team faced some tough competition. However, their products were superb, and the presentation of their products truly stole the show.

Their new initiative, PatchPals, has been particularly well received, and the team almost sold out of their bespoke sewing kits, teddies and keyrings on the day. A pop-up shop will soon be opening in the Careers Zone, where students will be able to purchase PatchPals products for themselves—further details will follow shortly.

We wish them every success as they progress to the next stage of the competition. The final will be held at Alcester Grammar School on 30th April 2026.

PatchPals Award

Last week, PatchPals, Alcester Academy's Young Enterprise team, proudly represented the school at the Warwickshire and Coventry Spring Trade Fair. Competing against sixth form students from across the county in what was an extremely competitive event, the team demonstrated exceptional creativity, teamwork, and professionalism.

We are delighted to share that PatchPals were awarded *Best Trade Stand*, a fantastic achievement and a testament to their hard work and dedication. We are incredibly proud of everything they have accomplished so far.

We wish them the very best of luck as they progress to the next round, which will take place at Alcester Grammar School on 30th April.

Miss Bartlett

Acoustic Night—Tuesday 24th March

Alcester Rock Academy hosted a fantastic evening of live music, showcasing the talent and dedication of its young musicians. The event featured a series of impressive performances, with Academy bands delivering chilled acoustic versions of well-known rock and pop classics to a full and enthusiastic audience.

The night was a great success, highlighting both musical skill and the strong sense of community surrounding the Academy. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the parents and staff whose support helped make the event possible.

All proceeds from the evening will contribute towards the Academy's studio appeal, with further updates to be shared soon.

Mr Badham

We are delighted to share some truly inspiring news from year 7

Morgan, alongside his friends Alex and Abi, have recently taken the initiative to raise funds for charities (to be confirmed) following a personal loss.

Demonstrating remarkable compassion and determination, the trio have been creating and selling 3D-printed animals and keyrings using Morgan's own printer.

By Thursday, they had already raised an impressive £260—an outstanding achievement in such a short time.

This effort highlights not only their kindness and empathy, but also their developing entrepreneurial skills. From designing and producing their products to organising sales and engaging with their peers, Morgan, Abi and Alex have shown fantastic initiative, creativity, and commitment. Their positive attitude and strong ethical values are a credit to themselves and to our school community.

Morgan, in particular, is already demonstrating the qualities of a future leader. We have no doubt that he will make a fantastic Young Enterprise Managing Director when he reaches year 10.

We are incredibly proud of all students and look forward to seeing how their project continues to grow.

Well done, Morgan, Abi and Alex!

Miss Buckthorp

Creative Textiles Taster Day

Year 6 Oak Class from Coughton CofE Primary School visited us this week for an exciting design technology taster day in the textiles room.

Using their own artwork, pupils explored sublimation printing to transfer their designs onto fabric. They then added further decoration and developed their sewing skills to create beautiful, personalised planner covers.

Everyone showed fantastic enthusiasm and did an excellent job learning to use the sewing machines. Each student left with a finished product to be proud of—well done to all!

Miss Wincup

Warwickshire Secondary Book Award 2026

Fourteen of our year 7 and 8 students have been reading and completing activities around six books that were shortlisted for the Warwickshire Secondary Book Award, run by the School Library Service.

On Wednesday,18th March, Angela from the Schools Library Service called into school to have a 'book talk' with the students. They had a lively hour talking about the books they had been reading for the award. The students then voted for their favourite reads and on Thursday this week, along with Mrs Austin who drove the minibus for us, we attended the Warwickshire Book Award Final at The Bridgehouse Theatre in Warwick.

Four of the authors; Anne Fine, Liz Hyder, Jenny Person and Dan Smith attended, and the students were able to meet them and have books signed. They were also excited to have their photos taken with them.

We were very proud to have a competition winner! Amelia won a prize for her fantastic drawing of a scene from *The Deadsoul Project*. Congratulations Amelia!

The shortlisted books for the 2026 award were: *Stealing Happy* – Brian Conaghan, *On The Wall* – Anne Fine, *The Twelve* – Liz Hyder, *The Line They Drew Through Us* – Hiba Noor Khan, *Shrapnel Boys* – Jenny Pearson, *Deadsoul Project* – Dan Smith.

Lots of schools across Warwickshire took part in the award and the overall book voted for by all the students was—*Shrapnel Boys* by Jenny Pearson.

Mrs Hands—LRC Manager

Year 8s Take the World Stage at the 2026 Climate Conference!

We are incredibly proud to share the tremendous success of 26 of our fantastic year 8 students, who recently took part in the Alcester Academy Climate Conference 2026. It was an inspiring day filled with passion, intellect, and a profound commitment to our planet's future.

To truly grasp the complex, global nature of the climate crisis, our students were tasked with stepping into the shoes of key global stakeholders. They worked brilliantly in teams to represent:

- The Centre for Infectious Diseases
- The People of Tuvalu
- Leading Meteorologists
- World Renowned Ecologists
- The British Antarctic Survey
- The International Crisis Committee

Working collaboratively, the students dove deep into their research to understand how climate change uniquely impacts their assigned groups. The highlight of the day was watching our year 8s bravely take to the podium to deliver powerful speeches. They not only articulated the severe impacts of the climate crisis but also pitched thoughtful, innovative, and deeply researched solutions for the future.

The level of engagement and participation throughout the conference was simply outstanding. Our students showcased a remarkable level of geographical skill, but what stood out even more was their genuine empathy, care, and concern for the world around them. They perfectly embodied our school values in every interaction, teamwork exercise, and debate. A massive well done to all 26 students involved—your hard work, compassion, and maturity have given us great hope for the future!

Mrs Sandells—Lead Geography

KS3 Homework Survey—March 2026

Thank you to all parents and students who contributed to our recent homework survey. The aim was to better understand how homework is experienced at KS3, including time spent, its impact on wellbeing, and how effectively it is communicated and supported.

Key Findings

What is working well:

- Most students spend 30–60 minutes on homework each evening, which parents generally feel is manageable.
- Google Classroom is viewed positively by both students (84%) and parents as the main platform for homework.
- Homework is not seen to cause frequent conflict at home.
- Around two-thirds of students are aware of the homework rota.

Areas for improvement:

- Some students and parents report that instructions are not always clear, making tasks harder to complete independently.
- Homework is sometimes viewed as lacking purpose, with only 37% of parents feeling tasks are meaningful.
- There is inconsistency in following the homework rota, with only 40% of students saying it is used regularly.
- Awareness of support is low: over half of parents were unaware of Homework Club, and it is currently underused.
- A number of families experience login issues and challenges with student motivation.

Year 7

- You will receive regular homework relating to work studied in lessons.
- The rota will ensure pupils have time in the week to produce worthwhile homework.
- Some subjects may set small additional homework (outside of the rota below) when needed for future lessons.

Term	Core	Subject	Ongoing homework:
Autumn 1	[redacted]	Tutor	Languages
Autumn 2	Science Maths English		DT (where needed)
Spring 1	**Year 7 exams – revision – all subjects**	**Year 7 exams – revision – all subjects**	Art
Spring 2	English Maths	Performing Arts Geography	
Summer 1	English Maths Science	History Music ICT	
Summer 2	English Maths	PE RE	

Homework checking codes

1 - Homework is of an exceptional standard. Work and effort are above and beyond expectations.
2 - Homework is of a good standard. It is completed in line with expectations. There could be some areas to develop.
3 - Homework is incomplete or of poor quality. It lacks the effort required. Improvement required.
4 - Homework is of very poor quality. Little or no effort has been put into the work. Significant improvement needed.
X - Not handed in.

Next Steps

Based on your feedback, we will:

- Continue to use Google Classroom as our core homework platform.
- Improve the clarity of instructions for all homework tasks.
- Ensure departments follow the homework rota consistently and allow appropriate time for completion.
- Introduce more engaging and meaningful tasks, including creative and "flipped learning" activities.
- Look at as possible relaunch Homework Club (potentially as a "Study Café") with incentives to encourage attendance and support students.

We appreciate your feedback and will continue to review and improve our approach to homework to best support student learning.

Miss Taylor

Year 8

- You will receive regular homework relating to work studied in lessons.
- The rota will ensure you have time in the week to produce worthwhile homework
- Some subjects may set small additional homework (outside of the rota below) when needed for future lessons.

Term	Core	Subject	Ongoing homework
Autumn 1	English Maths	ICT Music	Languages DT (when needed) Art
Autumn 2	Science English Maths	Geography	
Spring 1	**Year 8 exams – revision – all subjects**	**Year 8 exams - revision – all subjects**	
Spring 2	Science Maths English	Performing Arts History	
Summer 1	English Maths Science	RS	
Summer 2	English Maths	PE	

Homework checking codes

1 - Homework is of an exceptional standard. Work and effort are above and beyond expectations.
2 - Homework is of a good standard. It is completed in line with expectations. There could be some areas to develop.
3 - Homework is incomplete or of poor quality. It lacks the effort required. Improvement required.
4 - Homework is of very poor quality. Little or no effort has been put into the work. Significant improvement needed.
X - Not handed in.

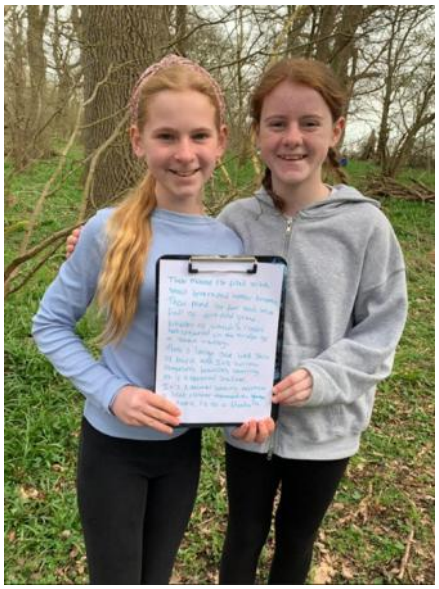
Year 7 *Shakespeare in the Forest* Trip

We are thrilled to share the highlights of our year 7 trip to *Shakespeare in the Forest*, which took place over two exciting days on Monday 23rd March and Thursday 26th March at the wonderful Middle Spernal Farm.

During this immersive experience, our students engaged in a variety of activities designed to deepen their understanding of Shakespeare's work, particularly focusing on *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The students participated in plot recall sessions that encouraged them to delve into the intricacies of the play, followed by drama-based activities where they delivered lines with enthusiasm and creativity. One of the most enchanting aspects of the trip was using the forest surroundings to create soundscapes, allowing students to bring the magical world of Shakespeare to life in a unique way.

In addition to these engaging activities, students enjoyed some refreshing forest walks, which provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with nature and reflect on their learning. It was heartening to see our year 7 students representing the school with such pride and enthusiasm throughout the trip. Their positive attitudes and willingness to participate made the experience all the more memorable.

A special thank you goes to our wonderful Heart of England Forest coordinators, Phil and Ellie, who played an instrumental role in making this trip a success. Their support and engaging approach created a nurturing environment for our students to enhance their Shakespeare skills while having fun. We look forward to more enriching experiences like this in the future! *Mrs Gorner*



Teaching Assistant 2 Full Time

Working 37 hours per week
5 days term time only (39 weeks including 5 Teacher Training days)
If working part time, salary will be pro-rated accordingly.
Scale F range 6-11 Actual pro rata £22,254
Immediate ASAP
Closing date: Friday 17th April at 12 noon
Interviews: TBC

Alcester Academy

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

Learning Support at Alcester Academy

Working under the supervision of the responsible teacher, 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 term time only post working 39 weeks per year (incl. 5teacher training days) as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant. We are particularly interested in hearing from applicants with experience of planning and running intervention sessions with children and monitoring progress within these. Alongside supporting a range of special educational needs specifically neurodivergence, including autism, ADHD and dyslexia. This is a temporary post for 12 months in the first instance with a view to becoming permanent after this period.

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. Please send your completed application to admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

The application deadline is 12 noon on Friday 17th April 2026.
Interviews TBC.

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 reserve the right to appoint before the deadline for a suitable candidate. We reserve the right to follow up references provided in person.

Alcester Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Enhanced DBS disclosure is required for appointment to this post. For shortlisted candidates, please be aware that online searches may be done as part of due diligence check.

Alcester Academy Term Dates

SUMMER TERM 2026

Summer Term begins	**Monday 13 April 2026**
School closed	*Friday 1 May 2026—Teacher training day*
May Bank Holiday	Monday 4 May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25 – Friday 29 May 2026
Back to school	**Monday 1 June 2026**
Summer Term ends	Friday 17 July 2026 at 12.40pm
School closed	*Monday 20 July 2026—Teacher training day*

AUTUMN TERM 2026

School closed	*Tuesday 1 September—Teacher training day*
Autumn Term begins	**Years 7 and 11 only Wednesday 2 September**
	Years 8, 9 and 10 only Thursday 3 September
All students back	**Friday 4 September 2026**
Half term	Monday 26 – Friday 30 October 2026
Back to school	**Monday 2 November 2026**
Autumn Term ends	Thursday 17 December 2026 at 12.40pm
School closed	*Friday 18th December 2026—Teacher training day*

Attendance News Spring Term 2026

Top Tutors Spring Term 2026

7LX
8RW
9AN
10GA
11HE

Congratulations also to the following tutor groups who have also achieved over 95% attendance for the Year to Date

7WI
8MO
9SO
9NA
11GO

If your child will be absent from school, please notify our Attendance Officer, Ms Louise Hatcher, with the reason before 8.50am each day. You can do this via:

⇒ **MCAS App—medical appointments and absences can be reported through the app**
⇒ **SchoolComms**
⇒ **Phone: 01789 762285**
⇒ **Email: louisehatcher@alcesteracademy.org.uk**

We kindly ask parents and carers to remind students who are leaving for appointments during the school day to come to the office a few minutes early so they can sign out promptly. Thank you for your cooperation.

Ms Louise Hatcher—Attendance Officer

Key reasons why 95% attendance is important to Alcester Academy

Academic attainment
High attendance is directly linked to better results. Primary students with 95–100% attendance have 30% higher odds of reaching expected standards in reading, writing, and maths, with even higher impact in secondary school.

Preventing Persistent Absence
Anything below 95% is considered "not good enough" and may require intervention. Dropping below 90% is classified as persistent absence, limiting a child's chance of success.

Cumulative loss of learning
95% attendance means missing about 9-10 days per academic year. While this is the acceptable standard, any further absences drastically reduce the chances of reaching target grades.

Future earnings and opportunities
Missing school affects long-term prospects. Persistently absent secondary pupils could earn £10,000 less at age 28 compared to those with near-perfect attendance.

Social development
Regular attendance helps students build lasting friendships, confidence with peers, and familiarity with routines.

If your child is struggling to be in school regularly, please take time to talk to them over the Easter break and see what barriers they feel are impacting them. We hold regular support meetings with parents and students to look at the support available to ensure regular attendance.

Ms Louise Hatcher—Attendance Officer

Second i/c of Science

Starting Date – September 2026
MPS/UPS + TLR2 (£3,527) – full time, permanent
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 24th April 2026
Interviews: Week commencing: Monday 27th April 2026

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

The Post

This is an exciting opportunity for an aspiring middle leader with a proven track record of exemplary student outcomes. The successful applicant will be able to demonstrate commitment to effective leadership, exemplary knowledge of science curriculum development, ambition towards future management in a middle leadership position, and a willingness to contribute to the whole staff team.

The successful applicant will join an ambitious and thoroughly supportive teaching team who work in collaboration within a highly successful science 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. The science department features 5 fully operational and recently renovated laboratories and a full-time science technician.

The science department is proud of the progress that students make. Outcomes far exceed national averages for triple and combined science routes and the value-added measure and have done so for a significant number of years. We use AQA as an exam board and consider triple and combined pathways carefully towards the end of KS4.

Second i/c of Science Information Pack

Science 2025 outcomes:

Biology: GCSE 9-7=46% 9-4= 99% Chemistry: GCSE 9-7=22% 9-4= 100%
Physics: GCSE 9-7=22% 9-4= 100% Combined: GCSE 9-4= 76% 9-5=58%

Alcester Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Enhanced DBS disclosure is required for appointment to this post. For shortlisted candidates, please be aware that online searches may be done as part of due diligence check.

Alcester Academy

Teacher of English

Starting Date: September 2026 MPS/UPS, full time, permanent
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 24th April 2026
Interviews: Week commencing: Monday 27th April 2026

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

English

This is an exciting opportunity for an early career or an experienced teacher. With future changes in education, Alcester Academy is excited to offer this position to work in our friendly and unique setting. 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 within a highly successful English 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. Our children enjoy their English lessons because of our creative and innovative approach when delivering the curriculum and enrichment opportunities we offer.

The English department is proud of the progress that students make. 2025 outcomes far exceeded National Averages:
English 4+ = 87% 7+ = 31%
English Literature 4+ = 84% 7+ = 21%
We are particularly proud of our grade 5 outcomes also.

Applicants will be considered from all points of experience, including early career teachers. If you feel that Alcester Academy could be for you, please contact the Subject Leader, Vicki McCracken (VickiMcCracken@alcesteracademy.org.uk) for an informal discussion, or complete the application form found on the school website. mIf you have any questions with regard to this vacancy or wish to visit the school, please contact: admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

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Alcester Academy

Teaching Assistant 2 Part Time

Working 20 hours per week
5 days term time only
39 weeks including 5 teacher training days
If working part time, salary will be pro-rated accordingly.
Scale F range 6-11 Actual pro rata £12,029
Start: ASAP
Closing date: Friday 17th April

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

Learning Support at Alcester Academy

Working under the supervision of the responsible teacher, 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 term time only post working 39 weeks per year (incl. 5 teacher training days) as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant. We are particularly interested in hearing from applicants with experience of planning and running intervention sessions with children and monitoring progress within these. Alongside supporting a range of special educational needs specifically neurodivergence, including autism, ADHD and dyslexia.

This is a temporary post for 12 months in the first instance with a view to becoming permanent after this period.

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. Please send your completed application to admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

The application deadline is 12 noon on Friday 17th April 2026.

Interviews TBC.

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 reserve the right to appoint before the deadline for a suitable candidate. We reserve the right to follow up references provided in person.

Alcester Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Enhanced DBS disclosure is required for appointment to this post. For shortlisted candidates, please be aware that online searches may be done as part of due diligence check.

Teaching Assistant 3 Full Time

Working 37 hours per week
5 days term time only (39 weeks including 5 teacher training days)
If working part time, salary will be pro-rated accordingly.
Scale H - Actual pro rata £26,683
Start: ASAP
Closing date: Friday 17th April at 12 noon
Interviews: TBC

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

Learning Support at Alcester Academy

Working under the supervision of the responsible teacher, 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 term time only post working 39 weeks per year (incl. 5teacher training days) as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant. We are particularly interested in hearing from applicants with experience of planning and running intervention sessions with children and monitoring progress within these. Alongside supporting a range of special educational needs specifically neurodivergence, including autism, ADHD and dyslexia. Working with delegated authority and under the overall direction of SENCO, hold a senior role within the teaching assistant field of work, contribute to whole of school policy development. Contribute to the school's statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This is a temporary post for 12 months in the first instance with a view to becoming permanent after this period.

The Application Process

Please complete an Alcester Academy application form which can be found above. A written statement in support of your application will be accepted but we do not consider CVs. Please send your completed application to admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk.

The application deadline is 12 noon on Friday 17th April.

Interviews TBC.

We look forward to receiving your application. Alcester Academy reserve the right to appoint before the deadline for a suitable candidate. We reserve the right to follow up references provided in person.

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* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Student Spotlight
Poppy (year 7, Oversley)
Year 7 Cross Country Finals

We are very proud of year 7 student Poppy who competed at the year 7 cross country finals held in Stoneleigh last weekend. Poppy achieved a brilliant 66th place finish in the competition, where she was up against the best talent from across the country. Congratulations on your fantastic achievement Poppy!

Ben (year 9, Greville)

Congratulations to Ben and the Warwickshire school's U14 football team who recorded a brilliant 3-0 victory versus the larger West Midlands County last week.

Alcester Academy Sporting round up

It has been an incredibly busy end to Spring term with numerous fixtures taking place across our year groups. Congratulations to everyone being selected to represent Alcester Academy out on the court and field over the past weeks.

Year 9 Basketball v Stratford District Cup final

36-41 victory versus Stratford Upon Avon School to bring the South Warwickshire Cup back to Alcester Academy.

Year 10 Football v Stratford MSWSFA Cup Semi-Final

Year 10 gave it everything against a strong side from Stratford in their semi-final match which finished 0-2 to Stratford.

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Year 7 Girls Football v AGS

Year 7 Girls recorded a brilliant 7-3 victory against AGS in an entertaining match this week.

Year 9 Girls Football v AGS

It was fantastic to have 15 year 9 Girls represent us in this fixture versus AGS this week. An extremely close contest finished 0-0.

U13 Rugby v Henley School

Our U13 rugby team enjoyed taking on Henley School in a rugby fixture this week. Despite missing a number of players through injury and only being able to field 12 players, our U13s dug deep to keep the match competitive throughout with the final score finishing 20-5 to Henley.

* SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS *

Summer term sport
After school:

NEXT WEEK'S SPORT W/B 13/4/26

Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday	No clubs – staff training	N/A
Tuesday	All Years Cricket- NA	Field
Wednesday	All Years Tennis- MO	Courts
Thursday	Year 7 and 8 Athletics – MO/NA Year 10 and 11 Rounders - PE	Field Field

Lunchtime:
All years Basketball—Tuesday
Year 11 Boys Indoor Football—Thursday

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Free Webinar!

Supporting Children Looked After Children and Young People with Emotional Regulation

Wednesday 25th March 2026

4pm, tickets via Eventbrite

Open to:

- **Education professionals in Warwickshire**
- **Parents/Carers of children looked after with a Warwickshire GP or Warwickshire social worker**

Scan the QR code to sign up

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Stratford Literary Festival

Events for Families

Adults GO FREE! (unless otherwise stated)

Saturday 9th May

Andrew Pettie
The 'What on Earth!' Family Quiz 6 -106 yrs
£8.55 | 10am

How many planets in our solar system would fit between Earth and the Moon?* How many cups of snot does your body make in a day? All of these questions and more will be answered during this fun and fascinating family quiz hosted by Andrew Pettie, the editor of award-winning What on Earth! Magazine fantastic prizes to be won! (*All of them!).

Saturday 9th May

Jane Riordan
Winnie-the-Pooh: Once there was a Bear 4+ yrs
£8.55 | 10am

Celebrate 100 years of Winnie-the-Pooh and friends, hear a special storytime, and discover how to draw the 'bear of very little brain'. Cosy up with Jane Riordan as she takes you on an adventure through the Hundred Acre Wood. You'll also have a chance to buy the gorgeous new editions of *Winnie-the-Pooh: Once There Was a Bear* and *Winnie-the-Pooh: Tales from the Forest* and get them signed by Jane.*

*Copyright © The Trustees of The Pooh Properties, The Trustees of The Shepard Trust and Harper rCollins Publishers Limited

Box Office: 0333 666 3366 or online at stratlitfest.co.uk | All ticket prices include a booking fee

Saturday 9th May

Warhammer Games Café (12+)*
£10.69 | 7-9pm

Whether you already know your Orks from your Orruks, or you've never dabbled in 'the hobby', this event will give you a chance to build, paint and play with Warhammer figures under the guidance of local tabletop gaming experts. Across four stations: one for building models, one for painting them, and two tables for experienced and inexperienced players - you'll be able to take part in all the key parts of the Warhammer hobby. Starter model kits and paints for old and new players will be provided by Games Workshop, the company behind Warhammer, and experienced players are also welcome to bring their own models.

*Young people under 14 years can attend alone but a contact number for a responsible adult must be left. The Festival cannot be responsible for their care.

Sunday 10th May

Rob Biddulph
The Last Wolf 6+ yrs
£10.69 | 12pm

Mystery. Full moons. Werewolves! Set out on a thrilling adventure with bestselling author and illustrator Rob Biuddulph, who has reimagined the legend of the werewolf in his spine-tingling new book. Have your pencils at the ready for a live version of one of his famous 'Draw with Rob' episodes. A fun-filled howlfest that the whole pack can sink their claws into.

How to Book

By phone: 0333 666 3366 *(Mon-Fri 9am-7pm, Sat 9am-5pm)*

Online: stratlitfest.co.uk

In person during the Festival:
At the Box Office and Information Desk, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Bridge Foot, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6YR
(during the Festival only)

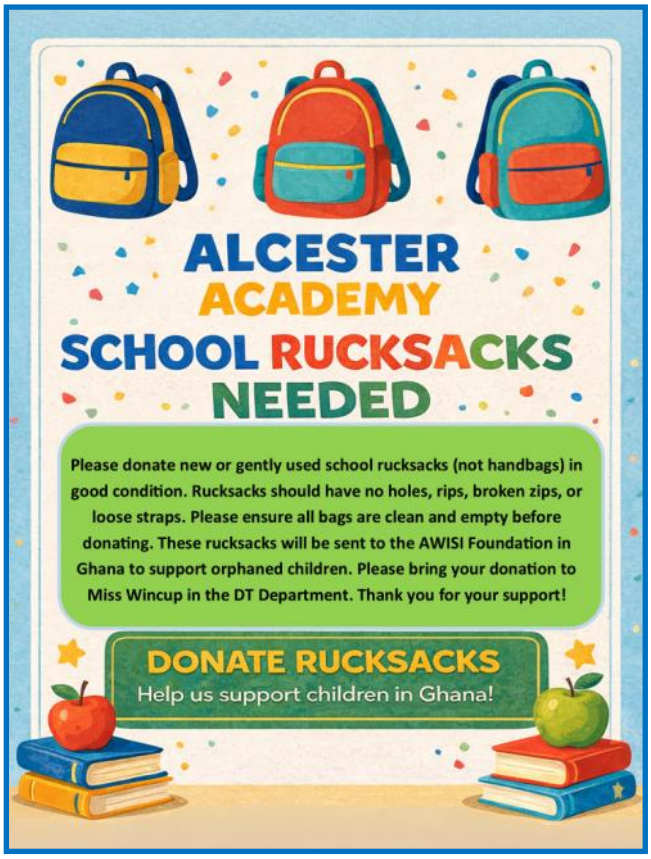
Scan me to book

Ticket prices include a booking fee to cover the costs of our external box office. NEW

All events take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, but please check your ticket and our website before you travel.

- All events take place at the venue printed on your ticket. You will be contacted by email in advance of an event if the venue or any details change.
- Tickets are sold through an external box office. Tickets are non-refundable and cannot be exchanged. All tickets booked by phone or online include a booking fee. This booking fee is charged by our external box office.
- Tickets will be on sale at the Festival Information Desk during the Festival, unless an event is sold out.
- Accessibility: all venues can accommodate wheelchairs and those with mobility issues, and there is an accessible toilet. All venues have step-free access. Please contact us on info@stratfordliteraryfestival.co.uk if you have particular needs or require a seat close to the stage due to hearing or sight challenges.
- Children under 14 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult (over 18 years of age). We cannot accept responsibility for unaccompanied children. Children over 14 may attend alone but must be delivered and collected by a responsible adult and are not the responsibility of the Festival. Adults attending children's events go free unless otherwise stated. Children under 2 and babes in arms who do not require a seat do not need a ticket.
- All events are an hour long unless otherwise stated. Books are available to buy at each event if applicable and authors will sign copies of their books after each event.

Go to our website at stratlitfest.co.uk for full terms and conditions

Box Office: 0333 666 3366 or online at stratlitfest.co.uk

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