

Alcester Academy WEEKLY BULLETIN



30th September 2022

Good afternoon,

I hope you have had a super week!

Year 7 had a great start to the week with their House Bake Off for the *European Day of Languages*. Thank you to those students who participated. All students were given epraise points. Mrs Weatherley has written more about this later in this edition. Congratulations to Bob, Tom, Felicity, Skye, Grace, William, Jess LS, Alex, Molly, Maecie and Jess B. It was so difficult to judge I have to say.



**THE GREAT BRITISH
BAKE OFF**



The year 7s House competitiveness then crept into our site work as a team of litter pickers volunteered to pick up some points for Billesley, Greville, Oversley and Ragley too this week. Thank you to Jess and Drew in year 9 for leading this with me and to the year 7s involved. A team picture will follow over the next few weeks.




We are looking forward to seeing year 7 parents and carers in school next week for the *Meet The Tutor* event on Thursday. SLT will be around if you need to speak with us along with Miss Hammond, year 7 leader and Mrs Bush, SENCo. This event is live, in person, in school. We have simply used School Cloud to help book appointments only.

Our year 11s have had their preliminary revision timetable published this week. We started with Week A. Week beginning 3rd October is Week B.

Thank you to Mr Young and the team, (to include valued former students), that came to talk to year 11s this morning about life in the sixth form at AGS. Further student talks continue across this term by different post 16 providers. Our students in year 11 should be starting to think about completing post 16 applications around now. As a reminder, year 11 parents' evening is Thursday 20th October via School Cloud. Our careers advisor, Miss Bartlett has posted the designated Google Classroom that advertises all Open Events for Post 16 providers later in the bulletin. Year 11s are all members of this classroom.

Mr Cooke led an assembly this week around starting revision and how to strike a balance

<div>  <div> Year 11 Revision Timetable: Autumn Term </div> </div>				
	Week A Lunchtime	Week A After School	Week B Lunchtime	Week B After School
Monday	Homework club IT4		Homework club IT4	
Tuesday	iMedia & Comp Science Homework club IT4	Computer Science	German Homework club IT4	Maths (Mr Hollis only)
Wednesday	French iMedia & Comp Science Homework club IT4	History	Maths Homework club IT4	English Science (for selected pupils)
Thursday	Geography Homework club IT4	Art and Photography	Childcare Homework club IT4	Maths
Friday	Homework club IT4		Homework club IT4	

between this and continuing to do other hobbies and activities.

Thank you to our year 11 Prefects who picked up their in-school duties this week. This linked nicely to Mrs Woodman's assemblies about *Being A Good Citizen* and respecting the school values.



Thank you – PTA Meeting

I am grateful to the parents who joined us last night for our first *Friends of Alcester Academy* meeting via TEAMS. **The next meeting is Thursday 13th October at 7pm, live in school.**

Save the date – *Summer Bash* on Saturday 15th July 2023.

Parent Forum—Homework

We are looking forward to seeing parents of those students in year 7-10 next Tuesday 4th October for our first *Parent Forum*. It runs from 6-7pm and will be covering homework and reporting. This will be on TEAMS so that you can stay in the comfort of your home to listen. At this meeting, we will aim to show you how you can see your child's homework schedule via Google, if you are unfamiliar with this platform.

Please contact admin@alcesteracademy.org.uk if you wish to be sent the link for this event.

Key to the door – 21 years!

So, this week was quite a momentous week in school as six staff celebrated their 21 years' service with us. Initially at Alcester High School, then Alcester Technology College and then finally, at Alcester Academy. We are very grateful to Mr Rossiter, Mr Hollis, Miss Burgess, Mrs Evason, Mrs Quirke and Miss Buckthorp.

Uniform

Thank you for continuing to support smart uniform standards. As a reminder, hi-tops are not permitted as footwear. Please don't buy these for school. I am aware that they can be very expensive and don't want you to waste money. For those of you not up to date with this term, these are hi-tops pictured on the right.



The students continue to look really smart at school. We are encouraging them to continue to look as good coming to, and from school. With the wet weather coming, a coat is now a useful item and we have noted more students wearing jumpers as an extra layer now. This is lovely to see. Thank you for continuing to support the 'no hoodie' rule. This will continue as the weather gets cooler.

Money Matters

[Discounts and offers - Help for Households](#) Please keep up to date with this website as it is adding household information and updates all of the time. Here are just two of the links found within it:



[Help with my bills | CCW \(ccwater.org.uk\)](#) See link for help with water bills

[Council tax rebate: factsheet - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) And support for Council Tax rebates here

Martin Lewis offers superb advice on his website. This is updated regularly: [Money Saving Expert: Energy Help, Credit Cards, Flight Delays, Shopping and more](#)

We have added details on how to access our 'pre-loved' uniform to the school website. Please visit: <https://www.alcesteracademy.org.uk/life-at-alcester-academy/uniform>.

We're back!

Still only **£6** or go large for **£8**

It's the Alcester & Bidford Rotary

Charity Breakfast

ENJOY A FRESHLY COOKED FULL ENGLISH BREAKFAST AND HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR GOOD CAUSES IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY AND BEYOND.

Crawford Hall, Bidford
Saturday 1st October
9.00am – 12 noon

Alcester Town Hall
Saturday 8th October
8.30am – 12 noon

For more information please email alcesterbidfordrotary@gmail.com or visit our website www.alcesterbidfordrotary.co.uk

Rotary
Alcester & Bidford

Organised by Rotary with the generous support of Bidford Co-op, Clay Hall Farm Eggs, Freemans, Plato, Simply Fresh, Waitrose and other local businesses

Alcester Academy invites you to join us for

The Greatest Show on Earth!

16th, 17th and 18th November
7.30pm at Alcester Academy

Tickets soon to be sold on the school gateway, you don't want to miss out!

"Everyone's got an act."

Designed by Katie Stephens 10ST

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

COVID-19 cases

We are seeing a few more covid-19 cases creeping back in this week. Please remain vigilant. Mrs Taylor, attendance officer has written to all parents this week to include details of the isolation period required.

Cases this week:

Year 7—1 case
Year 8—no cases
Year 9—1 case
Year 10—2 cases
Year 11—no cases

SAFELINE'S PARENT WORKSHOP

HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE, IMPROVE THEIR MENTAL HEALTH AND LEARN HOW TO DEAL WITH BULLYING.

Join us on Zoom Meeting ID: 982 363 3370

Internet Safety - Wednesday 28th September
5 - 6pm

Mental Health - Wednesday 5th October
5 - 6pm

Bullying and Sexual Harassment in Schools
Wednesday 12th October
5 - 6pm

We recommend attending all 3 sessions to gain a deeper understanding into you child's welfare.
Please confirm your attendance via email at:
patrindac@safeline.org.uk



SEND Updates

We are overwhelmed currently with reports being requested by professionals that are supporting families with SEND diagnosis' right now. A typical example is a request for a neurological assessment for ASD. We aim to complete the school section of any request made but please be aware that this takes time, and we do involve all teachers for any student in order to get a thorough picture.

Professionals are recommending that families use the Warwickshire Dimensions tool to provide some self-help strategies.



<https://dimensions.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/>

The Dimensions of Health and Wellbeing is a free online tool providing personalised information to support an individual's well-being and mental health. The Dimensions report it creates provides information that is relevant to the ratings made on each of the Dimensions. It can be used to find selfcare, local support groups and telephone help lines, and services offered through various organisations and the NHS.

Ofsted Parent View

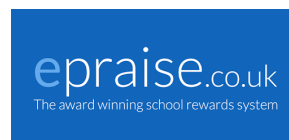
<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

The parent voice platform for your views is now re-open again for the academic year 2022-23. Each year, it requires parents to re-enter their views please. If you can spare the time to do this, I'd be very grateful remembering that any concerns should be raised with the school directly.



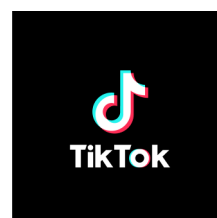
Epraise

Epraise is now available for parents to view reward points and demerits. We encourage parents to keep up to date with behaviour using this platform



TikTok Concerns

All students in years 7-10 have been spoken to about the negativity that occurs as a result of posting derogatory comments on TikTok about the school or their peers. If I could ask you to follow this up at home in a conversation, I would be grateful. I would also ask that you check your child's social media accounts from time to time to avoid any situations escalating unnecessarily. This area of our children's lives takes up so much valuable school time with staff having to unpick, and rectify situations that should never have occurred in the first place.



Bus Turning Circle

Please could we ask that parents do not park in or approach the bus circle in the morning / afternoon or attempt to get on any of the buses. If you have any concerns or your child has left anything on the bus, please contact the bus company directly or let the school office know.

Filming on phones

Phones should not be out in school at any time. Please talk to students about the importance of not using phones to record in school, or record peers wearing school uniform at any time. On safeguarding grounds, this is of the utmost importance to everyone.

Mr Moffatt, Head of PE has written about a busy footballing week later on in this edition. Our teams have been busy competing again this week. Well done to all students involved!

Sponsorship

I am searching for a local company who might be willing to help sponsor a new year 7 football strip for the Academy please. If you are aware of any leads regarding this, can you let me know head@alcesteracademy.org.uk. Thanks so much!

I think that's all now for this week's update. The school has felt very purposeful and calm this week. I am extremely proud of how the students have returned from their summer break with an intent to positively apply themselves within the classroom.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend ahead.

Best wishes
Sarah Mellors
Headteacher

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MFL European Day of Languages

Congratulations to all students who participated in the MFL European Day of Languages Bake-Off competition.

There were some beautifully decorated and well thought out entries. All participants will receive a prize and certificate next week - merci bien!

Winner - Alex - year 7

2nd - Will - year 7

3rd - Grace - year 7

Runners up - Tom—year 7, Felicity—year 7, Skye—year 8, Jess LS—year 9, Maecie—year 9, Jess B—year 7, Molly—year 8.



Open Evening 2022

A special thank you to all pupils who supported during open evening last Thursday. Car parkers, front of house, refreshments, subject helpers and tour guides (the list goes on) - it was great to see so many proud and excited pupils who took to their roles with so much professionalism whilst looking after over 250 interested families. A credit to the Academy! A mention must go to our former students who found time to spare from the busy start at their new destinations. All pupils have received epraise points and should be really proud in their representation of our community.

Mr Cooke

Lost Property Drop

There will be a *Lost Property Drop* on Wednesday 5th October 3.45pm to 4.30pm in the school hall.

All parents and carers are invited to come and check for any items that have been lost or misplaced in school.

Thank you, *Mrs Bennett*

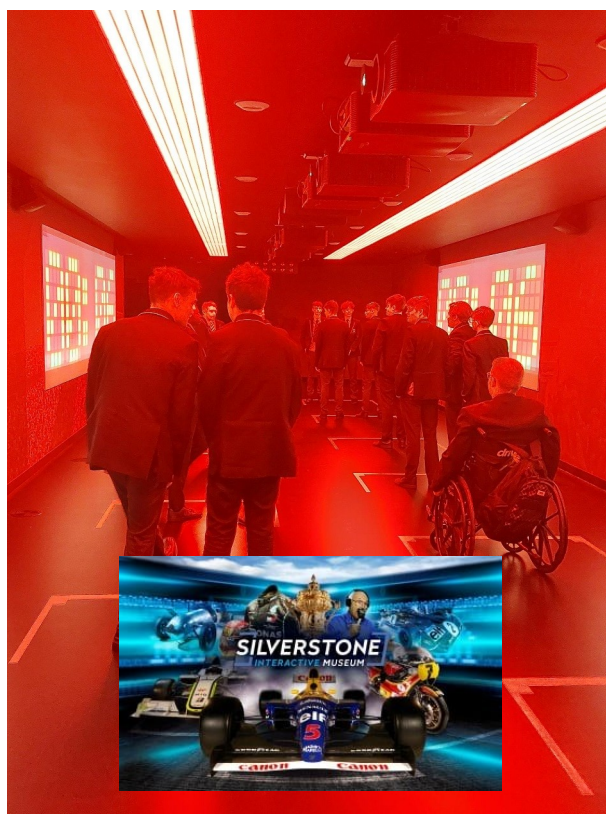
Students visit Silverstone

Our year 11 resistant materials GCSE group went to Silverstone this week, on an informative STEM day. The students were looking at the materials and cost involved in making an F1 car. They were lucky enough to have a tour of the heritage track, see the interactive museum and participate in a workshop.

Car makers Porsche had hired the track for the day, and were testing one of their new cars which we got to watch during our lunch break!

This was an invaluable experience for the students, who can now use this knowledge and photographs in their DT and Art projects.

Miss Wincup



HOUSES AT ALCESTER ACADEMY

Top House this week: Billesley!

Top House Epraise points this week: Billesley!

Top House students on Epraise this week:

Billesley – Skye 8NE

Ragley – Luke 11BR

Greville – Lillia 11BR

Oversley – Jess 9RO

European Day of Languages

Congratulations to the following Houses and students who won the European Day of Languages cake competition!

1st place – Oversley House with student Alex

2nd place – Oversley House with student William

3rd place – Billesley House with student Grace

Expect more House points next week for the continued efforts during European Day of Languages this week.

Design a shield competition

During tutor time, students in years 7, 8, 9 and 10 are going to design their new House shields!

They need to consider:

Their House name and colour
The history behind their House
The values behind their House

This is due on Monday 31st October and to be handed into myself or their tutors.
Any questions or extra entries, please come and see me (E1).

Miss Lewis



Epraise Leaderboard—past 7 days

Top Students—past 7 days:

1	Jess	9RO	52 points
2	Felicity	7KA	48 points
3	Luke	11BR	46 points
3	Charlie	9SO	46 points
5	William	7KA	43 points
6	Alex	7KA	42 points
7	Layla	10ST	41 points
8	Jessica	7RA	39 points
9	Skye	8NE	38 points
9	Sophie	10MG	38 points

Top Staff—past 7 days:

1	Mrs Mellors	906 points
2	Mr Bastock	814 points
3	Mr Martin	776 points
4	Mr Bowater	742 points
5	Mr Yarrington	583 points
6	Miss Lewis	579 points
7	Mrs Stedman	548 points
8	Miss Taylor	534 points
9	Mr Rossiter	424 points
10	Mr Anderson	374 points

Top Tutor—past 7 days:

1	11BR	674 points
2	7KA	604 points
3	7WI	556 points
4	7LE	463 points
5	7RA	454 points
6	11HK	438 points
7	9HL	432 points
8	9SO	431 points
9	9PW	430 points
10	10BW	407 points

Top Subjects—past 7 days:

1	Maths	1487 points
2	Science	1451 points
3	Geography	1322 points
4	English	901 points
5	History	769 points
6	IT	643 points
7	Art	570 points
8	French	326 points
9	Computing	173 points
10	Design Technology	89 points

epraise



Term Dates 2022-23

AUTUMN TERM 2022

School closed

Monday 5th & Tuesday 6th September 2022
Teacher training days

Autumn Term begins

Years 7 and 11 only

Years 8, 9 and 10 only

All students back

Wednesday 7th September 2022

Thursday 8th September 2022

Friday 9th September 2022

Half term

Back to school

Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October 2022

Monday 31st October 2022

Autumn Term ends

Friday 16th December 2022 at 12.40pm

SPRING TERM 2023

School closed

Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Teacher training day

Spring Term begins

Wednesday 4th January 2023

Half Term

Back to school

Monday 20th – Friday 24th February 2023

Monday 27th February 2023

Spring Term ends (Easter)

Friday 31st March 2023 at 12.40pm

SUMMER TERM 2023

Summer Term begins

Monday 17th April 2023

May Bank Holiday

Monday 1st May 2023

Half Term

Back to school

Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2023

Monday 5th June 2023

Summer Term ends

Friday 21st July 2023 at 12.40pm

School closed

Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th July 2023
Disaggregated teacher training days

MATHS—House Problem Solving



Three Tuesdays in a certain month all land on even numbered dates. What day does the 21st of that month fall on?



How many times a day does a 24 hour digital clock have exactly one horizontal line of symmetry?



A farm has some hens and cows. If there's 8 heads and 22 feet, how many hens and cows are there?

The maths team are very excited to announce the start of our BRAND NEW house problem solving competition! Every fortnight three thought-provoking problems will be posted and students can submit their solutions into the entry box located in M2 (see photo). Regardless of year group, students can enter themselves for any question bronze, silver or gold. Check out our first set of challenges for students above.

Deadline is 3rd October 2022 for these questions. Make sure to check the bulletin every week to see what the current problems are!

The best solutions earn 10 points for their House along with a certificate to take home for their achievement. As well as being a great way for students to earn points for their Houses, we hope that from this competition students can engage with maths in more real-life contexts, and use the knowledge and understanding they have already to work on developing their problem solving skills, a transferable skill that can be applied to whatever students go on to do in the future. Most of all though, we hope they (and parents at home!) have fun tackling these challenges together!

Miss Home

HOUSES AT ALCESTER ACADEMY



Extra Curricular Autumn Timetable

Extra Curricular activities are now all fully running. We've had a great first week with many students taking advantage of the wonderful opportunities available to them.

It's still not too late to join. If your child is still interested, then please speak to the leader involved and start taking part.

Miss Sacco

	Before School			Lunchtime			Afterschool					
	Activity	Teacher	Location	Activity	Teacher	Location	Activity	Teacher	Location			
Monday				Game Design	Mr Anderson	IT2	Ornithology	Mr Jones	o1			
				Tai Chi & Qigong	Miss Bayliss	E6						
				Acoustic	Mr Badham	Hut	Year 9,10,11 Netball (week 1)	Mrs Powell	Yard			
				Year 7 Table Tennis/Basketball	Mr Moffatt	Gym	Year 11 Football (week 1)	Mr Moffatt/Mr Powell	Top Field			
Tuesday	Marathon Kids	Mrs Hamilton	Field /Gym	Party Game Club	Miss Home	M2	School Show Performers	The PA TEAM	Hall			
				Book Club	Mrs Hands	Library				Set design	Mr Badham and Ms Evasaon	Hut
				Solo Singers School Show	PA Team	Drama	Year 8 Football (week 1)	Mr Moffatt	School Field			
				Latin	Mrs Hoskin	E3	Year 10 Football (week 2)			Mr Powell	School Field	
				Year 8 Table Tennis/Basketball	Mr Powell	Gym	All years girls football (week 1)	Miss Hammond/Miss Home	Yard			
							Year 7 Badminton/ Table Tennis (week2)					
							Year 7 Netball (week 1)					
Wednesday	Reading Club	English Team	English Dept	Youn Enterprise (KS4)	Miss Lewis Miss Bartlett	E1	Rock Acadmemy	Mr Badham (To speak to Mr Badham before signing up)	Music Dept			
							Prop Making	Mr Martin	Drama			
							Year 7 Football (week1)	Mr Moffatt	School Field			
				Youth Speaking Competition (KS4)	Miss Hammond	Not Starting till autumn term 2	Year 9 Football (Week 2)					
				Principal Acting School show	Pa Team	Drama	Year 9 Badminton/Table Tennis (week 1)	Mr Powell	Gym			
				Digital Fashion	Miss Nemeshanyi	T4	Year 11 Badminton/Table Tennis (week2)					
				Rock Band	Mr Badham	Hut	Year 8 Netball (week 1)	Mrs Powell	Yard			
				Year 9 Table Tennis/Basketball	Mrs Powell	Gym	Year 7 Netball (Week 2)					
				Prop Making	Mr Martin	Drama						
Thursday	Reading Club	English Team	English Dpt	Principal Acting School Show	Pa Team	Drama	School Show Performers	The PA TEAM	Hall			
				Law Society	Mrs Hoskin	E3				Year 10 Badminton/Table Tennis (week 1)	Mrs Powell	Gym
										Year 8 Badminton / Table tennis (week 2)		
				Pop Band	Mr Badham	Hut	Year 7,8, 9 Girls touch rugby	Miss Watson	Field			
							year 7,8,9 Beginners Boys Rugby (week 1)	Miss Burgess / Mr Moffatt	Top Field			
							Year 10/11 Boys Rugby (week 2)	Miss Burgess	School Field			
				Year 10 Table Tennis/Basketball	Mr Moffatt	Gym	All year fitness (week 2)	Mr Moffatt/ Mr Cooke	Yard			
Set design	Mr Badham and Ms Evasaon	Hut										
Friday				Recycling, Environment Club	Mrs Farnell	E2						
				Science Club	Miss Tandy/Miss Radbourne	S6						
				Chess Club	Mr Dyer	M1						
				Guitar Orchestra	Mr Badham	Hut						
				Year 11 Table Tennis/Basketball	Mr Moffatt	Gym						



Alcester Academy Photography House Competition

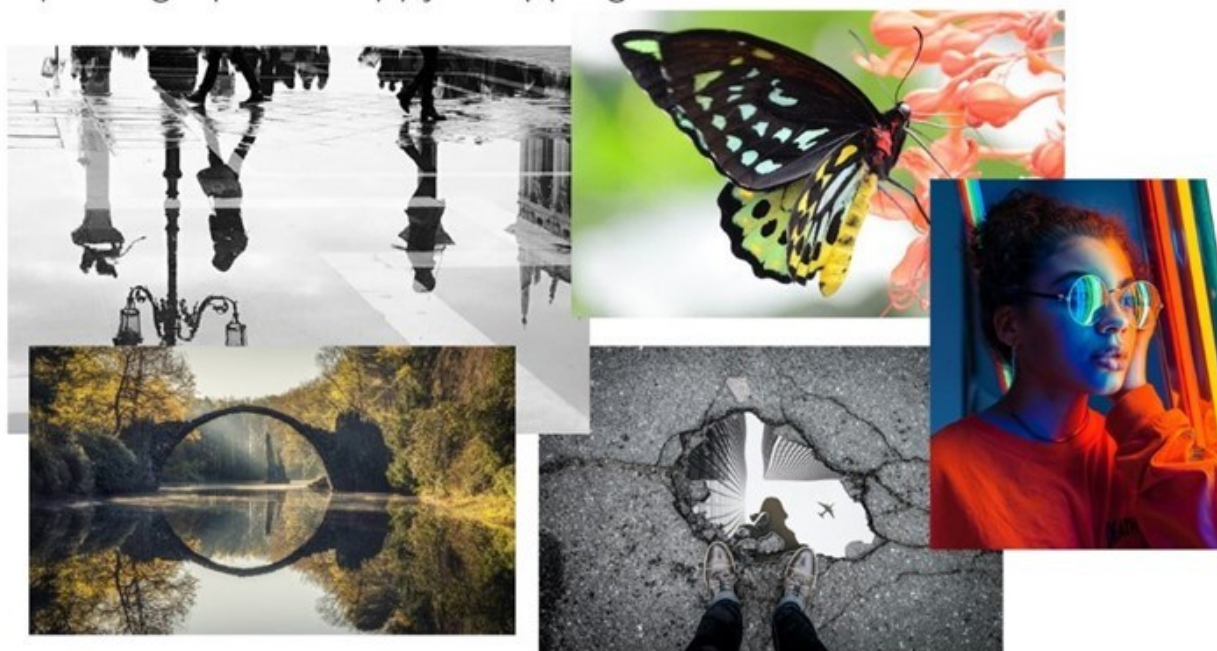
Autumn Term

Deadline for all entries **Friday 9th December**

The theme for this years photography house competition is **Your Everyday**. What does your day-to-day look like? What people surround you? What scenes do you see; idyllic landscapes or a busy community? We want to see your take on the world around you.

You can submit up to 3 images on Google Classroom – kfkqvjd

House points available for all entries and prizes for the top 3 photographs - Happy snapping!



Invitation for Parents: Success Beyond School

How to coach teenagers towards a successful career



We are delighted to announce the first events in our *Success Beyond School* series for this academic year. **These are live online seminars featuring career experts, designed to help parents amplify their children's career potential.** The events are for parents of students aged 12-18 and are free to attend.

**FOR FURTHER
DETAILS PLEASE
CLICK HERE:**

<https://investin.org/>

12th October: Making it in Medicine

Expert advice on how to get into medical school

16th November: Future-Proofing Students

Preparing students for the jobs of the future

30th November: Finding a Future in Finance

Gaining the skills for a career in Finance

Careers Zone News

Year 11 can now find all information regarding post-16 open events on their Google Classroom.

The majority of provisions are requesting they book in advance and I have included the links to do this.

The Post-16 Google classroom code is
wauovgl



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one app of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-synching and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. It now has around a billion users worldwide.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TikTok Jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view third-party content outside the app.

18
CENSORED

EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-synching and dancing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the app's young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and then be inclined to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.

TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities: Charli D'Amelio and Lil Nas X, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok – leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become "TikTok famous". While most aspiring stars hoping to be 'the next big thing' will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.

HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is simple on TikTok – including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but – because of its abundance of teen users – TikTok has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media, TikTok is designed to be addictive. It can be hugely entertaining – but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep users intrigued about what's coming next mean it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.

IN-APP SPENDING

There's an in-app option to purchase 'TikTok coins', which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 99p to an eye-watering £99 bundle. TikTok is also connected with Shopify, which allows users to buy products through the app.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information like their school or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.

MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

The default setting for all under 18s' accounts to 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution: it means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The 'Stitch' (which lets users splice clips from other people's videos into their own) and 'Duet' (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are now only available to over 18s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortify their account against predators.

LEARN ABOUT REPORTING AND BLOCKING

With the correct privacy settings applied, TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok allows users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

'Family Pairing' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

USE RESTRICTED MODE

In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' section, you can filter out inappropriate content (specific content creators or hashtags, for instance) using 'Restricted Mode'. This can then be locked with a PIN. You should note, though, that the algorithm moderating content isn't totally dependable – so it's wise to stay aware of what your child is watching.

MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child to manage their time on it in the 'Digital Wellbeing' section. Under 'Screen Time Management', you can limit the daily permitted time on the app (in increments ranging from 40 minutes to two hours). This preference can also be locked behind a PIN. That way, your child can get their regular dose of TikTok without wasting the whole day.

Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



NOS
National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

SOURCES TikTok.com



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 03.11.2021

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

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

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

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

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

School Attendance

Whole School attendance this week—93.3%

This week's top tutor groups:

7WI — 99.3% - brilliant!
 8NE — 93.2% - brilliant!
 9RO — 96% - brilliant!
 10MG — 96.3% - brilliant!
 11BA — 95.9% - brilliant!

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to working with you to achieve the best possible attendance.

Mrs Paula Taylor—Attendance Officer

Mrs Taylor will be sending out a thorough update regarding attendance for you all very shortly.

Mrs Mellors

Vacancy SLT Support Administrator



Full Time—Working Term Time Only

(39 weeks including 5 Teacher Training days)

Scale F range 6-11 FTE £20,043 starting salary (pay award pending)

(Actual pro rata £16,799)

Closing Date: Friday 7th October at 12 noon

Interviews: Week beginning 17th October 2022

Starting: ASAP

Purpose of the Role

To provide effective professional secretarial and administrative support to the Senior Leadership Team and School Business Manager. Please view the advert on the school website.

The Application Process

Please complete an Alcester Academy application form which can be found on our 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 7th October 2022

Interviews will take place during week beginning 17th October 2022

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

ADVERT ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

**Do you help/volunteer in the community or
with your school or family?**

**Lions Young Leaders
in Service Award**

Serve your Community

The Award

Lions Young Leaders in Service Awards recognise young people between the ages of 8 and 18 for service provided to their community. There are three Awards:

- **BRONZE SEAL AWARD** for 25 – 49 hours
- **SILVER SEAL AWARD** for 50 – 99 hours
- **GOLD SEAL AWARD** for 100 or more hours

Categories

Environment – Education – Children – Public health – Parents/carers and family – Elderly people – Homeless/hungry people – Safety – A leader's role – Disaster relief – and much more

Young Persons Rewards

Making a difference – New friendships – Personal fulfilment – Skills for success – Connections – Recognition – Enhanced CV



Come and see Mrs Hands in the LRC to find out if you could qualify for one of these awards!

SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

Sporting fixtures

An outstanding week of sport for our students this week with five competitions and fixtures running alongside club practises.

Well done to all who competed in the fixtures this week:

Year 11 Girls Football tournament – 3rd place

Year 10 Football v Shipston (Away) – 6-2

Year 7 Football v Studley (Home) – 1-3

Year 11 Netball tournament - 6th place

Year 9 Football v Stratford (Home) - 0-6



Top right: The football equipment donated recently to Alcester Academy.

SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS * SPORTS NEWS

Sports Clubs—week beginning 3/10/22

Practise changes due to fixtures and competition:

- Year 10 Football— to train on Wednesday.
- Internal x-country trial to represent South Warwickshire schools x-country to be held at Alcester Academy on Wednesday 5th October – all years welcome.
- Year 7/8/9 Boys Rugby will train on Thursday alongside years 10/11.

Lunchtime week 1 – 1.45-2.15pm

Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday	Year 7 Basketball - MO	GYM
Tuesday	Year 8 Basketball - PW	GYM
Wednesday	Year 9 Basketball - PE	GYM
Thursday	Year 10 Basketball - MO	GYM
Friday	Year 11 Basketball - MO	GYM

Week 2 Clubs – 3.25-4.30pm

Day	Extra-Curricular Club & Staff	Location
Monday		
Tuesday	Year 7 Badminton/Table Tennis – Mr Powell Year 10 Football – Mr Moffatt	Gym Top Field
Wednesday	Year 9 Football – Mr Moffatt/Mr Powell Year 11 Badminton/Table Tennis – Mrs Powell	Top Field Gym
Thursday (Excluding 22/09 – Open Evening)	All years Fitness – Mr Moffatt/Mr Cooke Year 8 Badminton/Table Tennis – Mrs Powell Years 10/11 Girls touch Rugby – Miss Watson Year 10/11 Boys Rugby – Miss Burgess	Yard/Hall Gym School Field School Field

Football equipment donation

We are incredibly grateful for an extremely generous donation received from local resident Mr Vale consisting of: football nets, corner flags, a respect barrier and some training equipment. This equipment will allow for hundreds of Alcester Academy students over the coming years to access competitive football matches in League and Cup competition. From all staff, students and parents at Alcester Academy, we would like to thanks Mr Vale for this donation.

Fixtures message

I would like to welcome all parents to Alcester Academy to support our students this academic year at sporting fixtures. This half-term football fixtures will predominantly be played on the school site. Please come along and support our students as we enter league and cup competition for every year group. Home football matches will be played on the school site for year 7 and on the top field for years 8-11. Mr Moffatt, Head of PE