

# Alcester Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Mellors  
Deputy Headteacher: Mr Nick Cooke



Assistant Headteacher: Miss Karen Buckthorp  
Assistant Headteacher: Miss Charlie McKenzie

26<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Year 6 Parents/Carers

As we head towards the Easter break, I wanted to write and wish you all a relaxing and joyous time with your families. I know that when Year 6's return to school, their KS2 National Curriculum Assessments will be upon them. I wish them every success for these.

The secondary school transition programme continues in earnest after Easter and key staff will be involved in a thorough process to be sure that the Academy has as much detail as possible about your child/ren. With that in mind, I am also writing to actively discourage you from deciding to purchase a smart phone for your child/ren in order for them to begin secondary school. Smart phones are not needed to support any learning in Year 7 or 8. This is now the second year that we are discouraging the need for smart phones. At Alcester Academy we actively support the research around the dangers of children having smart phones and will keenly be monitoring the government position on this, and social media platforms over the coming months.

We have had effective rules in place regarding phones for a number of years now. Mobile phones have no place in a child's day to day school life. If any phone is seen, it will be confiscated until the end of the school day. We have successfully worked with an organisation called [Smartphone Free Childhood](#) over the last 2 years now. As headteacher, as a mum myself and hopefully one day, as a grandparent, their research has been revolutionary in confirming my own views on the dangers of phone use with children. I highly recommend looking at some of their literature.

We will be in touch again after Easter with more updates. In the meantime, I hope that you are enjoying receiving the weekly bulletin in order to keep you up to date.

Have a super break.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Mellors  
Headteacher

