

Alcester Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Mellors
Deputy Headteacher: Mr Nick Cooke



Assistant Headteacher: Miss Karen Buckthorp

16th September 2026

Dear Year 7 Parent/Carer

I wanted to take this opportunity, now that we are a couple of weeks into the new school year, to share just how pleased we are with the fantastic start our Year 7 students have made at Alcester Academy.

Starting secondary school is an exciting milestone and inevitably brings lots of new experiences – new teachers, new subjects, new routines and, of course, a much bigger school to find your way around! We have been incredibly impressed by the positive way in which our Year 7 students have embraced these first few weeks and also the fantastic week at summer school at the start of the holidays. They are settling in extremely well, growing in confidence and becoming increasingly familiar with their new surroundings and daily routines.

It was also wonderful to see our Year 7 students enjoying their team-building trip to Blackwell Adventure last week. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to spend time together outside the classroom, get to know new people, and begin to form new friendships across the year group. Through the different activities and challenges, students were able to work with and encourage one another, build their confidence, and develop a real sense of belonging. We were delighted by the enthusiasm, teamwork, and positive spirit they demonstrated throughout the day, and it has been lovely to see many of those new connections continuing back at school.

Students are also beginning to access our IT systems and Google Classroom, which will become an important part of their learning and homework as they move through the school. We appreciate that these systems may also be new to parents and carers, so please don't worry if everything does not yet feel completely familiar.

As a reminder, we are holding a Year 7 Parent Forum on Wednesday 16th September, focusing on the curriculum and the use of Google Classroom for homework. You should already have received an invitation to this event, and we hope it will provide a useful opportunity to find out more about how learning and homework will work at Alcester Academy and to answer some of those early questions.

There is always a great deal to take in during the first few weeks of secondary school, but we could not be more pleased with the way Year 7 have approached this exciting new chapter. Their enthusiasm, resilience, and willingness to get involved have been wonderful to see. Most importantly, they are beginning to feel part of the Alcester Academy community, and we look forward to watching their confidence and independence continue to grow over the weeks and months ahead.

As students continue to settle into their new routines, please do contact your child's form tutor directly if you have any questions or there is anything you feel we should be aware of. Tutors are an important first point of contact and will be very happy to help. I am, of course, also available should you need any further support and can be contacted at saschabartlett@alcesteracademy.org.uk.



MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL



Miss Buckthorp (Assistant Headteacher) oversees all year groups and Heads of Year as part of her SLT Role karenbuckthorp@alcesteracademy.org.uk

SLT also offer weekly drop ins on a Wednesday from 3.30 – 4.30pm.

Thank you for your continued support in helping make the transition to secondary school such a positive one. We are delighted to welcome our new Year 7 students and their families to the Alcester Academy community, and we are very excited about the year ahead.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Bartlett', with a stylized, cursive script.

Miss Bartlett
Head of Year 7

saschabartlett@alcesteracademy.org.uk