



# Alveston C of E Primary School

## Starting School Information Reception 2020

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We know the little things matter

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We have a clear ethos

## Welcome to 'The Alveston Family'

We are delighted you have chosen to start your child's school education in our reception class. We know starting school can be a daunting process for both parents and children and our aim is to make the transition as smooth as possible.

We are lucky to have a beautiful early years setting for the children to come into. We have lots of space, adults and resources to keep the children engaged, happy and learning. Our primary goal is to equip our children with basic skills for life, not just for their time in primary school.

At Alveston we pride ourselves on nurturing the whole child – a holistic learning approach encompassing the arts, sport, technology and humanities, as well as ensuring the core skills in maths and English are well taught.

The first year in school plays an important part in forming attitudes to learning, school and relationships. Education is a team effort. It is therefore important to build good relationships between home and school – between both children and teachers, and parents and teachers. Working with us and supporting your child, will ensure together we deliver the very best education.

With this in mind, we would first like to invite you to take part in a 'Zoom' induction evening on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July. During this meeting we will share some of the key information you will need before term starts and give you the opportunity to ask questions.

In addition, we will also invite you to take part in a home 'Zoom' visit. These will take place on the first two days of term. This is an opportunity for us to get to know you and your child and to chat privately with you for ten minutes. It gives you our undivided attention to share any concerns or queries. It is also excellent for the children to see us whilst still being in a setting where they feel comfortable. We will then be able to draw them back to this if they have a moment of worry or upset in the first term. Zoom chats will be on:

Thursday 3rd September and Friday 4th September

We will email out an invite to these. You do not need to have Zoom installed or a Zoom log in. You will be sent a link to click into. If you do not want to attend, please let us know.





We support **our family**

## COVID-19

Sadly this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, at this point we do not know what school will look like in September, it is therefore too soon to make firm plans for the start of term. However, it is our hope and intention to ensure all children have the opportunity to come to school for some time during the week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020. We do understand this will be difficult for many parents as you may need to arrange child care. Please be assured we will keep you updated with information, dates and times as soon as we know more.

## The First Few Days

On the first day your child comes to school we would ask you to bring them through the front entrance hall. Here you will be met by Mrs Clewley. After you have said goodbye, she will bring them down to the classroom. On the second day and all days afterwards, entrance and collection will be through the right side entrance (EYFS and KS1 side).

## Parents' Evening

Once the children are settled there will be a Parent Information Evening. We would encourage you to attend this as we will share guidance on what we will be teaching, how we teach and ways you can support your child at home. Later in the Autumn Term, there will be a formal Parents' Evening. At this meeting we will share with you how they are getting on and what their starting points were. Dates for these nights will be confirmed nearer the time and you will select or sign up to times that suit you. We also send home a curriculum letter in the first few weeks to let you know what we will be covering in lessons.

We are always willing to speak with you if you have any concerns. Please catch us at the end of the day should you ever need anything, want anything clarified or if you have a question or concern.



We are a skilled team

## The Alveston Team 2020 / 2021

Head Teacher	Mrs A Clewley
SENDCo	Mrs R Quanton Stubbs
Officer Manager	Mrs V Pool
Administrative Assistant	Mrs K Hammond
<b>Reception Team</b>	
Deputy Head Teacher EYFS Lead & Class Teacher	Mrs J Newitt
Class Teacher	Mrs J Fielding
Teaching Assistant	Mrs H Bayliss
<b>Key Stage 1 (KS1)</b>	
<b>Year 1</b>	
Class Teacher	Mrs N Rogers
Teaching Assistant	Mrs T Matthews
<b>Year 2</b>	
Class Teacher & KS1 Lead	Miss K Griffiths
Teaching Assistant	Mrs L Musk
Key Stage 1 Intervention Teacher	Mrs S McFeely
<b>Key Stage 2 (KS2)</b>	
<b>Year 3</b>	
Class Teacher	Mr A Hollis
Teaching Assistant	Mrs M Wilcock
<b>Year 4</b>	
Class Teachers	Mr S Foyle / Mrs S Parry
Teaching Assistant	Mrs H Burvill
<b>Year 5</b>	
Class Teacher	Mrs L Chandler
Teaching Assistants	Mrs J Rollitt, Mrs J Arnold, Mrs H Burvill
<b>Year 6</b>	
Class Teacher	Mrs R Slatter
Teaching Assistants	Mrs C Watkins, Mrs E Miles

Information about our school governors can be found on our website.



We share **the experience**

## School Term and Holiday Dates 2020/21

### AUTUMN 2020

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September - Staff Training Day

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September - Staff Training Day

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September Y1-6 children potentially start back / Reception zoom calls

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September - Reception zoom calls

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Half Term Holiday

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – children back to school

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Break up for Christmas

### SPRING 2021

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January - Staff Training Day

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Spring Term - children back to school

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term Holiday

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – children back to school

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Staff Training Day

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Holiday

### SUMMER 2021

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April - Summer Term - children back to school

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Bank Holiday

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Half Term Holiday

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Staff Training Day

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Summer Term ends







We teach the whole child

## A Typical Day in Reception

### Class Teacher Organisation

	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Mrs Newitt	Mrs Newitt
Tuesday	Mrs Newitt	Mrs Newitt
Wednesday	Mrs Fielding	Mrs Fielding
Thursday	Mrs Fielding	Mrs Newitt / Mrs Fielding
Friday	Mrs Fielding	Mrs Fielding

Mrs Fielding and Mrs Newitt, the Reception Class teachers, are both in school all day on a Wednesday and a Thursday. These days are often the best time to arrange a meeting should you wish to see both teachers together.

### Timetable and Routines

8.45 am	Parents and children can start to arrive on playground	
8.50 am	Doors open for children to come in	KS1 door opened for Reception, Year 1 & 2
8.55 am	Registration	
9.05 am	Whole School Collective Worship	Reception will join after first few weeks
9.20 am	Core Skills learning time	Fine & gross motor skills: writing preparation
9.35 am	Continuous Provision activities	
10.20 am	Adult Story led learning, fruit and milk	
10.40 am	Break Time	On playground with whole school
10.55 am	Phonics	
11.20 am	Continuous Provision activities	
12.00 pm	Lunch in hall	
12.30 pm	Outdoor Play	
1.10 pm	Adult led maths learning activity	
1.30 pm	Continuous Provision activities	
3.00 pm	Story time	
3.15 pm	Parents to collect children	Reception will leave from the door located next to classroom. We will hand them over one at a time to an adult

Please ensure you are here on time as it can be very unsettling for children to come in late, especially once we start to go into Collective Worship. If the side door is closed, you will need to bring your child to the office to sign them in. If anyone other than the parents or carers known to the teachers is collecting your child please let us know in advance, either by telling the class teacher, or by informing the office. We will not release children to an adult we are not expecting.



We are a **Christian school**

## Safe School Arrival and Departure

For the sake of pupil safety – if you drive to school to bring your child, please park in the Football Club car park and come in through the green gates (these are open between 8.40-9.20am, and then again from 3.00-3.30pm). If you walk, please use the kissing gate at the front of school. Please do not park in the staff car park (next to Cygnets Nursery).

Under no circumstances should pupils use the climbing equipment before or after school, this includes the tyres on the front playground. If pupils come on a scooter or bike, please dismount before entering the kissing gates at the front of school.

Parents are asked to leave the playground at the end of the day by 3.30p.m.

## Buddies

When children start, we will give them a 'Buddy'. These buddies will be our Year 6 pupils and they will remain buddies all year. We set up special buddy time where the children read to one another, share work and play games. The Buddies also support Reception as they settle at break and lunch times on the playground. We will share photos of the children with their buddies on Seesaw.

## Collective Worship

Collective Worship takes place daily for 15 minutes. These sessions are led by all adults in the school so children get to meet all the teaching staff. In addition to this, Mr Williams leads Worship every Wednesday morning. Our assemblies are 15 minutes long and they focus on our different school values:

Responsibility and Courage

Forgiveness and Compassion

Hope and Peace

Honesty and Justice

Tolerance and Respect

Community and Friendship





We strive to meet **individual needs**

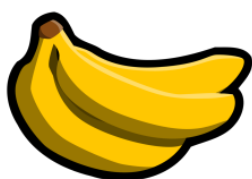
## Break and Lunches

All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are entitled to a free school hot dinner. If you choose to send a packed lunch, this is fine, but please ensure drinks are in a flask or carton (no fizzy drinks in cans or bottles) and please do not send nuts or nut based products. If you send a yogurt you need to send a spoon. Children's lunch boxes will be checked by midday supervisors to check they have eaten enough. All rubbish and uneaten food will be sent home.



Information about free school meals is available from [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

If your child qualifies for free school meals the school receives additional funding to support their learning. We can't emphasise enough how much an impact this can have, so please check to see if you qualify and apply.



At morning break, children will be provided with a piece of fruit in Reception and Key Stage 1. Please send a named bottle of water for drinking throughout the day.

*Cool Milk*

Under 5s are entitled to free milk on the 'Cool Milk' scheme. Please see the leaflet in the pack as they need to be registered to receive this. You can visit [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com). Children over 5 can still have milk, but parents need to pay for this, again through Cool Milk.



We deliver **big results**

## Early Writing

At Alveston, we teach children cursive writing from Reception. This is to make the transition from individual letters to joined-up handwriting easier. It is difficult to start with, but practising really is the key. We will build up to letter writing over time but if you have opportunities to write with your children at home, if possible, please do model the cursive style. Every letter starts on the line and ends with a flick.



Whoosh in and round you go, Up, down and kick out a's toe.

Whoosh in and up tall and back down, then halfway up and all the way round. Add a lead at the end, so b can join onto a friend.

Whoosh in and curl the c. C joins other letters easily.

Whoosh up halfway and go around, then all the way up and back down. Kick out d's toe, and she's ready to go.

Whoosh in and curl like a snail and leave an easy joining tail.

Whoosh in to the top and go round, and then zoom under the ground. Under the line, loop the last part, and finish your f near its start.

Whoosh in, go round to the top. Go down under the line, loop and stop.

Whoosh in and up tall, and then down. Halfway up, bend over and flick off the ground.

Whoosh up and down, then kick out a toe. Add a dot and i's ready to go.



Whoosh up then zoom down under the line. Loop the tail then add your dot at the right time.

Whoosh up tall and back down. Go halfway up and around. Go down and out with a flick, your k is ready to kick.

Whoosh in and up tall. Down to the ground and make your flick small.

Whoosh in and then down. Up, over and back to the ground. Up, over and down again, add a flick to finish your m.

Whoosh in and then down. Up, over the hump and flick off the ground.

Whoosh in round you go. Lead out from the top for your o.

Whoosh in and then go down low. Back up to the top and round you go. Lead out at the end so o can join onto a friend.

Whoosh in and round you go. Then zoom under the line and kick out q's big toe.

Whoosh to the top to start. Go down and curve the top for your r.



Whoosh in and curl left. curl right then lead out of your s.

Whoosh to the top and back down. Then add a flick off of the ground. You need to cross the t, with a straight line on his tummy.

Whoosh up then down. Bend round, go up and down to the ground. Kick out a toe and u is ready to go.

Whoosh up then down into the valley. Zoom back up and across the top to finish your v.

Whoosh in, then down and back up. Down again, up and across at the top.

Climb up to the top and then slide down from left to right and have a rest. Jump back to the top, go from right to left and you have an x.

Whoosh up then down and bend round. Go up then down underground. Loop the tail under the line. Lead the y out and then it's fine.

Whoosh up then to the right. Siz zag down and back to the right.

## Maths



Maths is everywhere. Please talk about numbers, spot them in the environment and play games to reinforce maths. Weigh ingredients, make patterns, count plates on the dinner table etc. It is important that the children are ready to say, count, recognise and write numbers.



We embrace **our environment**

## Forest School



**Our school is a Forest School!** We have three qualified Forest School Leaders – Mrs Newitt, Mrs McFeely and Mrs Fielding. This means that we have spaces around the school site where children can learn outdoors. We have a special secured area which has been landscaped and planted and also trained staff who can and will provide outdoor learning opportunities for all children as they progress through the school.

Forest School sessions will use the outdoor areas for learning through all seasons and



all weathers. We have dungarees in school for all children.

### Children at Forest School will:

- Be taught to care, look after and respect the outdoor environment.
- Be given opportunities to develop their confidence and self-esteem and to challenge their own abilities.
- Be given the opportunity to create and design their own curriculum and learning path, as well as building on the indoor curriculum and set learning paths.
- Be praised for efforts and outcomes – regardless of ability, encouraging autonomy.
- Learn about the importance of following and adhering to different rules and boundaries.
- Work with, use and manipulate materials found in the natural environment.
- Be taught to use tools in a safe and effective way.
- Take ownership of the site, caring for, and learning to love, all aspects of the natural world.
- Be provided with enjoyable and rewarding challenges.
- Be encouraged to collaborate and persevere with tasks.





We share the experience

## Uniform

Uniform is available to purchase from:

- National Schoolwear Centre in Alcester ([www.alcestermsc.com](http://www.alcestermsc.com)) and
- YourSchoolUniform.com ([www.yourschooluniform.com](http://www.yourschooluniform.com))



All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 need a book bag.

### PLEASE NAME ALL CLOTHING

Boys	Girls
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Green sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without school logo)</li> <li>✓ Grey trousers or shorts</li> <li>✓ White shirt or polo shirt (with or without school logo)</li> <li>✓ Black shoes</li> <li>✓ Grey socks</li> <li>✓ Green school fleece/coat (optional)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Green sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without school logo)</li> <li>✓ Grey skirt, pinafore or trousers</li> <li>✓ Green and white checked or striped summer dress</li> <li>✓ White shirt or polo shirt (with or without school logo)</li> <li>✓ Black shoes</li> <li>✓ Grey or white socks</li> <li>✓ Green school fleece/coat (optional)</li> </ul>
<b>Indoor PE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ White t-shirt</li> <li>✓ Black shorts</li> <li>✓ White socks</li> <li>✓ Black or white pumps</li> <li>✓ Pump bag</li> </ul>	<b>Outdoor PE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Dark tracksuit</li> <li>✓ Trainers</li> <li>✓ Wellies for Forest School</li> </ul>

Please remember:

1. Always send your child in with a coat – as well as going outside at break and lunchtimes, we also spend time learning outdoors
2. Name all clothing!



We learn from each other

## Newsletters, Emails, Texting and SeeSaw



The school newsletter is sent home every Friday via email, along with any relevant fliers or information. It can also be viewed on our website.

[www.alvestoncofeprimary.co.uk](http://www.alvestoncofeprimary.co.uk)

We have a texting system which allows us to contact you in an emergency such as school closures or cancellation of clubs.

As a school we try to keep you informed about learning taking place on a weekly basis via an app called 'SeeSaw'. You will need to sign up to use this and we will send the class a login once everyone has done this. The information cannot be accessed by anyone outside of school. As a school we will never use children's surnames. We will send you an online consent form to complete. It is important this is completed by Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

## Parent Pay



The school operates a cashless system. Although you are not required to pay for school meals in Reception and Key Stage 1, from time to time there may be other things we ask for contributions towards, such as school trips and after school clubs. For these we use Parent Pay, an online money system. You will be given a login for this once your child starts school.

## Pupil Premium Support



Although all children currently receive free school meals until the end of Year 2, your child may be eligible for free school meals for the whole of their primary education. In addition, school is paid 'Pupil Premium' funding for every child eligible for free school meals. This funding is used by the school to support your child's education. Your child may be eligible for free school meals if, for example, you receive income support or income-based Jobseeker's

Allowance. To find out if you are eligible, please check online

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals> Or call the Customer Service Centre: Telephone: 01926 359189 The earlier you apply, the earlier the school receives funds. So please, if you think you may be eligible, please do not wait to apply.



We provide a **caring environment**

## Leave of Absence

Parents do not have any entitlement to take their children out of school during term time. Requests for leave of absence can only be made in **exceptional** circumstances and reasons must be given to support the application, including evidence.

## Accidents and Illness



Should your child become unwell at school, we will contact you and ask that you collect them and take them home as we do not have the facilities to look after sick children.

In the event of your child sustaining an injury at school that requires hospital attention, we will make every effort to contact you. Failing that, a member of staff may take them or an ambulance will be called.

Minor injuries such as a grazed knee will be dealt with at school. Parents will be notified when first aid has been administered.

**Therefore it is vitally important that the contact details you provide are accurate and kept up to date.**

## Medicines

We will administer prescribed medicines at school as long as children are well enough to come in and parents have filled in the appropriate form. All medicines must be in their original named packaging and must go through the School Office.

If your child needs to use an inhaler it is important that there is one in school and in date at all times. In Reception and Key Stage 1 we will look after these in a safe cupboard. Please ensure the inhaler is named.







We celebrate **our differences**

## Independent Learners

With 30 children in the class, it is really helpful if the children can do the following things before they start school:

- Dress and undress for PE
- Put on and take off their shoes
- Use the toilet independently, including wiping themselves clean, flushing the toilet and washing their hands
- Use a knife and fork
- Tidy toys away
- Play and share with others
- Use a tissue
- Put on their own coat (and zipping it up would be a bonus 😊)

Remember, children are ...

**ALL DIFFERENT SHAPES AND SIZES**

*from different surroundings*

interested in different things

and

*they all learn differently.*





"I love that we are a family." Ellie, Year 4.



Telephone: 01789 293412

**Alveston C of E Primary School**

Email: [alvestonYR@welearn365.com](mailto:alvestonYR@welearn365.com)

Website: <https://www.alvestoncofeprimary.co.uk/>

Head Teacher: Mrs Anne Clewley

Chair of Governors: Mr Alex Quinn

For further information please do call or email, we will be happy to help.

Your opinion matters to us and we would love to hear your feedback.

We welcome all comments and we promise we listen! So please do tell us:

- what you think we are doing well
- what you think we could improve



"I love the really warm atmosphere." Nell, Year 6.