



St. Albans C. of E.
Primary School

Welcome to our
lovely school!

For the

**Parents of
Foundation Stage 2
Pupils**

2020/21



Our Vision:



Ethos Statement

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the church at parish and diocesan level. The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

Mission Statement

St Alban's School is a community that seeks to base its life on the love of God shown in Jesus Christ; to be open to the Spirit of God; and to serve the Kingdom of God.

On this basis we aim to help every child discover their full potential as a child of God, spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, physically and socially.

Aims

We aim to achieve this by:

- Providing a broad and balanced education by structured progress through the Early Years Foundation Stage, the National Curriculum and a range of other experiences.
- Helping every child develop a sense of self worth and self confidence.
- Valuing and developing a partnership between families and school, with local churches and the Diocese and with others in the wider community.
- Our pupils achieve well throughout the school because the quality of teaching and learning is good.

Getting your child ready for school:



Starting school is a milestone, not only for your child but also for you! You may be excited & perhaps a little concerned about your child taking these first steps towards independence. However you may feel, it is important that your child's experience of starting school is as positive as possible. After all, you are the first and most important educators of your child!

Getting your child ready for school - at home!

1. Talk to your child about school & what to expect.
2. If possible, attend the pre-school meeting.
3. Reassure your child that there are lots of new children starting school - they are not on their own.
4. Let your child wear his/her school uniform before the start day.
5. Share positive books and stories with your child about starting school.
6. Rehearse in your child's mind how they will come into school with the other children on the first day & how you (or another carer) will be waiting for them at pick up time.
7. Talk about what will be happening at home when your child is at school.
8. Talk with your child about what will be expected of them.



Expectations at School:



The following is a list of expectations that we would like all children to be

able to do whilst at school. However, some children will of course find some things easier than others. If we work together both at school & home, then we can all help in the development of your child.

We would like all children to be able to:

- ✓ Do what they are told by an adult.
- ✓ Co-operate and share with friends.
- ✓ Be responsible for looking after things.
- ✓ Understand that there are quieter times to listen and learn and noisier times to play.
- ✓ Regularly take books home to share.
- ✓ Not bring in toys from home unless asked to.
- ✓ Concentrate for longer periods than they may have done at a previous nursery or playgroup.
- ✓ Follow school and classroom rules.
- ✓ Go to the toilet independently.
- ✓ Put on their coat independently and have a go at fastening it.
- ✓ Be able to change shoes and change for P.E.



Getting Started:

The first half term in school is all about getting to know each other. The children come from St Alban's FS1 provision as well as a few other settings so some children may not know any other children in their class. Don't worry about this - it's amazing how quickly children make friends!



During this half term, staff will observe and work with your child making judgements regarding the best way to engage them and take their learning forward.

We operate a staggered entry system into school. Your child is given an individual start date which allows us to settle the children and get them used to some of the school and class routines.



This is very much a settling in period and works very well so that children (as well as parents) can adjust. We have effective communication systems in place so don't worry, you will be kept fully informed about how your child is settling into school!

The Early Years Foundation Stage

(EYFS) in Reception/FS2:

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through seven areas of Learning and Development. The three prime areas are:

- Communication and Language;
- Physical Development;
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development.



These prime areas are most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning. As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in four specific areas. These are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the World;
- Expressive Arts & Design.

These seven areas together are used to plan your child's learning and activities in Reception. Children in the EYFS learn by creative and critical thinking, by playing, exploring & being active - both indoors and outside. Assessments are made throughout the year & are based on observations and knowledge of the



whole child. We value your input into these as you will obviously see so much that we don't. We have a Home/School Link Book that you can record information in and help to contribute to your child's profile.

Uniform:

Our uniform gives a strong sense of identity, it looks smart, allows children to be easily recognisable when out & about on visits & prevents early morning stresses on what to wear!

Uniform - The Important Bits!

Red jumper/Cardigan/sweatshirt (approved logo from A-Print or Tesco; plain without a logo also an option).

White or red polo shirt.

Black trouser/skirt/pinafore/shorts.

Red gingham summer dress (optional)

www.aprint.co.uk

01709 709977

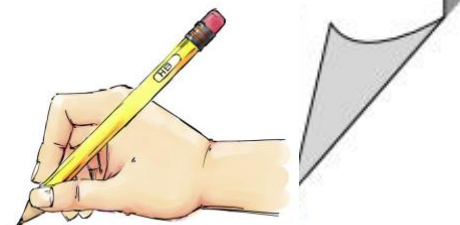
www.tesco/ues

P.E kit: white T-Shirt, dark shorts and black pumps.

The F52 children spend time outside each day whatever the weather.

Please dress your children appropriately for our Varied Climate!

Children need a book bag that they need to bring to school



Other Important Information:

The School Day:

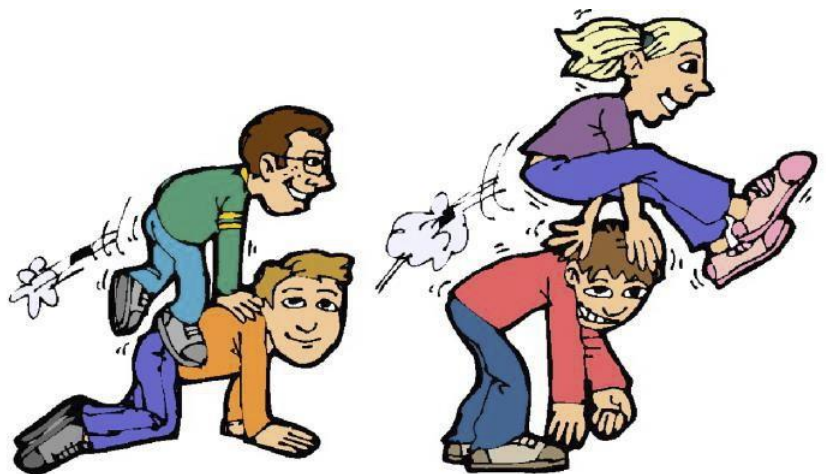
The school day begins at 8.45am and we will expect children to get into good habits straight away & to be on time - otherwise they will miss out on a vital aspect of their learning.

Collective Worship:

Each morning we have Collective Worship (assembly), which is where everyone gets together as a whole school. This is a time of quiet reflection, learning and worship.

Playtimes:

The Foundation Stage has its own special outside area, which is very well equipped to facilitate learning and play. Children can access this area which is shared with FS1 (Nursery) throughout the day as part of their continuous provision. The FS2 children also have a morning playtime and their lunch playtime on the infant yard with the children from years one and two.



Lunchtimes:

FS2 children go into dinner slightly earlier than the rest of school at 11.45am as it allows them to feel settled and relaxed more quickly.

At the start of term the teacher and T.A. will accompany the children into the hall to help them settle into the new routines. Children can stay for a school dinner or bring a packed lunch from home.



Snacks:

Please send your child with a named water bottle every day which your child then has access to throughout the day. At morning playtime your child will be offered a piece of fruit and milk.

End of the Day:

School finishes at 3.pm each day. Parents and carers are asked to collect children from outside the Foundation Stage classroom area. Children will not be allowed to go with any other adult without your permission. In order to avoid difficulties, please let us know if you have made arrangements for someone else to collect your child from school.

Religious Education:

As a church school, we have daily Collective Worship (assembly) and a weekly class lesson when the children can discuss Bible stories, the life of Jesus, feelings and care for our world.

Homework:

Each child has a reading book(s) to share and enjoy at home which will be changed three times a week. These can be kept in the child's school book bag which can be purchased from APrint. Children will also need to practise learning their letter sounds as well as learning to read and spell high frequency 'tricky' words. Children may also be given other small tasks to do at home.

Rewards:

Our positive ethos means that we believe in giving praise & encouragement to children for their efforts and achievements, both socially and academically. Children are assigned one of our House Teams – Jericho, Carmel, Sinai or Jordan and are given house points as rewards for excellent behaviour, attitude & learning. At the end of each half-term the house with the most points is rewarded with a treat such a movie afternoon or extra playtime. The children in FS2 are also rewarded with stickers, and half-termly certificates for reading at home.

Absence:

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason, then please inform us as soon as possible in order that we know what is happening. This can be through your child's teacher or via the school office. If your child has a medical appointment, then also please let us know.



Term Time Holidays:

We expect all children to attend regularly and to be punctual. Individual & class attendances are monitored & the highest attending class each week is celebrated in assembly. It is the school & Local Authority policy that family holidays should not be taken during term except in the most exceptional of circumstances. Holiday absence forms are available from the office & allow parents to apply for time away from school to see if it will be registered as authorised or unauthorised absence. Parents are kindly asked not to take their children out of school during the first week of any half term or during assessment weeks.

If we work together through home & school, then we can all ensure that your child reaches their full & amazing potential!



If you are unsure about any of the information contained in this booklet, or if you require anything further, then please feel free to have a word with the Foundation Stage Team or the Head of School.

Working together in the education of your child!

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