



# Bishop Alexander L.E.A.D. Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

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July 2020



Wow...it seems such a long time since we sent a newsletter! Even though there has been a significant amount of communication over the closure period, it has been so focused on the pandemic and the related organisational activities such as phasing children back in to school, home learning, risk assessments to name but a few. We thought it would be nice to catch up on some more general news and information.

## Staffing

Mrs Fox will sadly be leaving Bishop Alexander this year. We are really going to miss her, and we would like to say a huge thank you for all her work with our Yr 5/6 pupils and also her development of the Maths curriculum. Mrs Cooper (Midday Supervisor) leaves us this July. We would like to thank her for all her hard work at lunchtimes and also for her support with reading.

## Reports

School reports will look a little different this year. The general personal comments section will still be on the front of the report. Unfortunately there will be no pupil photo this time.

We will provide information relating to maths and English, but this may be shorter in content than previous years. We have also provided a sentence relating to each subject.

Year groups who normally would have test results or Teacher Assessments, will not have these included as per the DfE guidance:

**'DfE has laid regulations to remove the requirement to report the outcomes of key stages 1 and 2 tests or teacher assessments in this year's reports'.**

The children who are in school will receive their reports on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

Where a child attending school has a brother or sister at home, we will send these reports with the child

**All other reports will be posted to pupil addresses on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July.** We are unable to offer the opportunity to pick these up from school.

In the report envelope, we will give details as to how you can speak to the teacher, if there is anything in the report you wish to discuss.

Also in the envelope will be information relating to the new classes for the next academic year.

## Transition Arrangements

We will be arranging contact from your child's new teacher. Unfortunately, this will not be on site due to covid restrictions.

## Dates for your diary:

*Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> July – school reports posted out to parents*

*Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July – school reports given to children in school*

*Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> July – school closes for summer holidays*

*Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Inset Day*

*Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> July – collection of uniform orders 10am-11am*

*Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> July – collection of belongings 10am-11am*

*Fri 24<sup>th</sup> July – Inset Day*

*Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept – Inset Day*

*Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep – return to school*



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## Cashless payments

Over the past couple of years we have been working toward making the school a cashless environment. Given the current situation, whereby many businesses are limiting the use of cash, we feel now is the time for us to make that move permanently. Therefore from September, we will no longer accept cash payments. We hope the benefits of this will be that we can easily track the payments through the school, remove the hygiene risks currently identified, and hopefully avoid children losing their money! We will be providing more information relating to this in a separate communication and we will produce a step by step guide for using School Gateway.

## Purchase of School Uniform

In regards to the above 'cashless' paragraph, if anyone would like to order any school uniform, this now needs to be paid for using the **School Gateway app**. This app enables you to pay for any trips, uniform orders, music lessons and dinner money. Your email address needs to be the one you have provided school with when you registered your child. If you would like to order some uniform, please pay via the app and then email Mrs Hade on sallyh28@bishopalexanderacademy with what you would like to purchase. All paid orders will then be ready for collection from school on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July between 10am and 11am. If any orders are not collected between these times, they will not be available until the children return to school.

***(a copy of the uniform list and prices are attached)***

## Collection of any Belongings

If your child has left anything in their lockers or classrooms which have still not been collected, you may do this on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July between 10am and 11am. Please let us know if you will be coming and what belongings you will be collecting so that we can find them and get them ready for you. Anything left after that will be put in the lost property bins.

## Summer Holidays

As you are aware the school remained open throughout all the holidays since closure, including all the bank holidays, to support our key workers in carrying out their fantastic work during the pandemic, and also vulnerable pupils.

The government has confirmed that there is '**no expectation that schools should open for vulnerable children and children of critical workers over the summer holiday.**' It also stated: '**Teachers, support staff and school leaders deserve a break, to recharge and rest.**'

Therefore, we can confirm the school **will not** be open for care during this period.

## Free School Meal Vouchers for Summer Holidays

The Government has now released further details of the FSM summer holiday voucher scheme.

The scheme has been designed to offer a **£90 voucher** per child for the standard (6 week) school summer holiday. The school has to place the order one week before the end of term, and it will be issued to the family within 7 days. Further information will be emailed to eligible families separately, but a few highlights from the guidance are:

***The vouchers must be used for food, and must not be redeemed for any age-restricted items, such as alcohol, cigarettes or lottery tickets.***

***When using the vouchers, families are free to select the most appropriate food and drink for their child. We encourage families to consider making choices that contribute to a healthy balanced diet.***

## Year 6 Leavers

We are really sad that we aren't going to get the chance to formally say goodbye to our Year 6 children. We hope that instead we can put together a small 'reunion' in the Autumn term.