

ST. ALDHELM'S VA CHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL  
CHELYNCH PARK, DOULTING, SHEPTON MALLET, SOMERSET, BA4 4PL

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HEADTEACHER: Mrs P Cohen

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of children due to start school in September 2021

I am writing to you today, as I know you are approaching the exciting moment of making the decision about your child's school place for September 2021. You may have had the opportunity of visiting us for our Open School, which thankfully we were able to run before the last lockdown, or you may already have an older child in the school. We hope the information in this letter and our virtual tour help you to make your decision and submit your application before the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 deadline.

I am very proud to be the headteacher of St Aldhelm's and feel privileged to serve our families by nurturing and educating their children. I took up my role in September 2018 and have seen the school continue to go from strength to strength during the last two years and a term. With a very effective board of governors, a strong senior leadership team and a happy and hardworking teaching and support staff team, the school is in a position to offer an excellent primary school experience and education for children in the area.



We are a school that offers the full primary school experience from 4 to 11 years. This means we can establish relationships, support and shape children and see the journey of development and progress every child makes



throughout these formative years. We have seven classes for each of the single year groups from the Reception Year to Year 6. Children make friendships with their peer group and remain as a cohort throughout the school, transitioning each year to their next class together.

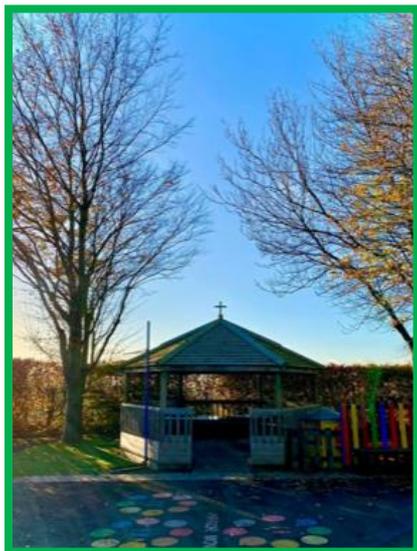


We are extremely fortunate to have such a well-kept and looked after school site, situated in wonderful grounds, in a beautiful rural village setting. We have large classrooms and plenty of additional spaces and rooms to run a variety of activities that support and enhance our core curriculum.



Our curriculum provision, indeed the whole experience at St Aldhelm's, is based on our core Christian values. The values of creativity, friendship and community, service, thankfulness, perseverance and truthfulness are the foundation of our distinctively Christian setting. We believe all children can feel safe, happy and nurtured within our school ethos and culture and we are proud to be an inclusive school. Children at our school are nurtured, supported and educated to be the best that they can be.

We have recently reviewed and updated our curriculum design, ensuring it meets all national requirements and also to ensure children receive the best possible learning experience whilst at our school. Our curriculum provision focuses on core subject knowledge and skills as well as the offer of a broad range of opportunities and experiences in all subject areas. We believe strongly that all children are entitled to a full and rich education to help them discover and find their strengths and to be supported in areas that may be more challenging.



We are sorry that we are unable to invite families into our school at this time, but know you will appreciate that this is to ensure we keep all children and staff in our school as safe as possible, as well as the public and local community. We have produced a short virtual tour of our school to give you an idea of who we are and what we have to offer your child. You will get a snapshot of our wonderful site and the happy and positive children that make our school. Click on the box below to view the video on our YouTube channel:

### St Aldhelm's VA Church Primary School Virtual Tour Autumn 2020

We welcome any queries by phone or email – details for our website and contacting the school can be found at the top of the letter. We hope you enjoy our tour.

Kind regards

*Pippa Cohen*

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