

St Aldhelm's Church School



New In Year Admissions Booklet 2025-2026

We are very excited to welcome you to our wonderful school and look forward to working with you to give your child a happy and exciting school life. Always remember, we are here to help. If you have any questions, please do ask!



Mr Chorley – Executive Headteacher
Mrs Phillips – Head of School

Learning together for life in all its fullness – John 10:10

Belief Aspiration Advocacy

PREPARING TO START SCHOOL

School Uniform

Our uniform comprises: a bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan; a gold polo shirt and grey or black trousers, shorts, skirt, or pinafore. Our summer dress is green and white checked. White, black, or grey socks or tights, and plain black shoes complete the uniform.



If you wish to purchase items with the school logo, these are available from **Southwest Schoolwear** in Wells located in the courtyard by Blossoms Café. You can order uniform on the website to collect [Home - South West Schoolwear \(swschoolwear.co.uk\)](http://Home-South West Schoolwear (swschoolwear.co.uk)).

Also, good-quality second hand uniform is available at our Thrift Shop run by the Friends of St Aldhelm's PTA (Parent Teacher Association). This is available in the lobby by the main school office and items can be exchanged for a donation.

Two days a week, children in Years 1 – Year 6 will wear their PE Kit to school for the whole day. This enables us to use time for PE rather than changing! Our school PE kit is a white t-shirt, black shorts, a plain dark coloured jumper/hoodie, and jogging bottoms/leggings. Please try to avoid large logos.

Wear your PE Kit to school



Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will need a school green book bag which can be purchased from the uniform shop as well as a rucksack if they like. Older children can bring a small rucksack.

Children in Year 3 – 6, need a pencil case. Their named pencil-case would ideally contain writing pencils, colouring pencils, rubber, 15cm ruler, sharpener, glue-stick and black dry wipe pens for whiteboard work.



Lunch

All children from Reception to Year Two are entitled to Universal Free School Meals, under the Government's initiative. Children in Key Stage 2 from Year 3 – 6 can pay for a school meal. We have a range of school lunch options to cater for all needs and dietary requirements, from a hot dinner to a picnic plate. You are always welcome to talk through any dietary needs to ensure your child can be catered for and happy at lunchtimes.

Our school menu is varied and meets School Food Standards legislation. All meals are prepared and cooked on site in our school kitchen. Children may choose either a cooked school lunch – main, vegetarian, or jacket potato plus a filling – or a picnic plate, which is like a packed lunch, but served on a tray.

There is huge flexibility, so that parents can choose to book school meals every day of the week, or only on specific days, as and when needed. You will be able to place an order on Arbor, so that your child gets a meal, by marking your selection on the order form. You and your child can choose together what is for lunch each day. Orders must be placed by the Wednesday prior to the week the meals are required.

Please speak to the School Office for more information about lunches.

Snacks and water

Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 classes receive free fruit each day, which we distribute during morning play. This 'fruit' includes apples, pears, satsumas, bananas, tomatoes, sugar snap peas and carrots. If your child has any allergies, please inform us on the admission form.

Children in Key Stage One need an additional snack for the afternoon and Key Stage 2 children need a morning snack. Please provide your child with a healthy snack, such as a piece of fruit, raw (salad) vegetables, or cheese and crackers. All children will also need a named water bottle that can be refilled in their classroom. Please try to avoid giving children squash.



The School Day

Start of the Day

Mrs Phillips or Mr Chorley will open the Front Gate each day at 8.45am. Children can come into school from 8.45am until 8.55am with the register taken at 8.57am.



End of the Day

At the end of the school day, your child will come out to meet you on the playground at 3.25pm. We do not allow any child to leave until we see you, or the person we know is responsible for collecting them. If there are any changes to the normal people who pick up, please do let the office know the alternative arrangements for the day. If you are unavoidably delayed, please do not worry, we will keep your child safe with us until you arrive. Please telephone if you are able to do so.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

Our Breakfast and After School Club are run by our school staff based in the hall every day. Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am to the start of the school day. Up until 8.30pm, children can have breakfast which comprises of toast, cereal, yoghurts and fruit juice. As well as eating breakfast, children play in the hall and depending on the weather may go outside to play too. After School Club runs from the end of the school day until 5.30pm. Children can have a snack tea from 5pm. Different time slots can be booked using the Arbor app.

Entering School Safely

We are fortunate to have such a beautiful site, but we are very aware of the single access drive and busy car park to the side of the school. Priority is given to traffic **entering** the site. Driving slowly, being aware of other drivers and who have the right of way, will help keep all children safe. The driveway is at its busiest just before school and at the end of the day, when many vehicles are trying to enter and leave. The access from Chelynch Park is a right turn and not straight on as you approach us. Please be very careful of pedestrians, local residents and other road users. By avoiding parking in Chelynch Park, we can help make visibility and access safer.

Communication

Class Communication

We use an app called Class Dojo to share class updates and learning. Class Teachers will share the login details for this with you. You can also use this to message Class Teachers directly but please remember that Class Teachers are unlikely to check this during the day, so please send any urgent messages or messages about collection via the Office.

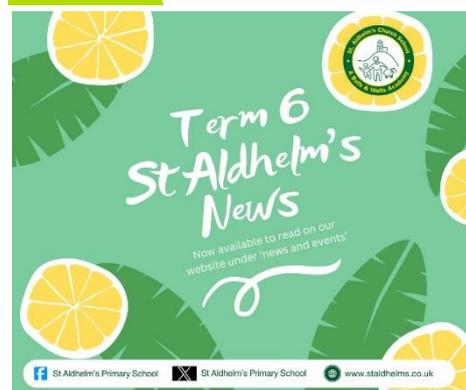


Whole School Communication

We use an app called Arbor for booking lunches, clubs and also for communicating whole school office messages. Please complete the contact details form and if your contact details change, please do update the office. Once we have your email address, you can download the Arbor Parent Portal App to start using the system by clicking on forgotten password.



We also publish a termly newsletter which celebrates all that we have been doing and also shares dates of upcoming events. This is available on our school website.



Class Welcome Meeting

You will be invited into school in September for a meeting to hear about the learning for the year ahead, home learning and how you can support your child's learning at home.



Celebrating Successes

We believe it is very important to use positive praise with the children. Children are awarded a certificate to celebrate positive learning behaviours, kindness and successes. These are shared with the children at our Celebration Assembly.



These happen about once per month. We will email parents of children who will receive a certificate a week before the Celebration Worship. In addition, in weekly class 'Life in all its Fullness' worships, children can share their individual successes.

We hold a termly 'Learning Showcase' where parents are invited into the classroom to share their child's learning. These have different themes with the first one of the year being Reading.

Illness

Please contact us on the first day of your child's absence from school **by 9am**. You can notify us by telephone or a message on Arbor. If your child is unwell due to sickness or diarrhoea, they **must** be kept home home for 48 hours after the last 'episode'.

Term-time leave.

The school does not authorise holidays in term-time, except in exceptional circumstances. For any term-time absence, except illness, permission must be sought from the Headteacher, at least four weeks in advance of the requested leave. A term-time leave form may be collected from the school office. The School's Attendance Policy, on the school website, gives further information on circumstances in which term-time leave is authorised.

