



# The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

## PARENT BULLETIN 2 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a calm return to school for all children this week.

Thank you to all of our families for all of your support in making the transitions for our children as smooth as possible. A huge AVA welcome to Ms Nangle and Miss Bennett who have joined us here in the Primary, it feels like you have always been here already.

We would also like to thank everyone who gave our staff cards, gifts and 'thank you's' at the end of the last academic year. Your kindness is always very much appreciated. We are truly blessed to be able to work with your children here at AVA and are looking forward to a great year ahead.

Following our first full pick up yesterday we have changed the collection gates for Year 3 & 4. Parents have all been emailed.

Please can I ask that you all help us at collection times by standing well clear of the two gates so that the children and staff can see clearly. Please only wave when your child is at the front of the line. Please update the adults permitted to collect on the form that was sent out yesterday. We will not allow children to go without permission to collect. Once you have your child, please move to the side to enable us to have as much visibility as possible. If it is raining (which is most days at 3pm!!) the visibility gets even more tricky as we add hoods and umbrellas into the mix! Please spread out even more and ensure that we can clearly see you. With over 520 children at the school it is essential that we are as safe as possible around this time, your help is much appreciated.



Over the summer we have had some exciting news. We have 2 new babies on the way. Both Mrs Lee and Mrs Khan are expecting, we can't wait to meet your new additions. Congratulations.

We also have to share the sad news that Mrs Steedman (from our Admin team) is retiring and relocating to the coast at the end of the September. Mrs Steedman has been at AVA and Quarrendon School before here for 24 years. We wish her the very best of luck for this very exciting adventure.



### Attendance

As previously communicated, the government released new guidance on attendance which came into effect country-wide on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024. Due to this, we have had to make suitable changes to the beginning of every school day.

Primary students **must** arrive in school between 08:30am and 08:40am on each school day. The gate is closed at 08:40 and after that time students **must** sign in via the front office. Signing in after 8:45am generates a Late (L) mark on the register. Signing in after 9:00am generates a Late (U) mark on the register. A Late (U) code means that the absence is unauthorised and this impacts your child's attendance percentage for the year.

After the gates are closed at 8:40am, you will be required to bring your child to the front office and you **must** sign them in using our Inventory system. If there is a queue for this system, you **must** wait in line. As the system is automated, your child will be marked in at the time you are able to sign them in. There is nothing we can do to change this.



It is vital that your child arrives at school before 8:40am so that they can maximise their day's learning and so that their attendance percentage is not impacted upon.

### Free School Meal application

If you are in receipt of any of the below points, your child is entitled to free school meals.

- Universal Credit - with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400
- Income Support (IS)
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance (IBJSA)
- an income-related employment and support allowance (ESA)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of the State Pension Credit

This funding does not only cover your child having a free school meal, but it also supports in your child's education and the school supplying additional resources, funding for school trips and visits, support for uniform or any additional support as required.

Registering is quick and easy. If you think you might qualify, fill out the form which can be accessed on the [school's website](#), or pop-by to the school's reception and collect the form.

Once the form is completed, either email to [inclusion@theacademy.me](mailto:inclusion@theacademy.me) or hand-in at reception.

If there are any questions, please email [inclusion@theacademy.me](mailto:inclusion@theacademy.me).

### Enrichment Clubs

Clubs will start on **16th September** once the booking and payment for them has closed. These will go live on Tuesday and close on Thursday of next week. The clubs go quickly so please keep an eye out for them on your school gateway account under Payments.

As always the payment is for the whole term and is non-refundable nor transferable. Please ensure you are booking the clubs that your child wishes to attend.

***There will be no clubs the week before half term as this is Parents Evening week or the last week of term in December.***

### External Providers

We are continuing to work with YDP for external clubs and holiday camps this year. They can offer us more variety for all ages and these sessions are booked and paid for directly to them. These are live now to book:

[After-School Clubs | YDP Oxford](#)

### Swimming

As always our Year 4 children will be able to attend weekly swimming sessions this year. Each class goes for a term and a half in total across the year. The lessons start after October half term once the children are settled back into school. We ask for a contribution of £10 per child for the whole block of 18 weeks (approximately) to help us cover the cost of the coach to and from Stoke Mandeville. More information to follow.

## Transfer Test

The 11+ (Secondary Transfer Test) will be held next week for Year 6 pupils. All children will be entered unless you have requested their withdrawal via writing to myself (cbaughan@theacademy.me)  
You should have received the familiarisation pack from Buckinghamshire Council and the power point from us following the meeting that we held here in June.  
We do not teach for this test nor discuss it with the children in school.

## Reflection

Welcome to everyone in our AVA school community as we start the new year.  
To begin the year we wanted to share the Bible reading that underpins our school value of Respect. We wish everyone a great year.

*Let us be concerned for one another,  
to help one another to show love and to do good'.  
Hebrews Ch10 v24.*

A prayer for respect...

*God, we pray for love and respect in our community.  
May our community encourage one another to be our best selves.  
Amen*

Best wishes.

**Mrs C Baughan**

If you have any initial concerns regarding your child, please complete the following form: <https://forms.office.com/r/CD1CHTscFR>



Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/theaylesburyvaleacademyprimary>



Twitter: <https://twitter.com/avaprimary?s=09>



Instagram: <https://instagram.com/avaprimary?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

Any questions, please contact [avaprimary@theacademy.me](mailto:avaprimary@theacademy.me) FAO: Mrs Clark



**Parking issues:** [FixMyStreet \(buckinghamshire.gov.uk\)](http://FixMyStreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk)