



# Bishop Aldhelm's CE Primary School

*Loved by God; United in Learning*

Headteacher: Scott Tait Deputy Headteacher: Sarah Dawson

## Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to our recent consultation regarding the proposed change to school start times. We received a wide range of thoughtful feedback and are grateful for the honesty and insight shared.

We are pleased to report that most parents were in favour of the proposal, noting benefits such as improved readiness for learning, increased teaching time, and better alignment with working hours. Your supportive comments are greatly appreciated.

At the same time, a few important concerns were raised, including:

- Morning pressures for families with multiple school runs
- Traffic and parking unpredictability
- The potential impact of a shorter drop-off window
- Questions about Early Birds and before-school clubs
- Concerns about pupil wellbeing and the pace of morning routines

We want to assure you that these concerns have been heard clearly. In response, the school has carefully reviewed these areas and made the following decisions:

- The 15-minute drop-off window will be retained to support flexible arrival
- Early Birds and club timings will be reviewed to continue meeting family needs
- Clear guidance will be shared, taking into account local traffic challenges

We can now confirm that the new start to the school day will be introduced from **September 2026**, when we return from the summer break. **School gates will open at 8:35am, and the school day will begin at 8:50am.**

Our aim is to implement this change in a way that benefits pupils educationally while minimising any additional pressures on families.

Thank you again for your continued support and commitment to the wellbeing and success of all our pupils.

**Warm regards,**

Mr. Tait  
Headteacher



Bishop Aldhelm's CE Primary School  
Winston Ave, Poole, BH12 1PG  
01202 715100  
office@bishopalhelms.poole.sch.uk