



Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School

Loved by God: United in Learning

Welcome from the Head



A Very Warm Welcome From The Head Teacher And Chair Of Governors

We warmly welcome you to Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School. We are a family school founded upon a Christian tradition of faithful service to the local community. We serve both the Parish of St. Aldhelm's Church and Poole Borough's Designated Catchment Area for our school.

Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School is part of the Greenway Partnership, Hamwic Education Trust, working in partnership with other local schools.

We are proud of the fantastic, special children who attend our school; of the inspiring, caring adults who work at our school; of the amazing, talented governors who guide our school; of the wonderful, kind parents who trust us with the schooling of their children; of our partnership with St. Aldhelm's Church and of the hard-working, creative local community of which we, at school, are a major part. We are proud of our history and proud of our beautiful building. Called 'St. Aldhelm's C.E. Combined School' until September 2013, Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School has been educating children to the highest of standards since 1877.

Through their experiences at our school, children and adults learn about God's love and gain a real understanding of our school values both within the context of our caring, Christian - based environment and within the wider world.

We thank those of you with a child at our school for placing your child in our care. We will work with you to ensure the full spiritual, academic, physical, emotional and aesthetic development of your child. We recognise the responsibility that is upon us to serve our children and we wish this to be undertaken in partnership with parents and carers. We sincerely hope that you feel part of our family.

St. Aldhelm, who became the first Bishop of Sherborne (hence our school's name), was himself a noted scholar. We seek to maintain a tradition of sound and futures-based learning within the context of Christian love, family life and worship.

Welcome to Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School!
Welcome to a learning adventure without horizons where, with God's love, we strive for the best.

Join Our Learning Adventure!

As a dynamic school which recognises the vital importance for our learners of staying abreast with local, national and global initiatives both in education and in ways of life, our Mission Statement, Spirit, Vision and Curriculum constantly evolve in order to maximise the learning and opportunities for those whose futures we serve.

We are a dynamic and forward thinking school, part of the Body of Christ within the Anglican Tradition. We are passionate about enabling everybody associated with our school to become confident, resourceful and resilient members of society, able to thrive within our local, national and global communities.



Our Vision Statement

We promise that every member of our school community is known, loved and valued for who they are.

We work tirelessly to ensure that every learner at Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School is enriched as a person by their experiences at our school. We are passionately committed to the notion that every moment spent in school must be a valuable, productive learning opportunity for every child. We are equally passionate and determined to make the learning opportunities which we provide deep, fun, memorable and meaningful. Happy learners are successful learners - learning at Bishop Aldhelm's is an adventure without horizons. We constantly seek the views of children, parents and the wider community about how we can ensure that the learning opportunities which we provide are dynamic.

The christian ethos of our school, with care at its core, is an invaluable cornerstone of our mission. Children will learn so much about positive inter-personal relationships and about what in the world is of true intrinsic value. They will learn how conscience, self-control and respect for others are vital. We seek to help our learners become responsible members of society, committed to making God's world an even better place.



Our school is a safe environment where children can flourish spiritually, academically, physically, emotionally and aesthetically.

We are ambitious for all our learners while constantly promoting an understanding that everybody learns in different ways and at different rates. That is part of what makes each and every one of us unique and special. We pledge to personally support every learner to achieve their own optimum standards in terms of attainment and progress. We seek for children to become self-motivated in their desire to strive for their very best and to grow as resilient human beings able to tackle a range of challenging activities.

Our Curriculum

Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School is a very special place where learning is an adventure without horizons. We are proud of our creative curriculum which is varied, vibrant and exciting. Many of our lessons are cross-curricular. We enjoy providing a broad, balanced and fun curriculum experience which meets the needs of every single child. Every child is known to us as an individual and our learning and teaching is tailored accordingly to meet the needs, interest and enjoyment of everyone. Inclusion is central to our work.

Our vibrant curriculum has a focus on Futures Education ... preparing children for the ever smaller Global Village in which they lead their lives. It is the responsibility of schools to equip children with the skills which they need both now and in the future ... and our curriculum is full of opportunities for children to develop skills for life. So step on board and enjoy a learning adventure without horizons.



Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We have a vast range of extra-curricular activities available for all ages of children.

Bishop Aldhelm's is very proud of its Sporting and Creative Arts (including musical) achievements. There are many opportunities for children to develop their interests and talents in these and other areas.

Indeed our school enjoys a very successful record in Sporting and Creative Arts-based competitions, events and celebrations. Sport and Creative Arts are cornerstones of the work of Bishop Aldhelm's.

As they grow through our school, children are invited to receive individual musical tuition and we have an amazing school orchestra!



Parent/Carer Links

At the heart of our philosophy is the knowledge that when we welcome a child to Bishop Aldhelm's, we welcome the child's parents/carers as well.

There are many opportunities for parents/carers to be involved in the life of our school. Here are a few links ...

- Half termly newsletter- round-up of school and community news for all parents/carers, children and friends
- School Letters – Informing parents/carers about events at school
- Parent and Family Prayer Opportunities
- Parent Voice – Regular discussion forum between the Headteacher, senior staff and parents/carers
- Full time Children and Families' Pastoral Care Worker
- Helping in classrooms – Help and support from parents/carers is always welcome and is hugely appreciated
- Parents and School Association (PSA) - At Bishop Aldhelm's all parents are welcomed as members of our Parents and School Association. The school is extremely grateful for the fantastic work carried out by our Association and we wholeheartedly support this group which raises lots of money to better the opportunities for all youngsters at Bishop Aldhelm's.
- Parent partnership events- Come and join in with your child's learning
- Celebration of work

What Facilities Are There At Bishop Aldhelm's?

Our very well-resourced school has many classrooms, a purpose built Early Years and Year 6 building, a chapel, two halls, a music/drama studio, a library, a computer suite, an Inclusion suite, a Home Economics Room and The Lookout Club building.

The extensive school grounds include four playgrounds, two large grassed areas, a large playing field and an area of heathland (designated as a site of special scientific interest).



What Age Range Does The School Serve?

Bishop Aldhelm's is a co-educational 'Primary School' which serves children aged between four and eleven.

The education system nationally is divided into Key Stages and, within these, Year Groups.

Bishop Aldhelm's welcomes children between Year Foundation and Year 6.



What Are The School Hours?

Wrap around care for your children

'Early Birds' runs every school day from 8.00a.m. until 8.45a.m. 'Owls' is 3.15pm until 6.00pm.

Our school runs 'The Lookout Club' in a purpose - equipped building on site which provides a safe place exclusively for Bishop Aldhelm's children.

Children can be booked into 'Early Birds' and/or 'Owls', which are run by staff from our school. We seek to accommodate family arrangements meaning that children can be booked in for as many, or as few, days each week as parents/carers.

The school also offers holiday clubs run by Kidscape.

Bishop Aldhelm's - A Church School

Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School enjoys very close links with the Parish Church of St. Aldhelm's, Branksome. We attend the church for worship on occasions throughout the year and have our own chapel in school.

There is daily worship in school. Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from worship by informing the Head Teacher in writing.



Uniform And Dress Code

The school has published a 'Uniform/Dress Code Handbook' which details our school uniform requirements. This can be accessed on our school website within 'Information – Helpful Documents'. We are proud of our children for wearing their uniforms smartly and for adhering to our dress code as uniform/dress code is a very important part of a school's identity.

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Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our children.

Hamwic Education Trust. Registered address: Unit E, Mill Yard, Nursling Street, Southampton, SO16 0AJ.
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