



Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers

I am delighted to write to extend a very warm welcome to all of our families as the children return for the new academic year.

We have enjoyed a very positive start to the new term with **children looking very smart in their uniforms** (please review our key uniform requirements later in this newsletter and be reminded that **branded trainers are not permitted** as part of our school uniform). The children and our staff team are ready to embrace the excitement and challenges that a new school year brings. In this first newsletter you will find important updates and reminders, a number of links to important letters and documents and our **'One stop guide to the new school year'** section can be found later in this newsletter. As always I would encourage you to read this newsletter as a family, talking with your child about opportunities and expectations at AMS. I would particularly like to draw your attention to the **curriculum overviews** for each year that have been produced to provide you with a little more detail about what children learn each year.

Welcome to AMS

We have enjoyed **welcoming our new Year 5 cohort** to school along with a number of children in other year groups as we have returned. It has also been wonderful to **welcome Mr Lowry**, who has joined our Year 6 teaching team and **Mrs Moskova** our **new Music Lead**.

Dorset Council – Allendale Car Park Footway Improvements

Following my letters of 21st July and 4th September regarding the **foot way improvement scheme taking place on the Allendale Car Park from Monday 8th September for up to three weeks**, please can we remind families that the the Local Authority have confirmed that **a safe pedestrian route to the school gate will be maintained** throughout the build.

During this project we have been asked to **strongly encourage parents to avoid driving into the car park during this period**. Whilst the car park will remain open, space will be limited, and it could become quite chaotic and indeed dangerous with vehicles trying to manoeuvre. **The lower sections of the car park will still be accessible**, and pupils will be able to use the safe walking route provided.

It has taken many months to secure this improvement for our pupils and therefore your support and co-operation whilst this work is completed is very much appreciated. The foot way improvement will provide a safe pedestrian path across the car park which I am sure you will agree will have a real impact upon pupil safety.

International Schools Award – I am delighted to report that we have achieved the International Schools Award during the Summer break. Many congratulations to Mrs Diment for her hard work to lead our application. You can read a little more about this award later in the newsletter.

Attendance – **Strong attendance at school is vital to your child's future success and growth**. Please **work in partnership with us** throughout this year to **maintain high standards of attendance to best support your child's future**.

Open Evening – You are invited to join us for our **Open Evening on Thursday 2nd October**. Please share this date with families and friends.

I am very much looking forward to working with families throughout the new academic year.

Kind regards

Mr M. Legge – Headteacher





ALLENBOURN MIDDLE SCHOOL

OPEN EVENING

Thurs 2nd October

Ofsted 2025

Inspectors report that pupils have “exceptionally positive attitudes towards their learning”.

Judged to be “outstanding” for personal development and for behaviour and attitudes making it one of the strongest Middle Schools regionally and nationally.

Academic Excellence **All Inclusive**
Responsible Individuals



5:30pm
-
7:30pm

Headteacher Presentations

5:35pm and 6:35pm

Tour our school, meet our pupils and staff and discover our exciting curriculum in our inclusive and welcoming environment.

Take the opportunity to arrange a tour during the school day.



Aspire@AMS

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Contact us: 01202 886738 office@allenbournmiddle.org



Our School Values – Apsire@AMS

Our school's values underpin much of the work that we do in school and we regularly discuss these with the children making links to their learning journey with us at Allenbourn Middle. Our aim is to focus upon the three key areas of: **Academic Excellence**, **All Inclusive** and **Responsible Individuals** as we **aspire together @AMS**.

01 Academic Excellence
Seeking new knowledge and skills. Learning to problem solve, make decisions and be courageous.

02 All Inclusive
Valuing diversity, tolerance and the views of others. Growing in self belief in a nurturing environment.

03 Responsible Individuals
Developing value and responsibility within our community. Understanding the importance of keeping healthy and safe.



Did you know? We are eligible to be assessed for Gold RRS status in the Summer Term

Child Protection

Our **Designated Safeguarding Lead** with responsibility for Child Protection is:
Mr L. Smith (pictured right)



The Academy Committee member with responsibility for Child Protection is:
Mr K. Jess.

Our Designated Teacher with responsibility for Looked after Children is:
Mr L. Smith.



Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads with responsibility for Child Protection are:

Mr M. Legge, **Mrs P. Skipp** (pictured), **Mr R. Wright**, **Mr A. Stroud**, **Mr C. Daw**, **Mr C. Hickson** and **Mrs Burley**.

Did you know? Caterlink our school kitchen provider have notified us that they have increased the price of a meal deal to **£3.00**. The new price list is on our website.



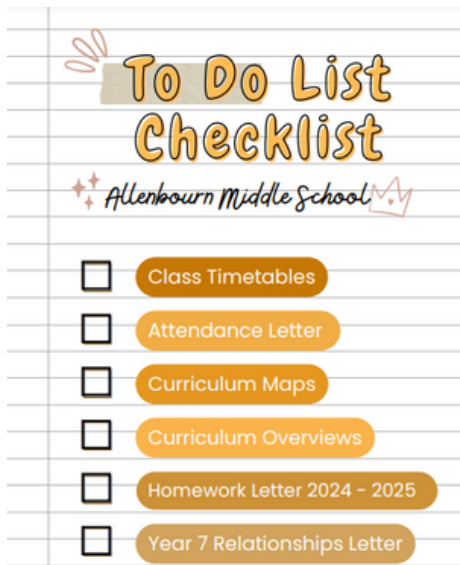
Our one stop guide to the new academic year

As the school year begins we always have a number of important letters and documents to share with our families.

Below are links to a number of documents and letters that are located on our school website.

If you require any support with any of these documents or reminders please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

As always this Newsletter contains links to a number of other documents and policies as part of individual items. Please do take time to review these.



[Whole School Attendance Letter](#)

[Homework Letter 2025 - 2026](#)

[Curriculum Maps 2025 - 2026](#)

[Year 7 RSE Letter](#)

[Year 8 Long way down letter](#)

Did you know?

You can view your child's timetable on the Arbor App

The Essential AMS Pupil Equipment List - Get set for September 2025

Please ensure that your child attends school with the correct equipment each day.

Below is a quick reminder of the items that they need for each day:

A handwriting pen with blue ink (including a spare),
a pencil case, a pencil, a pencil sharpener,
a clear plastic 30cm ruler, an eraser, a glue stick,
a board pen, a set of colouring pencils,
a purple, pink and green biro and a highlighter.



You can purchase essential equipment packs via the Arbor shop for £4.00

Did you know? You can now make a voluntary donation to school funds when you visit the shop in the Arbor App. There is no expectation or any family to make a donation. However all contributions will be used to support trips and visits across the school year.



Did you Know?

Children can use our **Pupil Worry Button** that can be found on our school website (see above). This provides all of our children with the opportunity to share a concern with a Designated Safeguarding Lead to enable staff to best support your child. Children in Years 5 and 6 also have a Worry Monster in their classroom that they can add notes to for their teacher. The children are regularly reminded about this in our whole school assemblies.

Important Mobile phone reminder:

Pupils are required to **turn their mobile phone off as they enter our school each day** and these **must be handed in** and **secured in their class phone box** for the day. Any pupil found with their mobile phone turned on or in their possession during the school day will be issued with an after school detention.

Behaviour Expectations @AMS

We continue to **teach our children how to conduct themselves** as they grow to be articulate and responsible young people. We value our partnership with home and all of our families' support to ensure that we work together to reinforce our behaviour expectations. This will ensure that our school is the very best environment for our children to learn and grow in. Please take time to review these expectations with your child from time to time. A link to our behaviour procedures is available below (and on our school website) for you to review together.

[AMS Behaviour Guidance](#)
[Trust Behaviour Policy](#)

Expectations	At All Times	In Classrooms	Playground	Lunchtime	Toilet
We are here to learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on the learning Be prepared for your next lesson Put your equipment away safely so it is ready to use again when needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrive on time for lessons Enter rooms quietly Have the necessary equipment Leave the room tidy Respond appropriately to adult instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep to your specified areas Play attention and follow adult instructions Respond to signals that social time has ended Return to lessons quickly and quietly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk to tables Stay seated at tables while eating Queue quietly and respectfully 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit only at break times where possible Spend as much time in the classroom as possible
We are respectful and polite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show courtesy to all Be aware of your surroundings Offer help where you can 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to questions politely Use appropriate voice register Use inclusive and non-discriminatory language Raise your hand for attention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Space to everyone calmly and fairly Use inclusive and non-discriminatory language Be welcoming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow adult directions Visit for your turn Respect the privacy of others Do not damage the facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put rubbish in bins Flush the toilet Respect the privacy of others Do not damage the facilities
We make the right choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wash a cloth Give your best Attend regularly Be punctual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at who is speaking Do not distract others Respond appropriately to feedback Accept all tasks to the best of your ability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play fairly Be tolerant of others Follow game rules Enjoy your social time Take the opportunity to be physically active 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate voice volume Do not shout Check you have what you need before sitting down 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go, flush, wash and leave Return to class promptly

Did you know? Parent Evenings – We will be holding Parent Evenings on **Wednesday 22nd October** and **Thursday 6th November**, providing a valuable opportunity to meet with staff. We very much look forward to welcoming you to school. Details for booking appointments will be shared nearer to the time.



IMPORTANT: Please ensure that children do not bring nut or sesame seed based products into school. Please also ensure that children have a healthy snack for break time each day and remind them of the importance of reducing packaging and keeping our school tidy.

Pupil Safety and Conduct in our Community

We regularly talk with the children about the importance of travelling to and from school safely. Please discuss the following with your children regularly to ensure their safety.

- **Behaviour should be of a high standard at all times.**
- Pupils should not use mobile phones whilst walking to school, particularly when crossing roads.
- Pupils must remain on pavements at all times and walk with care and consideration for others.
- Pupils using scooters or bikes should take care around other road users and those on pavements.
- **Helmets should be worn on bicycles and scooters.**

Did you know?

Allenbourn Middle School currently holds the **highest level of School Games Award**.

We are a **Platinum** Award school, This status is awarded to schools who have consistently maintained the Gold Award status for four consecutive years.

Communication with Home

Don't forget to sign up to the Arbor App

We continue to work hard to develop strong links with our families ensuring that you receive regular and timely information about school life.

Thank you for signing up to the Arbor App ahead of us making greater use of this over the coming months. Currently more than **97% of families have signed up**. If you have not completed this process yet please email the school office to be sent a link.



Use of our school car park

Please can parents ensure that they drive with real care and park responsibly in designated bays when using our school car park. Cars must not obstruct the bus parking area at the start or end of each day. Our car park operates a one way system and we expect all families to support this at all times.



Autumn Term Clubs - Full details of our clubs offer for this term will be sent home via Arbor in the coming days, along with details of how to sign up for these. Please ensure that you child aims to attend a club each term.

IMPORTANT: Essential uniform reminders School Uniform at AMS

- **Children are not permitted to wear branded trainers to school.** This change was made for September 2023.
- Skirts must be pleated and should be no more than two or three centimetres above the knee.
- Children are not permitted to wear make-up or jewellery to school.

Attendance Matters and reporting your child's absence

[Allenbourn Middle School - Website Attendance page link](#)

Our whole school attendance figures continue to improve steadily and pupils' attendance at Allenbourn Middle is above the National averages.

Thank you to all of our families for your ongoing support. We remain keen to see further required improvement. It is **vitaly important that children are in school as often as possible.**

We ask for your support **ensuring that your child attends school everyday** unless there is a very clear reason for absence.

Please review the link on our school website on how to report your child's absence. Reporting Absence @AMS



NEW E-Praise - Reward Shop - Coming soon!

We have moved to E-Praise to provide our Reward shop facility to children for this academic year. We will be sharing details of our new reward trips and prizes along with login details shortly. Don't forget to encourage your child to use their House Points to enter prize draws.

Out and About in 2025 - 2026

We are proud of the personal development opportunities that we are able to offer the children. In the coming weeks we will share further details of some of the events planned for this year. We are busy seeking to secure dates for our **Year 6 children to visit Nothe Forte.** **Year 8** children have already received details of **our London Residential Visit** with **80 pupils** signed up to attend already.



Peripatetic Music lessons Many children benefit from peripatetic music lessons through the school year. These are offered to all children across a variety of instruments. Please speak with Mrs Moskova or the school office if you would like more details.

Arriving at school each day – Your support is needed.

Allenbourn Middle School opens at 8:30am for pupils with registration taking place for all pupils at 8:40pm. Whilst we are keen to encourage excellent punctuality, can we please ask for your support in ensuring your child does not arrive at school too early in the morning. Duty staff are not in place until 8:30am when the school officially opens. Prior to 8:30am the playground and other external facilities are not monitored by staff. Should you require morning child care, our breakfast club provision starts from 7.45am and is currently able to be booked on ParentMail and will move to Arbor for September.

Extra Time @ AMS – Continuing for Autumn 2025 – Book now!

Extra-time @AMS is now up and running and it is great to see this additional provision being used by our families.

Mrs Cross has established a fantastic programme of activities and we are keen to see more families making use of this provision in the coming months.

Extra-time@AMS runs between 3:10pm and 5:45pm, Monday to Friday during term time, excluding training days. Children do not have to attend every evening and families may wish to attend for one or two evenings each week.

Each evening children will have the opportunity to complete homework and learning tasks whilst also attending other school clubs and interventions. Children will have a snack and drink break together at approximately 4:15pm.

Children will then complete games and other activities until collection. **Places cost £8 per session.**

Places can currently be booked on Arbor a week in advance or by contacting the school office.



Did you know? **Communication with Home**

We continue to work hard to develop strong links with our families ensuring that you receive regular and timely information about school life. A reminder that our website contains a lot of useful information and news for our families. You can also follow news of our children's successes by following us on X and our Facebook page. Please do consider following our school.

A newsletter will be sent home each half term. All messages, letters and newsletters will be sent home using Arbor.



Year Teams 2025 – 2026

Senior Leadership Team: Mr M. Legge – Headteacher, Mr L. Smith – Deputy Headteacher, Mrs S. Prout – Lead Practitioner, Miss S. Chadwick – Lead Practitioner, Mrs L. Burley – SEND Lead

Year 5		Year 6	
5W	Mr R. Wright (Year Leader)	6S	Mr A. Stroud (Year Leader)
5J	Mrs J. Judge	6L	Mr G. Lowry
5M	Mr C. Miller	6J	Mrs C. James/Mrs C. Randall
5A	Miss I. Ashby	6Z	Mrs S. Hazell/Mrs S. Darragh
5B	Mr O. Balmer	6G	Mrs E. Giles (<i>Wed - Mrs K. Moscova</i>)
Year 7		Year 8	
7D	Mr C. Daw (Year Leader)	8H	Mr C. Hickson (Year Leader)
7P	Mr M. Pressling	8T	Mr R. Trim
7R	Miss H. Rushent	8Z	Mr M. Hazell
7L	Mr O. Ledsham		

Exciting Developments to our Curriculum delivery for 2025 – 2026

The following additional enhancements will be made to our curriculum provision for the new academic year. We are sure that you will agree these are exciting changes that will ensure that your child not only continues to be **taught by subject specialists** across the majority of their curriculum, but they will also **benefit from reduced class sizes**. This is something that we have worked hard to achieve to support your child's achievement at a time when school budgets are limited.

- Year 7 will have 4 tutor groups and will then move to 5 enhanced smaller groups for English, Maths, Science, Art, Music and History.
- Year 8 will continue to have 3 tutor groups and will then move to 4 enhanced smaller groups for English, Maths, Science, Art, Music and Geography.
- Year 5 and 6 will be taught in 5 classes for all of their curriculum lessons with the exception of Year 6 English that will be taught in 6 classes for the new academic year.
- Design technology will continue to be taught in small groups across all year groups.

Did you know? [Term Dates for 2025 – 2026](#) and [2026 – 2027](#) can be viewed on our school website using the link below.

[AMS Term Dates](#)



Key Dates

Autumn Term 2025

Children return to school	Monday 8th September 202
Flu vaccinations	Monday 22 nd September 2025
Open Evening	Thursday 2 nd October 2025
School Photographs	Friday 10 th October 2025
Parent Evenings	Wednesday 22 nd Oct and Thursday 6 th Nov
Last Day of Half Term	Friday 24 th October
Staff Training Day	Monday 3 rd November
Children return to school	Tuesday 4 th November
AMS Online Safety Day	Friday 14 th November
Performance at Wimborne Minster	Monday 1 st December
Last day of Autumn Term	Thursday 18 th December

Careers @ AMS

Careers is fast becoming a driving force in curriculum delivery and an end target for all. At Key Stage 3, the children will have a session each week as detailed in our Careers overview that can be viewed on our website.

Year 7 start by reflecting on why education is important, whilst Year 8 begin to consider who is in their network. Both staff and children agree on one thing that has the most impact on careers and that is parents. The most powerful visitors we have had to our schools in the past few years have been when parents have come to share their career journey and children become aware of the wider working world.

If you feel that you could spare 20 minutes to come and talk to Year 7 & 8 about your career, please could you contact Mr Pressling at mpressling@allenbournmiddle.org in the first instance. It doesn't matter what you do for a living, you could inspire a child to consider a career they have never thought of.



Allenbourn Middle School awarded the International Schools Award by the British Council

This accomplishment reflects our entire school's dedication to integrating a diverse and imaginative array of international initiatives. Mrs Diment has led a number of exciting opportunities to support our success with this award. Assessors noted that we have further embedded global learning into our curriculum and have strong links with our partner schools in France. They were delighted to see that OFSTED acknowledged our hard work and commitment to Global Learning within our curriculum and concluded that it is clear to see the impact that international activities have had on staff, pupils and the wider community.

