Welcome Handbook





St Aloysius' College

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Key Information





ST ALOYSIUS' COLLEGE A VOLUNTARY AIDED CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN THE BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON

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StAloysiusC @StAloysiusC

Headteacher: Ms Whyte

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Nelson

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs Kisten

Ms Pabila Mr Brown Mr Crowley Mr Galgey

Head of Year 7: Dr Ali Khan

This booklet is designed to inform you and your son of key information relating to school life. We encourage you to read this booklet carefully and discuss this information together. Please contact us if you have any queries.

Welcome



I am delighted to welcome you to St Aloysius' College.

The College has a long tradition, over 140 years, of providing outstanding Catholic education. It is a privilege to lead this wonderful community as the newly appointed Head teacher.

Your son joins a Catholic school where he will be valued as an individual. He will be nurtured, challenged and supported to develop his talents and aptitudes in an environment where he will be safe and happy. The school is very well resourced and staff are hard -working and committed.

The St. Aloysius' College mission is to educate our students in an environment where Gospel values are defined and the St. John Baptiste de la Salle traditions of learning, justice, respect and community cohesion are promoted. In pursuing our mission we seek to:

- Promote a Christian community whilst respecting other world faiths.
 Students are encouraged to grow in love and understanding of their Catholic faith and to discern what it is they are being called to do into the future.
- Create a culture of high expectations and achievement which will enable students of all abilities to prosper, develop and take responsibility for their own learning.
- Encourage students to respect and support others; their peers, their teachers, those in the wider community and particularly those in society who are marginalised.
- Value all students as individuals of equal worth in an atmosphere of respect, tolerance and understanding so that they will grow into responsible adults with an appropriate respect for the environment in which we all live.

I look forward to meeting both you and your son and to working in partnership as he makes the transition from primary school to secondary school so that together we can support him on his journey to adulthood.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Whyte Headteacher



Our School



Catholic Ethos

The celebration of our faith is central to the life and character of our college community. Every student in the school is invited to share in these celebrations:

- Every school day begins with a collective act of worship. This may take place in the form group, year group or in assembly.
- Mass is celebrated every Friday at 8:00 am in the school chapel for all pupils and staff
- Mass is arranged at our local parish church, St Joseph's, or in the school chapel for all pupils each half term and on special occasions throughout the academic year.
- Confessions are heard every 2 weeks at school by the local priest
- In Years 7 10 opportunities are provided for a deeper reflection on our faith in the form of day and residential retreats.

It is the task of our school to help every pupil grow in his spiritual life in the context of the Catholic faith which is a fundamental part of our tradition. Experience of personal prayer, reflection and communal liturgy are essential elements to spiritual growth, and every pupil is expected to take a full part in the spiritual life of the school.







Term Dates & Timetable



Term Dates 2020/2021

First Day of Autumn Term (Year 7)	Thursday 3rd September 2020
Half Term	Monday 26th October 2020 - Friday 30th October 2020
Last Day of Term	Friday 18th December 2020
First Day of Spring Term	Monday 4th January 2021
Half Term	Monday 15th February 2021 - Friday 19th February 2021
Last Day of Term	Thursday 1st April 2021
First Day of Summer Term	Monday 19th April 2021
Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May 2021
Half Term	Monday 31st May 2021 - Friday 4th June 2021
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 20th July 2021

There will also be five INSET days during the school year. The dates of these will be added to the school website as they are confirmed.

Please remember that your child will start as a Year 7 on Thursday 3rd September 2020 at 8:30am.

Timetable

	Lesson
8:30	School Starts
8:35	Registration & Form Time
9:00	Period 1
9:50	Period 2
10:40	Break Time
11:00	Period 3
11:50	Period 4
12:40	Lunch Time
1:25	Period 5
2:15	Period 6
3:05	Dismissal / Extra-Curricular / Detention

Key Upcoming Dates



Monday 6th July – Friday 10th July Induction Day

Your son will be invited to an Induction day during this week. Further details and individual dates will be communicated nearer the time. This day will provide an opportunity for students to get to know each other and their teachers. Students will meet their form groups and participate in welcome activities and lessons.

Thursday 3rd September 2020 First Day of Year 7 8:30am – 3:05pm

All students should arrive before 8:30am in full school uniform for their first day in Year 7 at St Aloysius' College.



Uniform



All students are expected to wear full school uniform at all times. Full school uniform includes:

	•
School Blazer	This is green and must have the school badge.
School Tie	Only the official school ties may be worn. This is green with a gold stripe.
Shirt	Plain white or grey shirt only.
Pullover	Must be V-necked grey with red and green stripe. Sweatshirts and hooded tops are NOT permitted.
Trousers	Plain dark grey or black. No denim.
Socks	Black or grey.
Shoes	Plain black leather shoes, not ankle boots. No suede, canvas, trainers, sports shoes or boots. Laces and stitching must be black.
Hats	Boys are not permitted to wear a hat or cap other than during the winter months (November to March) when a woolly black hat is allowed. Please note caps are NOT allowed at any time.
School Coat	St Aloysius Outdoor Jacket featuring the school logo is available from our uniform suppliers. No other coats will be permitted.
Bag	This must be plain black, no logo. They must be large enough for text books (approx. 40 x 40 cm).). Small sports/ string bags are acceptable for PE only.
P.E.	Red official school P.E. top White shorts White sports socks Trainers (practical sports trainers, no 'fashion' trainers) Football boots Gum Shield

All school uniform can be purchased from Rough Cut Casuals www.roughcutcasuals.co.uk

Code of Dress:

Hair must be cut in a conventional style; it should not be excessively short or long. Natural hair colour only, no extreme hairstyles. No markings or patterns to be cut into hair. No hair accessories (including bandanas, headscarves, beads or jewellery).

Boys should be clean shaven, no cuts to the eyebrows.

Shirts must be tucked in, top buttons must be fastened.

School tie must be worn correctly (i.e. at full length, to the waist).

Blazers must be worn at all times.

Earrings are not permitted.

Plain wrist watches are the only jewellery allowed. Smart watches are not permitted.

No tattoos or facial piercings.

Please note: The school uniform rules apply both in school *and* outside school whilst in uniform.

If a student is unable to wear full school uniform he should be given a note from home. This will need to be seen and authorised by his Head of Year before the start of the school day. If appropriate the student will be able to attend lessons, if not he will be educated in the Learning Support Centre until the issue is rectified.

Uniform



Phones and Valuables

Students are advised not to bring valuable items into school. The school cannot accept responsibility for items that are lost or stolen during the school day.

We accept that a number of parents require their son to carry a mobile phone and we will support this, providing they are not used on the school premises for any reason whatsoever. They should be turned off and kept in your son's school bag until he leaves school for home. We cannot accept responsibility for any missing mobiles, nor will we investigate their loss. Should your son be found using a mobile phone while in school it will be confiscated and stored securely. Parents may collect the confiscated phone at their earliest convenience by visiting the school's Main Reception. Alternatively, phones can be collected by the student 7 days after the date of confiscation.

Equipment

It is the responsibility of all students to provide the necessary pens, pencils, ruler (which should all be kept in a pencil case) and any other equipment needed for each lesson.

Every student should have the following equipment everyday:

- Pencil case
- Pens Black and Green
- Pencil
- · Coloured pencils
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Ruler

In addition to this, each student will require the following subject specific equipment;

For Mathematics:

- Protractor
- Compass
- H or H2 pencil
- Set squares (30 and 60 degrees)
- Scientific calculator

For English:

A copy of 'The Oxford Mini Dictionary'

For Technology:

• A workshop apron or workshop coat

Please ensure where possible that all items have your son's name in them in case they are misplaced.

Expectations



Attendance and Punctuality

To redeem the greatest benefit from their education it is vital our students attend school regularly and arrive on time every day the school is open unless the reason for absence is unavoidable. Ensuring a child's regular attendance at school is their parent/carer's legal responsibility.

Your son should be in school by 8.25 am for a prompt start at 8:30 am, so please ensure that he leaves home early enough. Do not allow him to rely on the latest possible bus - living in London, we all know how unreliable traffic and transport can be. Lateness is a bad start to the day. It is vital that your son travels directly to school and does not congregate at Archway or fast food outlets. The same is true for the end of the school day.

All students are expected to have 100% attendance. If your son is going to be absent, please telephone the school by 8:30am to inform us of this. If we do not hear from you, expect to receive a text or call from us. On his return, a letter confirming your son's absence must be given to his Form Tutor.

We strongly discourage parents from taking their son out of school for holidays, medical or dental appointments during term time. In exceptional circumstances, parents may apply for leave to take their child out of school for these reasons: please do not assume that we will give agreement to such absences. Please note that due to a change in government policy, term time holidays will no longer be authorised.

For more details and the full attendance and punctuality policy please visit the 'Uniform and Rules' section of our school website.

School Lunch

All Year 7-11 students take lunch in school. We operate a cafeteria lunch system with a choice of food available including a set meal. Payment is by means of a swipe card system. Parents must use Parent Pay to top up lunch cards and check balance. Some students prefer to bring packed lunches which they eat in the dining room. No student, other than those in Sixth Form, is allowed to go home for lunch or leave the school premises at lunch time.

Your son may be entitled to receive a free school meal. Please note, a child will not automatically receive a free meal, even if he received one at primary school. An application will have to be made at secondary school through Islington Council. For details of eligibility and instructions of how to apply please see our school website. If we are notified that you qualify for free meals, his card will be loaded with £2.40 per day and can be supplemented by you in the normal way.

On the first full day of term (3rd September) please give your son enough money to pay for his lunch and thereafter the swipe card will be in operation.

The swipe card also serves as a means of identification, as a means of gaining access to and around the school and as a means of monitoring class attendance. It is therefore imperative that it is carried at all times. The cards are totally secure as they are cancelled if lost. The initial card is free but there is a £2.00 charge for replacement.

Expectations



Monitoring of Achievement

The pupils' academic target is set using their KS2 attainment and will be informed by the St Aloysius Progress Pathway. Your son will follow a five year curriculum and his curriculum targets will be set in line with his KS2 SATs achievements. You will be provided with your son's target and current attainment at each assessment point. These targets are sufficiently challenging to motivate our pupils to work hard and aspire to achieve.

We are successful with exam results at St Aloysius because we track the progress of our pupils throughout the year in all year groups. This consistency builds a routine of revision and test preparation into our pupils. Throughout an academic year pupils in each year group will complete assessments at two points, one in December and one in June. More details, including their exam timetables, will be provided nearer the time.

These assessments are written tests and during KS4 teachers use past GCSE exam questions to make up the assessments. Not only is the pupil's knowledge constantly being tested with this assessment model but it allows them to gain much needed exam practice as well.

The data obtained from the assessments tests is then used to measure the progress the pupil is making against the Academic Target he has been set at the beginning of the year. Pupils that are underachieving significantly will engage in teacher/parent meetings to address this and pupils making more than the expected progress are rewarded with certificates/letters sent home.

Your son will be tested in September to provide a measure of his ability to learn. This will determine his set for Maths and English, as well as providing all teachers with more information on the type of learner your son is.

Rewards and Sanctions

We place great emphasis on the need to recognise and reward achievement in all forms. Teachers use our electronic register system to record all positive and negative behaviour. This provides us with specific details on the type of behaviour and the reward or sanction given. This system makes all positive and negative behaviour transparent to everybody including parents and also makes the pupils accountable for their behaviour.

We expect your son to uphold our excellent standards and will look to support both you and your son in this. We actively promote a positive reward based culture at the school that allows pupils to benefit from their good behaviour and work through a system of recognition and rewards. These include verbal praise, phone calls and postcards home, certificates and lottery draws. There is also a Prize Giving ceremony at the end of the year to which parents are invited. It is essential that pupils are recognised for their positive actions.

Where your son does not meet our expectations we will look to put in place measures of support to help facilitate a change in his behaviour. All forms of poor behaviour are logged on our system to help give us a clear indication of your son's progress. Staff can issue a half an hour detention without prior notice for various infractions of the school rules. If your son does not alter his behaviour then further sanctions can be put in place. These can include monitoring forms, parental meetings and inclusions in the Learning Support Centre. Communication will be made with parents were any of these measures are to be taken.

Parent Pay & Communication





At St. Aloysius' we operate a cashless system via the use of Parent Pay for all transactions. This means that you **never** need to send your child/ward to school with cash.

Parent Pay allows Parents to facilitate:

School Dinners – View menus and check dietary and nutritional information. All students will be given identity cards which will allow them to spend their allowance in the dining hall without the need for cash. Parents can top up on the website or via the app and view what their child has spent.

Trips – Pay for school trips through ParentPay. We will send out invitations to the relevant parents; who can respond with parental consent and provide medical information.

Clubs – Receive advanced notification of clubs, so you can secure a place, book and pay early.

Online Shop — Whether it's student photographs, uniform or equipment, you can purchase items online.

Payment Options – Debit and credit cards, American Express and PayPoint from over 28,000 shops across the country.

Getting Started:

You will receive your ParentPay login details at the Year 7 Transition evening. Registering for the first time will require a working email. Parents can request ParentPay login details at any time by contacting the school reception.

Parent Communication

Email – Our main form of written communication with parents is by email. It is important that the school holds a working email for all parents/carers to ensure they are kept up to date with news and developments.

Phone – Parents may be contacted by the school in case of emergency or to inform you of an incident or accident at school. It is vital that contact details are kept up-to-date to ensure your child's/ward's safety and well-being. Please notify the school if you change your number.

Social Media – Our social media pages are regularly updated so follow @StAloysiusC on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook to keep up to date with day to day school life!



Using GO 4 Schools, you will be able to view your child's progress online and access the following information at any time:

- **Timetable** Your child's daily and weekly timetable
- Attendance Shown from the start of the academic year
- Progress Reports Assessment point reports which are published 2 times a year
- Behaviour information A summary of positive and negative events, plus any managed detentions your child has been issued

Your child's page is constantly updated, providing you with the latest information.

Accessing your Go 4 Schools Account

To access the site, please go to www.go4schools.com and click on the Parents icon at the top of the main page to arrive at the log-in screen. The email address you use to enter the site must be the one we have registered for you on our school system.

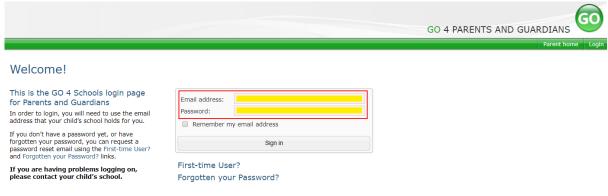
To request a password for GO 4 Schools, please click on the 'First-time User' link shown below.



Then enter your email address into the First-time User 'Email address' field and click 'New password'. A randomised password will then be generated and sent to your email address.

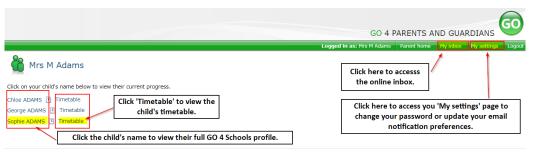


You will then be able to log into the site using your email and generated password then view your child's page using the parent and guardian login page, shown below.

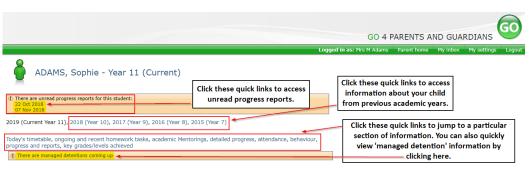




Once logged in, what will you see?



Parent home view When you log in you will see names of your children that attend the school.

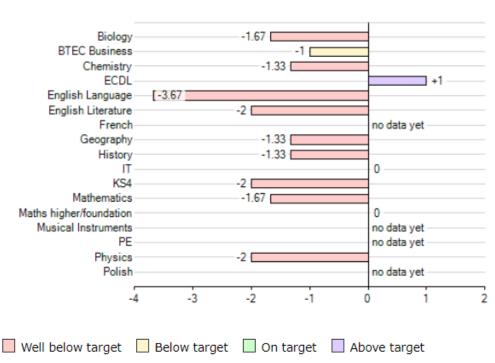


Clicking a child's name will display the information held in GO 4 Schools about them. The top of the page give you these quick links.

At a glance

This is a quick overview of your child's current progress against their target grades for each subject. A value of zero indicates that your child is on target, a negative value indicates below target and a positive value indicates above target

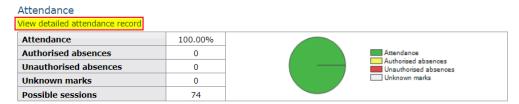
Residuals: Grade





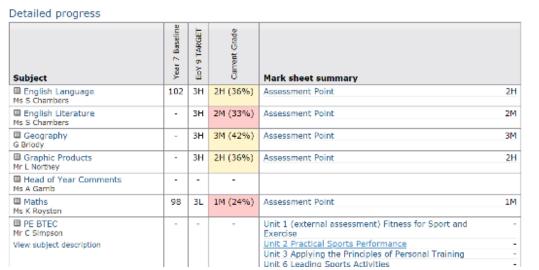
Attendance Data

This information is always shown up to the previous day. Full attendance information, including weekly attendance figures, can be viewed by clicking the 'view detailed attendance link' shown in the yellow box.



Detailed Progress

This table shows the current levels in each subject. Also included is the target grade and colour coding to inform of progress.



Behaviour Data



Daily Timetable

You can click the 'View full timetable' link to view the full week timetable for your child.





Progress Reports

This shows grades for your child as they were captured by reports and compares them against current grades. At the bottom of each report column you can access a report by clicking the 'View report' link. You can then also download and print copies of the reports which will be available for the whole of the year.

Progress and reports

Subject	07 Nov 2018	14 Dec 2018	19 Jun 2019	Current Grade
English Language	-	-	2H	2H
English Literature	-	2H	-	2M
Geography	-	2L	3M	3M
Graphic Products	-	2L	2H	2H
Maths	-	1L	1M	1M
PE BTEC	-	-	-	-
Physical Education	-	-	-	2H
Religious Studies	-	2H	3M	3M
Science	-	3L	4H	4H
Attendance	100.00%	98.46%	99.08%	99.10%
	View report	View report	View report	

Communication Settings

By clicking on "My settings" it will allow you to set whether you receive email or mobile app notifications from GO 4 Schools, as well as show you the default setting the school has set. With the behaviour update emails you can set a frequency that differs from the schools default.

My settings Your login email address is: Homework The below table defines the global school settings and if any, the year group settings. Scope Email Notification Automatic daily summaries of homework are sent every evening after 16:00. Notification Default Enable ▼ Enable Behaviour The below table defines the global school settings and if any, the year group settings. Scope Email Notification Enabled Enabled Automatic daily/weekly summaries of behaviour are sent every evening after 18:00, as configured. Notification Default Enable ▼ Enable Behaviour update emails How often should we send you email updates about behaviour events? By default (emails will be sent Weekly) ▼ If you do not wish to receive updates about your child's behaviour please contact your child's school. We will send updates only if new events have been recorded by Demonstration School.

Save

Show My Homework



We believe that homework is important as good quality homework supports learning in school. It also:

- helps to develop independent study skills,
- encourages students to realise that learning can, should and does occur outside of school,
- reinforces the partnership between home and school and enables parents to have a stake-holding in their child's learning,
- encourages students to see their parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters, home and community resources as sources of information, ideas and encouragement and
- significantly extends the learning hours and learning opportunities available to students.

We use Show My Homework because...

Show My Homework is a simple homework calendar the school uses to ensure homework is set and communicated with parents across the school. Teachers can use it to set homework quickly and ensure students and parents always have the information they need about homework available via the Web, Mobile and Tablets.

As a school, we will support students by...

- · making places such as the school library and ICT rooms available on a regular basis, at break and lunchtime
- opening and staffing the Library before and after school wherever possible
- · providing a daily homework club in the SEN department with assistance if and when required
- offering students studying for exams the opportunity to complete homework at school in Study Zone

Students should...

- listen to homework instructions in class.
- visit SMHW via the school website
- download the Apple or Android app if they have a smart phone to see their homework.
- copy down instructions for the task and deadline date into their Journal if the teacher requests this
- ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
- attempt all work and give their best.
- inform the class teacher of any difficulties.

Class Teachers should...

- ensure that homework is set on Show My Homework for all classes.
- give full and comprehensive instructions.
- set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
- ensure students are given feedback on their homework in a timely manner
- · provide help and support where necessary

The role of parents is crucial if a child is to gain success from homework.

To reinforce its value through **positive feedback** will give students the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach **high standards of achievement**. Parents can assist by...

- making it clear to their child that they value homework and believe it is important in ensuring best progress at school
- taking an interest in homework tasks and encouraging their child to give their best
- accessing Show My Homework regularly, or using the mobile app, to track homework being set
- provide, as far as possible, a suitable working environment in which homework can be undertaken negotiating with the student when homework is to be done as a student's free time is important too
- checking the time spent on individual tasks
- ensuring that outside clubs do not hamper a child's quality of work and cause undue pressure
- checking presentation and content of all homework being returned to school
- providing the school with information about any problems through the school planner or by contacting the school directly

Parents need a PIN to access their child's details on Show My Homework. These will be sent to all parents at the beginning of term. To request a copy of the letter with PIN and login details, please e-mail enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk giving your child's full name and form.

Learning Apps



Many departments in the school have invested in online learning apps to take advantage of the excellent range of resources available to our students. These are extremely useful to build student's knowledge which can allow them to get ahead, catch up or revise. Some apps enable students to access the course textbook at home (e.g. Kerboodle) which provides a useful resource when completing homework or revising. Others enable students to test themselves on knowledge to build their retention and prepare for assessments.

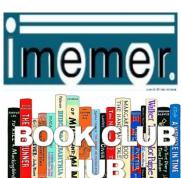
All Apps can be accessed by going through the Student Hub on the school website.



























Notes



St Aloysius' College





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