



# The Aylesbury Vale Academy

Success Beyond Belief

A Church of England Academy

**SPECIALISMS: Science and Technology**

**with Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**

**SPONSORS**

**Diocese of Oxford and Buckinghamshire County Council**

[www.theacademy.me](http://www.theacademy.me)



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## ABOUT OUR ACADEMY

The Sponsors of The Aylesbury Vale Academy are committed to safeguarding and promoting the physical and emotional health and well-being of students and young people. The Sponsors expect all those involved with the Academy to share and deliver this commitment. The foundations of the Academy ethos will be Christian principles and values which are commonly shared by other faiths and communities represented in the local area. These will be based upon honesty, respect, compassion, love, forgiveness, self-discipline, creativity and hope. The Academy will be open to, and will welcome, families of all faiths and of none. Admissions will be based on its reserved area. The Academy intends to adopt the International Baccalaureate Middle Year Programme as the dynamic engine of curriculum change.

The Academy will strive to deliver high standards and levels of achievement with a clear focus on a set of core principles that will ensure:

- excellence
- personalisation of learning
- inclusion
- equality of opportunity for all
- successful leadership at all levels and from all parts of the Academy

The Academy's vision will be achieved through an ethos which means that by the time students leave the Academy they will:

- have achieved their personal academic potential and have secured the highest standards of achievement and attainment possible
- have developed high self-esteem, confidence and emotional resilience to enable them to exploit their full potential
- be balanced, articulate young people with the intellectual freedom to be creative thinkers
- be contributing members of the community and have compassion for others
- have developed the confidence to innovate, thrive and overcome barriers to success
- be equipped with the skills and experience to work, live and adapt in an ever changing and diverse world
- have developed the resilience to cope with adversity
- be able to celebrate their success and that of others

***Share our vision: come and be part of the success story that will be Aylesbury Vale Academy***



## SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT AT THE ACADEMY

When you come and work at The Aylesbury Vale Academy you will be able to benefit from a structured and comprehensive continuing professional development programme. As a valued member of staff we want to ensure that you have access to the benefits available to you. Your first year in post will be crucial to ensuring your success as a member of staff and to maintaining the ongoing success of our Academy. For this purpose we will put in place systems to ease you into the Academy and give you wide-ranging support.

### Induction and Career Development

The staff ethos at The Aylesbury Vale Academy is one of support towards each other and a camaraderie throughout the Academy. Professional development opportunities include:

- A well established and comprehensive mentor programme for all newly qualified teachers
- A strong programme of in-service training including international experiences
- Professional development opportunities for all teachers from newly qualified courses to the NPQH for aspiring headteachers
- Staff residential opportunities
- Support to those colleagues studying for higher degrees and qualifications
- A laptop computer and development opportunities in ICT

The Academy will work hard to ensure every student reaches their full potential. We will offer high quality education that prepares students for adult life. Schools within Buckinghamshire are amongst the best in the country and perform well above the national average. Opportunities exist for developing knowledge, skills and experience for teachers and support staff at all career stages. In addition to the Academy's own programme, a Professional Development Directory is produced by the LA each term in close partnership with schools. The programmes are flexible and respond to new opportunities and challenges in schools.

### Childcare

Buckinghamshire County Council's Children's Information Service (BCIS) offers a comprehensive service to help meet your childcare needs. They can provide information on childminders, playgroups, and nurseries and out-of-school schemes, and can be contacted on 0800 3283317 or email [bcis@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:bcis@buckscc.gov.uk)





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## LIVING AND WORKING IN AYLESBURY

Aylesbury is located in the county of Buckinghamshire – one of the Home Counties and situated to the north west of London. The county consists of four districts, South Bucks, Wycombe, Chiltern and Aylesbury Vale, and the area has been inhabited since ancient times. Aylesbury, the county town of Buckinghamshire, is a lively market town steeped in history. It is located at the foot of the Chiltern Hills and at the heart of the rich agricultural Vale of Aylesbury.

The county is well served by transport links. In central and southern Buckinghamshire, train services provided by Chiltern Railways operate over two lines running out of London Marylebone. They offer direct journeys to High Wycombe and Birmingham or to Amersham and Aylesbury. There is a comprehensive road network – Aylesbury is about equidistant between the M1 and M40. Aylesbury Vale Parkway opened on in December 2008 and trains reach London Marylebone in an hour. Aylesbury also has a bus network called the Rainbow Routes – a system of fast, direct buses which run in priority bus lanes every 10-15 minutes. The town is also very keen to encourage cyclists and to this end has opened many cycle routes including the Gemstone Cycleways which are seven new, exciting and innovative cycle routes that provide direct and safe cycle access to the town centre from residential areas. Olympic cycling gold medallist, Chris Boardman, visited Aylesbury to celebrate the town's Cycle Demonstration Town status and has personally endorsed its priority towards cycling.

For fitness fanatics there are many sports clubs and leisure centres in the town and surrounding area providing both indoor and outdoor amenities with opportunities for individual or group activities. Aqua Vale Swimming and Fitness Centre is a state-of-the-art facility offering excellent value for money and is open to the public at user-friendly times both during the week and at weekends. There are three swimming pools, giving the opportunity to choose between the eight lane 25 metre competition pool complete with movable floor, the indoor leisure water with its lazy river and interactive flume or the outdoor heated pool. The complex also has a high-tech gym, dance studio, sauna, soft play room and cafe. The Swan Pool and Leisure Centre has a 48 station state-of-the-art gymnasium which is complemented by a full range of aerobics, work-out programmes and holistic classes. The centre also features two squash courts, a crèche and a floodlit all-weather pitch and caters for people of all ages. Aylesbury Tennis and Squash Club has four squash courts, one of which is a championship glass backed court with seated viewing for up to 70 people. There are ten tennis courts, seven of which are new artificial grass and all are floodlit. Aylesbury itself boasts clubs dedicated to athletics, basketball, climbing, cricket, football, golf, gymnastics, martial arts, rugby, sailing, sub aqua, table tennis and volleyball.

There are over 2,500 miles of public rights of way, including footpaths, bridleways and National Trails in Buckinghamshire. Black Park, Langley Park, Denham Country Park and Thorney Country Park are open every day of the year and offer hundreds of acres of woodland, heathland and parkland with lakes and rivers. The varied scenery offers many opportunities to discover wildlife. Whiteleaf Hill Nature Reserve in the Chilterns is well known for its butterflies, wildflowers, leafy woodlands, history, geology, archaeology and spectacular views. There are panoramic views from the top over the old market town of Princes Risborough, a neat patchwork of fields in the Vale of Aylesbury to the rolling Wessex Downs in the far distance. In the Vale are also the stunning landscape gardens at Stowe.

Culturally the area is rich. Aylesbury Vale District Council, in conjunction with the Arts Council South East and local organisations, has developed a public art strategy which aims to make sure that public art is encouraged and that local residents and artists are involved wherever possible. Public art will also be a highly visible feature of the new theatre in Aylesbury. A programme of community art will be hosted there and the public plaza outside the venue will play host to both temporary and permanent art installations reflecting the town's cultural history. The award winning County Museum is in the attractive old town area of Aylesbury in beautifully restored buildings, some dating from the 15th century. The museum showcases the county's rich heritage alongside a changing programme of exhibitions in the Buckinghamshire Art Gallery. Roald Dahl invented his classic children's tales in the Aylesbury area, and his imagination is now celebrated in the museum in the Roald Dahl Children's Gallery. The Bucks Railway Centre provides great family fun as does Whipsnade Zoo, set in the Chiltern Hills. The town has a multi-screen cinema showing all the latest films as well as a special programme for children at the weekends. Aylesbury has a monthly farmers' market besides the town market four days a week which offers an abundance of goods. For further information on what Aylesbury and Bucks can offer, visit [www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk](http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk) or [www.buckscc.gov.uk](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk).

