



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to all of our families and a warm welcome to those new to our school. We hope you have had a wonderful summer and have made the most of the glorious sunshine. It has been wonderful to greet so many of you and your children as you return and the children have returned with a new energy and zest for learning which is lovely to see. The new Reception class have settled quickly and are keen and eager for the new experience that school presents.

There is a wonderful atmosphere around the school and this is down to the dedication and hard work of the staff who have been in school over the summer break preparing for your child's return. Over the next couple of weeks, each year group will be holding a curriculum meeting after school. This is a chance for you to meet the team in your child's year group and to understand how their curriculum is shaped for this academic year. It is a wonderful opportunity and we would urge you to attend if you are able to.

## Values

As a staff team we have worked hard to ensure that our values reflect the school. After much discussion we have chosen three values which we believe embody all the staff, parents and children aim for. Our values are: **Ambition, Respect and Resilience**. Please ask your child what we have been learning about these.

## Year Six Transition



Before we know it, Year Six will be off on their way to secondary school. We will be offering help and assistance to any parents that would like it to complete the secondary application forms. Please remember that if you put Ark St Albans as your first choice, as one of the feeder schools, you will be offered a place. All too often parents change their minds come offer day and at this point it is too late. Please take the opportunity to go and view the secondary schools in the local area before you make your decision. Ark St Albans will be holding their Open Evening on Wednesday 19th September, from 5-7pm.

## Uniform

Uniform forms a large part of our shared identity here at Ark Tindal and as such it is important that your child wears full uniform every day. This includes a tie. Headscarves should be pull on (no pins under any circumstances) and in black or grey. Tights should be worn under skirts – no leggings, and should be black or grey, skirts and trousers must not be worn together. Boots are not permitted as footwear and this has been reiterated throughout the newsletters. Boys must not have lines shaved into their heads; this is not part of our school identity. For full uniform policy please go onto the school website.

## Jewellery

Please remember that jewellery must be limited to one pair of small studs in the ear lobe. This is for the safety of your child in school so please do not be offended if we ask them to remove larger earrings or other jewellery.



## Contact details

Please remember that it is vitally important that if your contact details (especially mobile phone numbers) change you advise the Office as soon as possible so that we can contact you in the event of any problems with your child. If your contact details have changed over the Summer, please let us know urgently.

## Heritage Open Days

Every September some 40,000 volunteers across England organise 5,000 events to celebrate our fantastic history and culture. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – all of which are FREE to explore and this weekend Aston Hall and Birmingham Botanical Gardens will be free to visit on certain days. Visit <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk> for more information and to find out their opening times.



## Meet our Staff – Leadership Team

 <p><b>EYFS and English Lead</b></p>	 <p><b>Assistant Headteacher (Inclusion)</b></p>	 <p><b>Headteacher</b></p>	 <p><b>Deputy Headteacher</b></p>	 <p><b>Assistant Headteacher (Data and Assessment)</b></p>	 <p><b>Maths and Teacher Training Lead</b></p>
<p>Hello, I'm Mrs Ivins. I've been teaching at Ark Tindal for 5 years and feel very lucky to be able to work with the wonderful children here every day. I grew up in a family of teachers so I always knew that I wanted to teach!! I went to the University of Northampton to study for a degree in Early Childhood where I specialised in teaching under 5s. After that, I came to Ark Tindal to train to become a primary teacher with the Ark Teacher Training programme. When I'm not in the classroom I can usually be found spending time with my family, attending Coventry City matches and walking my dog, Jim!</p>	<p>My name is Mrs Bains (previously known as Miss Bath). I went to Nottingham Trent University to study psychology and followed this degree with a PGCE at Birmingham City University. I joined Ark Tindal as an NQT 6 years ago and have loved every minute here! The pupils at Ark Tindal bring me joy every day and I feel very lucky to be part of the Tindal Team. In my spare time I love to curl up in a comfortable chair with a good book - particularly books written by Roald Dahl!</p>	<p>My name is Mrs Eaton and I have been teaching for 16 years. This is my third year as Head at Ark Tindal and I am so proud to be working here with our wonderful children and families. I graduated from the University of Teesside and then went on to Newman College for my PGCE. When I am not at school I like to go to the gym, having completed my first half marathon last year and am in training for my second next June!</p>	<p>My name is Miss Francis. I've been teaching for 8 years. I have been with Ark Tindal since June 2017, but have been with Ark Schools since 2011, as I previously worked at one of the Ark Academies in London. I went to the University of Winchester and obtained a degree in Primary Education with an RE specialism. I am a keen swimmer and love to spend my spare time cooking or reading, especially crime and thriller</p>	<p>My name is Mr Rand and this is my 10th year of teaching. I started at Ark Tindal 5 years ago and I have not looked back since. I am proud of my achievements here at Ark Tindal and I am relishing the new challenge offered by the role. I trained at Birmingham City University and got a BA in Primary Teaching. Outside of school I enjoy the playing the guitar and relaxing in front of a good film.</p>	<p>Hello. My name is Mr Reid and I have been teaching at Ark Tindal for 5 years. I have a joint degree in Music and Religious Studies from Cardiff University and completed my teacher training at Birmingham City University. I have a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership and am a trained fire-eater and magician! Outside of school I love to perform at Symphony Hall with the City of Birmingham Choir, who I have been singing with for 4 years, and love to attend Aston Villa matches.</p>

## Safeguarding Information

Our Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of its pupils. We believe that everyone has an important part to play in child protection. If you have any concerns about the wellbeing or safety of any child, please contact our Designated Safeguarding Leads, Miss Francis, Mrs Mockbil or Mrs Ivins. For your information, our Nominated Governor is Fiona Parkes, the Chair of Governors is Julie Farr and the Local Authority Designated Officers (LADOs) are Nora Malik, Salma Shabir and Tracey Johnson. Our Safeguarding Policy is available on the Academy website.