



Head's

Update

April 2024

KEEPING YOU INFORMED FROM MRS O'CONNOR

Alfred Lord Tennyson School Improvement Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of some of the school improvements that took place last term to keep you up to date with developments.

Vision:

We have been working on establishing and embedding our vision, values and ethos for our new primary school. Our vision, values and ethos is what makes Alfred Lord Tennyson School unique and special and is what staff, governors, parents, and pupils all work hard to achieve for our children.

Our vision at Alfred Lord Tennyson School is that every child will aspire to become - **'Ambitious Learners who Thrive and Succeed' (A.L.T.S)**

Alfred Lord Tennyson children will challenge themselves in all aspects of their academic lives and have high ambitions to succeed and 'be the best they can be'. We will teach them to value learning and to see learning as a process, through developing learner characteristics and viewing mistakes as a path to success. Our ambition is that all our school community is nurtured, valued, and cared for so that they can thrive and go on to succeed in all aspects of their lives.

Ethos and Aims:

- To provide a happy, caring and secure learning environment in which each child and member of staff may develop to their full potential.
- Ensure all children value the characteristics of R.E.S.P.E.C.T. and become confident and resilient children
- To ensure all children are ambitious, have a Growth Mind-set and a determination to succeed
- To enable our children to be good citizens, who make positive contributions to their communities
- To develop cultural capital to give our children the vital background knowledge required to learn about and understand the world they live in, so they can flourish and reach their potential
- To ensure children are healthy, safe and have positive well-being
- To foster, nurture and develop all talents
- To ensure children are engaged, inquisitive and inspired to learn
- To ensure our curriculum is broad, balanced, progressive and ambitious for all learners

- To provide a curriculum that is designed with an understanding of the working memory, making links to learning and building and deepening knowledge and skills through inclusive practice for all learners
- Work in partnership with parents

Values

Our values form the acronym R.E.S.P.E.C.T. and are devised from 7 core character and learning traits:

	R esilience	I never give up and bounce back.
	E mpathy	I am kind and caring.
	S elf-Awareness	I know what to do and how I can improve.
	P assion	I show that I am enjoying my learning.
	E xcellence	I am the best I can be.
	C ommunication	I listen and join in.
	T eamwork	I work with others and share.

New Curriculum:

We have also implemented a new broad, balanced and progressive curriculum that runs through EYFS to Year 6. At Alfred Lord Tennyson School, our curriculum is designed with the intention to inspire and create excitement and curiosity for learning and a thirst for knowledge. We aim to ensure high achievement for all and to support pupil wellbeing and character development whilst also teaching how to become independent proficient learners. Our learners are encouraged to challenge themselves, take ownership over their learning and to value mistakes, seeing them as part of the learning process.

Within our curriculum, all subjects are taught discretely but links in learning are made where possible and if relevant, to bring the learning alive for the children and to make it meaningful and memorable. Our Curriculum plans can be found on our website [Curriculum Subjects - Alfred Lord Tennyson School \(altnorthants.sch.uk\)](http://altnorthants.sch.uk) and each full term you will receive a 'Curriculum Newsletter' that will outline the learning that will take place that term.

Standards of teaching and learning also continue to be monitored regularly by school leaders and the Local Authority.

Food Hygiene Rating

We are delighted to inform you that we received a 5 star grading for our unannounced Food Hygiene Inspection on both sites.

Building Works

At our Alfred Street site, the roofing works have now been completed across the school. Thank you for your patience during this time.

Improvements to EYFS and KS1

At our Tennyson Road site, improvements continue to be made to our learning environment. The library area has had a revamp and children in KS1 are now able to bring home a library book to share with an adult.



We have also created a lovely space for our Nursery children to use when our Reception children are having their teaching input.



Our Reception children also have a new mud kitchen, stage and water area in their outdoor provision.



Next steps to improve our school:

- We are in the process of consulting to move EYFS and KS1 to our Alfred Street site in September 2025 (see information that has been sent). If you would like to submit any thoughts, comments, questions or concerns regarding the intention to move to one site, we would be grateful for your responses. Please email: OneSite@alts.northants.sch.uk. After the consultation's closure on the 17th May 2024, we will respond formally to any issues raised and communicate our next steps.
- This term we have plans to develop our sensory garden for our EYFS children (Nursery and Reception) by building some outdoor and adventure equipment so that they can climb, explore and take measured risks.
- We are aware that there have been several technical issues with ParentApp Communication which have been out of our control. We are in the process of moving over to a new provider in the hope that we can improve communication. There is a wait for the set up and installation process so this will take place later in the term and information will follow.
- We have found a new sponsor for our Sports Kit. Alderman Roofing, who have been working with the school since September on upgrading Alfred Streets roof, have kindly agreed to sponsor our sports kit. This means that our children will have a lovely sports kit that they can wear when they represent Alfred Lord Tennyson School in sporting competitions. We look forward to sharing photos of the new kit with you in due course.