



St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery

School Prospectus



Welcome to our School!

Thank you for considering St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery for your child's educational journey. Choosing the right school is one of the most important decisions you will make as a parent, and we are delighted that you are exploring what our warm and vibrant school has to offer.

At our school, we believe every child is unique, and it's our mission to help them learn and grow with confidence, joy, and God by their side.

We warmly invite you to come and visit our school, meet our staff, and see our happy, engaged children in action. We're confident that once you step through our doors, you'll feel the sense of belonging that makes St Alban & St Stephen such a special place to be.

Ms T. Hackett, Head of School



About our School



Our school has a fascinating history. It was founded in 1934 by the Sisters of Mercy, who opened the original school in Vanda Crescent—where our Early Years and Key Stage 1 children learn today.

In 1974, a brand-new junior school was opened on Cecil Road, on the grounds of what was once Europe's largest orchid nursery.

In 2020, the infant and junior schools formally joined together and became the all-through primary school and nursery we are proud to be now—offering a continuous, caring journey from Nursery to Year 6. Once your child has been accepted into our Reception Class, they will stay with us until they move to secondary school after Year 6.

Our pupils enjoy walking the short distance along the Alban Way between the lower and upper sites to watch assemblies and performances, and to meet other year-groups.

Our united school is inspired by the lives of our patron saints, St Alban and St Stephen. We continue to grow in faith, love, and learning—just as our founders intended.

Our Mission Statement



At St Alban & St Stephen, our mission statement is:
‘Learning and Growing with God by Our Side.’

Our Catholic faith is at the heart of everything we do. We aim to provide a warm, welcoming environment where children feel safe, valued, and inspired to be the best they can be — spiritually, academically, and socially. We are committed to supporting each child to grow and learn to fulfil their unique God-given potential.

Catholic Life

Faith is a big part of life at our school. Each day includes time for prayer, whether as a class or during collective worship. We love coming together to celebrate Mass and special liturgies throughout the year, often with our parish and families too. Our amazing Pupil Chaplaincy Team help lead worship and encourage others to grow in their faith.

In Religious Education, we follow the new Religious Education Curriculum Directory, which gets children thinking about life, faith, and how to be kind and thoughtful. As part of building respect and understanding, we also learn about other world religions like Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Sikhism.

Putting our faith into action is just as important, whether it's helping a friend, looking after the planet, or raising money for charity. Throughout the year, we take part in charity projects and community events.

We're proud to work closely with parents and our parish, and we have strong links with Ss Alban and Stephen Catholic Church.



What are the School rules?

At St Alban & St Stephen, we believe in creating a happy, safe and respectful environment where everyone can learn and grow together.

Our school rules are simple and easy to remember from Nursery to Year 6.

Our behaviour policy is underpinned by our five key school values. We expect every member of our school community to try their best to demonstrate these values at all times.



Our School Rules

- We are kind
- We are helpful
- We listen
- We are honest
- We work hard
- We look after property and the environment



Our School Day

8.45 am School opens for SODA (Start Of the Day Activities).
All children must be in school by 8.55 when the register closes.

10.30-10.45 Breaktime for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

11.45 - 12.15 Nursery Lunch Club

12.00 - 1.00 Lunch for Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

3.05 pm Reception school day ends

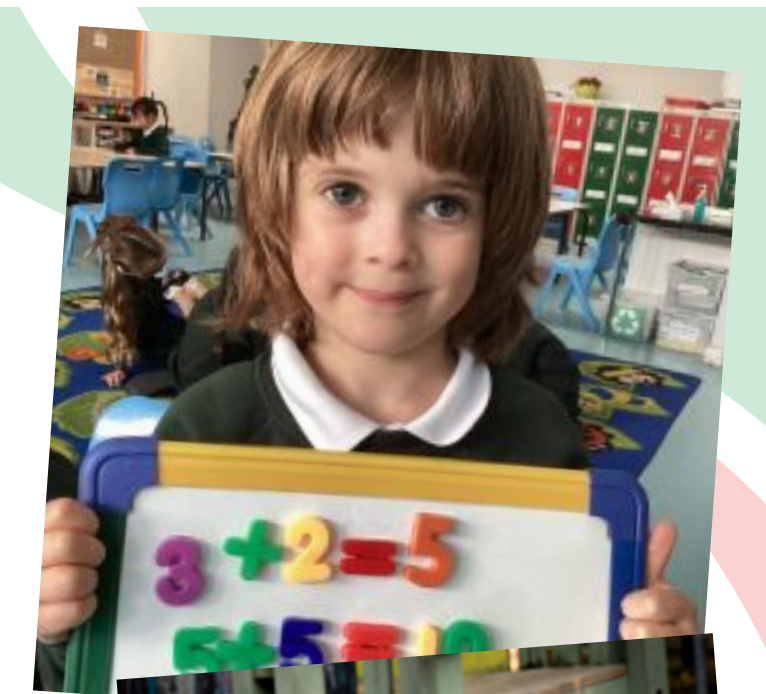
3.15 pm Nursery & Key Stage 1 school day ends

3.20 pm Key Stage 2 school day ends

School Meals

We love our tasty, healthy meals which are all freshly cooked on site in the School Kitchen! Children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 are entitled to free school lunches. If your child is in Years 3 to 6, you can either pay for school lunch, or they can bring a packed lunch from home. Any allergies can be catered for.

In Nursery, children who stay for Lunch Club can bring a healthy packed lunch to school in a lunch box labelled with their name.



Our EYFS Curriculum

In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), most learning happens through Child-Initiated Learning, which we call Chil time. Children learn and explore, developing their curiosity and imagination through fun, play-based activities designed around the seven key areas of learning.

Prime Areas (the foundations for learning)

- Communication & Language – developing listening, speaking, and understanding
- Personal, Social & Emotional Development – building confidence, friendships, and independence
- Physical Development – improving movement, coordination, and self-care

Specific Areas (building on the foundations)

- Literacy – enjoying stories, learning letters, reading, and writing
- Mathematics – exploring numbers, shapes, and patterns
- Understanding the World – discovering people, places, nature, and technology
- Expressive Arts & Design – getting creative through art, music, role play and dance

You can find out more at: <https://www.ssas.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/early-years-foundation-stage/>



Our Key Stage 1 and 2 Curriculum

From Nursery to Year 6, our curriculum journey is carefully planned to build knowledge and skills step-by-step. We bring learning to life with hands-on experiences, trips, and inspiring lessons that link to our local area of St Albans and its rich history and culture. We also celebrate the diversity of our school community through inclusive books, topics, and creative projects, helping all children to feel seen, heard, and valued.

Children in Key Stages 1 and 2 cover all the key subjects like English, maths, science, history, geography, art, music, design technology, computing, and P.E., along with Religious Education and PSHE (personal, social and health education).

Throughout the school, reading is prioritised as a key skill. We make reading fun through daily storytime, cosy book corners, regular visits to the school library on each site, and exciting events like book fairs and author visits. In addition to this, we teach daily phonics lessons from Reception to Year 2, based on the Little Wandle phonics scheme.

You can find out more at:

<https://www.ssas.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/curriculum-overview/>



Breakfast & After School Clubs

We provide Early Birds Breakfast Club and Fireflies After School Club every day from Monday to Friday during term-time. The same warm and nurturing St Alban & Stephen School ethos underpins our wrap-around care. Our school staff know the children well and provide them with a calm and welcoming start to their morning, and a fun, relaxing end to their school day. Children can attend once they have settled into Nursery (and providing they are toilet-trained).

Early Birds opens at 7.45 am and closes at 8.45, when children are taken to their classes to start the day.

Fireflies starts when children are picked up from their classrooms at the end of the day, and ends at 6pm Monday-Thursday and 5.30pm on Friday.

For our Breakfast and After School Club leaflet, click here:

<https://www.ssas.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/SAS-Breakfast-Club-and-After-School-Club-leaflet-1.pdf>





Enrichment Clubs

Our enrichment clubs offer exciting opportunities for children to explore new interests, develop talents, and build friendships beyond the classroom.

We offer a variety of free and paid-for clubs throughout the year, including:

- **Sports:** Football, netball, gymnastics, fencing, cheerleading, and more to keep active and healthy.
- **Creative Arts:** Art, dance and music to inspire imagination and expression.
- **Well-being:** Clubs focused on relaxation, and social skills.
- **Academic Support:** Sessions to boost confidence in subjects like maths, develop technical skills or learn a new language.
- **Eco and Leadership:** Opportunities for our older KS2 children to take on roles like Junior Librarians or Eco Warriors.

Working Together

We truly value the partnership between home and school. There are lots of ways for parents to get involved as part of our warm and welcoming school community.

- Support our fabulous P.T.A.(Parent Teacher Association) The P.T.A. arrange, organise and run events to raise money to support the school and bring us together as a community. To contact the PTA, email ssaspta@gmail.com.
- Attend our half termly parent workshops.
- Come and have a chat and a coffee at our half-termly parent coffee mornings.
- Volunteer weekly to help with reading, or to support at lunchtimes in our school library. Sign up for our termly Eco Volunteer day or our annual Green Day, when parents and family members can work with their child to care for our beautiful school grounds.

We'll keep in touch with parents and carers through:

- Emails and text alerts
- Our website with weekly blogs from each child's class and a calendar of events
- Weekly update and diary dates reminder email
- Half termly Head and Governor newsletters
- Termly parent consultations meetings and open events

And of course, parents can always pop in or call the school office if there's something they'd like to chat about.



Why Choose our School?

- Enthusiastic and compassionate pupils who love to learn
- Caring and committed staff
- Outstanding personal development (Ofsted)
- High academic attainment above Hertfordshire and National averages
- Beautiful outdoor spaces
- Supportive and friendly parents with an active P.T.A.
- In-house breakfast club and after school club providing wraparound care from 7.45am-6pm
- Wide range of extra-curricular activities





Open Days and Tours

Please note that the Lower Site tours will only showcase the lower site school (Nursery to Year 2) and the Upper Site tours will only showcase the upper site school (Year 3 to Year 6). You are welcome to book tours of both sites.

- Wednesday 8th October 2025 – Morning Lower Site Parent Tour – 9:15 to 10:15am
- Thursday 6th November 2025 – Morning Upper Site Parent Tour – 9:15 to 10:15am
- Wednesday 19th November 2025 – Evening Lower Site Parent Tour – 6:00 to 6:45pm
- Wednesday 26th November 2025 – Morning Upper Site Parent Tour – 9:15 – 10:15am
- Wednesday 3rd December 2025 – Morning Lower Site Parent Tour – 9:15 – 10:15am
- Thursday 11th December 2025 – Evening Lower Site Parent Tour – 6 – 6:45pm
- Thursday 8th January 2026 – Morning Lower Site Parent Tour – 9:15 – 10:15am

Please use the following link to register for any of the above tours – <https://forms.gle/m4fiABeYPFEK57FJA> or contact the School Office on 01727 866668.

We hope that you have found this information useful and that it has given you an insight into school life. If you have any more questions about St Alban & St Stephen, don't hesitate to contact our School Office - we're always happy to help.

Address:

St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School (Upper Site)
Cecil Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 5EG

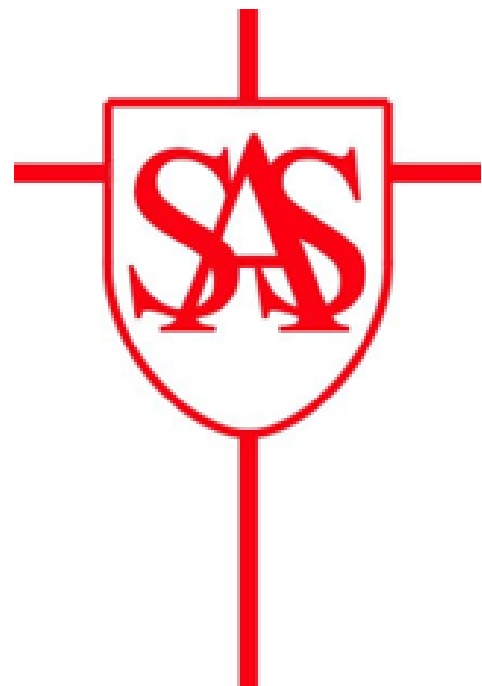
St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School (Lower Site)
Vanda Crescent, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 5EX

Contact Us:

☎ 01727 866668

✉ admin@ssas.herts.sch.uk

🌐 www.ssas.herts.sch.uk



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