

Raleigh & Admirals Academies

A Principal's view - "ARK Values in Action"

At Raleigh Infant and Admirals Academies, everything we do is built around one simple belief: every child deserves to feel safe, valued, supported and inspired to succeed. Our "ARK Values in Action" approach places the whole child at the heart of school life and helps guide the way we care for, support and challenge our pupils every day. Explained in reverse order, our three core values — Kindness, Respect and Aspiration — work together to create an environment where children can flourish both personally and academically.

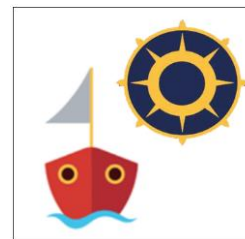
Kindness forms the foundation of our work. We know children learn best when they feel emotionally secure and cared for. This means investing heavily in wellbeing, nurture support, positive relationships and early help for families when needed. Our staff work hard to ensure every child feels known, listened to and supported, particularly during times when they may be facing challenges or barriers to learning.

Building upon this is Respect, which shapes the culture across both academies. We want every pupil to feel a true sense of belonging. Through strong safeguarding, consistent behaviour expectations, inclusive practice and support for all learners, we aim to create schools where children feel confident, valued and able to participate fully in school life. Respect also means teaching children how to care for one another, celebrate differences and take pride in their community.

Finally, Aspiration reflects our ambition for every pupil. We want children to leave us not only with strong academic foundations, but also with resilience, confidence and the skills needed for the future. Excellent attendance, engagement in learning, high expectations and opportunities to develop wider character strengths all play an important role in helping pupils achieve their potential.

Importantly, these values are not separate initiatives — they are woven into every aspect of school life. Whether through classroom learning, safeguarding, pastoral care, enrichment activities or leadership decisions, our aim is always the same: to help children grow into happy, capable and successful young people. As we often remind our staff and pupils: **"Wellbeing enables belonging, belonging enables engagement, and engagement enables achievement."**

By working together with families and the wider community, we can continue to ensure every child is supported to truly "Navigate Life and Learning Together." Greg Sadler, Executive Principal



Upcoming Term Dates 25/26/27

Monday 1st June '26

Summer term '25/26 resumes

Friday 17th July '26

Summer term ends '26

Thursday 3rd September '26

Autumn term '26/27 begins



Staffing Updates



We are delighted to share that Miss Pickrell will now take on the role of Nurture Leader. Having previously been part of the Nurture team, she will oversee nurture provision and targeted support activities that promote pupils' social and emotional wellbeing.

We are also pleased to welcome back Mrs Sprague, who previously worked across both academies as an Academic Tutor following the COVID-19 pandemic. Mrs Sprague is a qualified teacher and will support the academies for three days each week as our Reading Support Specialist Teacher, taking on aspects of Miss Pickrell's previous role.

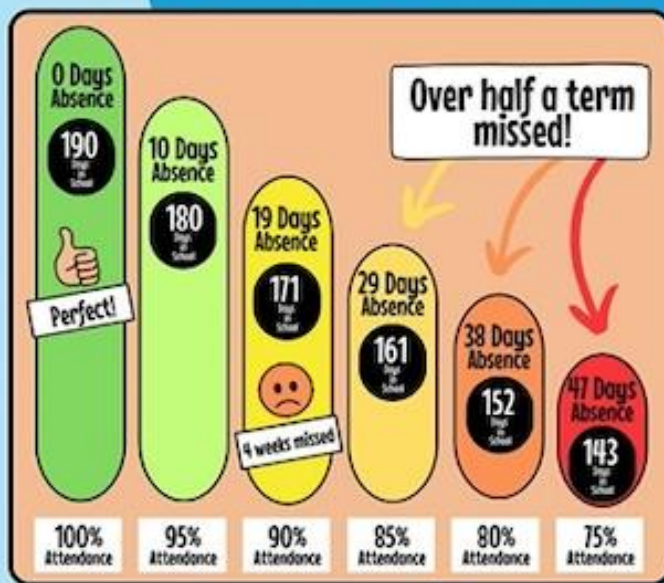
School Attendance

Every day counts...



Good attendance helps with...

<p>Academic Achievement Regular attendance helps children stay on track with the curriculum and achieve stronger academic results.</p>	<p>Social Skills Being in school every day helps children make friends, develop important social skills and feel part of the school community.</p>	<p>Routine & Responsibility Attending school regularly teaches the importance of commitment, routine and responsibility, helping children build valuable life skills.</p>	<p>Focus & Engagement Children who attend school regularly are more likely to stay engaged in their learning and develop a positive attitude towards education.</p>	<p>Building Confidence Regular attendance can boost a child's self-esteem and confidence, as they see their progress and achievements over time.</p>	<p>Enhanced Learning Opportunities School offers more than academic learning – it provides clubs, activities and enrichment opportunities that help children discover new interests and talents.</p>
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Did you know there are...

- 365 Days in a Year
- 190 School Days
- 175 Non School Days

Having 90% over 5 school years, is half a school year's work missed!

Tips for Supporting Good Attendance...

<p>Set a regular routine A consistent bedtime and morning routine helps children feel ready for school and reduces last-minute stress.</p>	<p>Aim for every day Try to make school attendance the default. Only keep your child off if they are genuinely unwell.</p>	<p>Plan appointments carefully Where possible, book medical or dental appointments outside school hours so your child doesn't miss lessons.</p>	<p>Talk positively about school Ask about your child's day and celebrate the little things they enjoy. Your positivity helps them look forward to school.</p>	<p>Stay in touch When a child is struggling, early communication with the school helps everyone find solutions and makes things easier for the child.</p>	<p>Prepare the night before Pack bags, lay out uniforms and check homework in the evening to make mornings smoother and less stressful.</p>
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Silly School Education



Reception – Kings & Queens

Reception have thoroughly enjoyed exploring their learning theme of 'Kings and Queens' this half term. The children immersed themselves in a wide range of exciting activities, with some favourite learning moments including a virtual tour of



Buckingham Palace, practising marching like the King's Guards, and role-playing a Royal Coronation! Throughout the topic, the children have independently extended their learning in many imaginative ways, using incredible

vocabulary as they built magnificent palaces, designed royal cyphers, and wrote thoughtful letters to the King. It has been wonderful to see their creativity, confidence, and enthusiasm shine through in all areas of learning. It has also



been fantastic to see the children continuing their learning at home and sharing their enthusiasm for the topic through Tapestry. We have loved seeing photographs and hearing about visits to Norwich Castle, adventures to Windsor Castle, and children enjoying further reading about the Royal Family. Thank you to parents for your continued support in bringing our learning to life beyond the classroom!

Year 1 Beach Experience

Year 1 had an amazing trip to the beach and a fantastic day full of adventure and excitement. After a long coach journey, the children were thrilled to arrive and begin exploring. They spent time playing in the sand, building wonderful sandcastles, and collecting shells along the beach. In the pinewoods, the children became mini explorers as they searched for bugs and learnt more about habitats and nature. Back in the activity



area, they used clay to create their own bug models, showing lots of creativity and imagination.

One of the highlights of the day was unexpectedly seeing the Norwich City F.C. players enjoying a team day nearby. The players were incredibly kind and took time



to high five all of the

children, which made the experience even more memorable.

We were so proud of how well-behaved the children were throughout the trip. They represented the school beautifully, had a wonderful time, and many were so tired after such a busy day that they fell asleep on the coach journey home.



Year 2 - Science

This half term, year 2 have been studying and investigating plants. The children had the opportunity to plant their own broad bean and sunflower seeds and observe the changes taking place over the term. It was fascinating to watch the different parts of the plants grow and develop. We also explored the journey of broccoli, learning about how it grows on a farm before eventually making its way to our plates. T



he children became scientists during our 'cress comparative test', where they placed four pots of cress in different conditions to investigate what plants need to grow healthily. We predicted, observed changes, recorded findings and drew conclusions using our scientific knowledge.



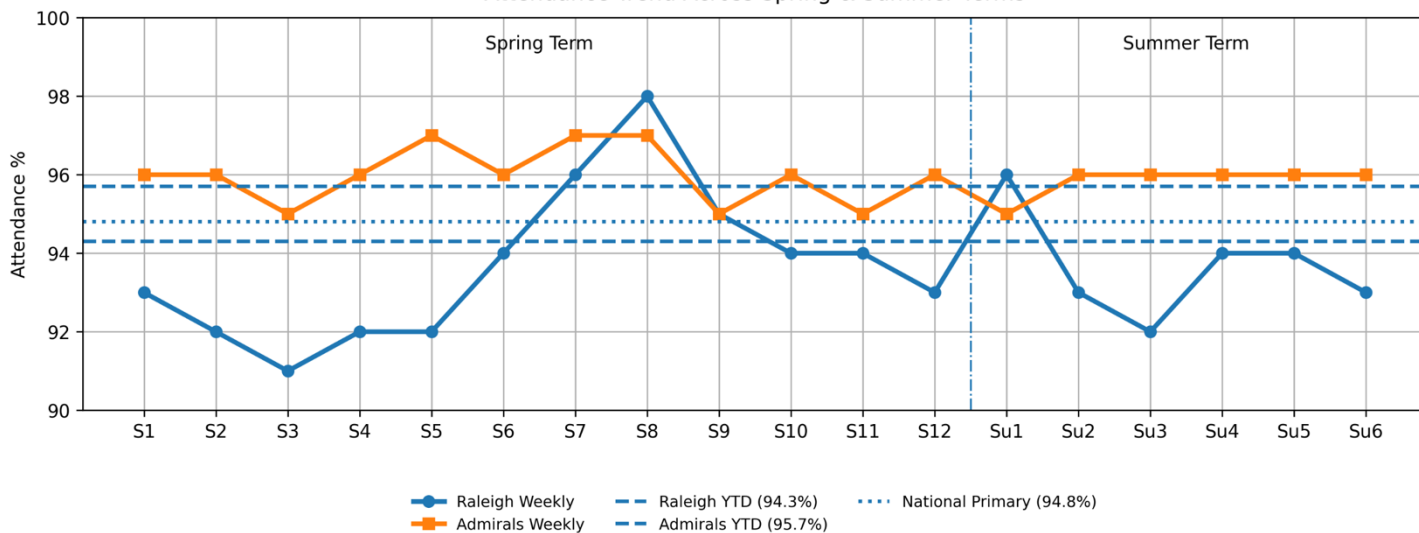
One of the highlights of the topic was observing our cress pots over time and discovering just how smelly some of them had become ...although it was not the most pleasant experience for our noses!



Spring & Summer Term Attendance Comparison

Weekly Trends with Academy and National Averages

Attendance Trend Across Spring & Summer Terms



Attendance across both academies has remained a key priority throughout the Spring and Summer Terms, and the overall picture continues to demonstrate many positives. During the Spring Term, both schools showed encouraging trends over time. Raleigh Academy demonstrated significant improvement as the term progressed, rising from 91–92% attendance in the earlier weeks to a peak of 98% in Week 8. Admirals Academy maintained consistently strong attendance throughout the term, regularly achieving between 95–97% week after week.

The Summer Term has continued to show many strengths, particularly at Admirals Academy, where attendance has remained highly consistent at 95–96% across the opening six weeks. Raleigh Academy began the Summer Term strongly at 96%, although some fluctuation has since been seen across subsequent weeks. Current Year-to-Date attendance figures now stand at: **Raleigh Academy: 94.3%** **Admirals Academy: 95.7%** **Nav : 94.8%**.

This means that Admirals Academy continues to perform strongly above national expectations, while Raleigh Academy remains close to the national average despite national attendance challenges continuing to affect schools across the country. Attendance remains a significant focus within the updated expectations of Ofsted, with schools expected to rigorously monitor attendance, challenge persistent absence and lateness, and work proactively with families to improve outcomes for children.

What happens next?

- Attendance and punctuality will continue to be monitored weekly
- Families may receive supportive communication where attendance falls below expectations
- Formal monitoring periods or attendance meetings may be implemented where concerns remain
- Persistent absence or repeated unauthorised lateness may result in Local Authority involvement in line with statutory guidance

As always, our aim is to work positively and supportively with families wherever possible. Strong attendance is not only linked to academic achievement, but also supports wellbeing, friendships, confidence, resilience and positive lifelong habits.

Thank you for your continued support in helping children attend regularly, arrive punctually and make the most of every school day.

Year 3 – Geography, History & Maths

In Geography, the children have been learning about rivers from around the world, including their key features such as the source and mouth. They are especially excited about their upcoming visit to our local river, The Great Ouse, where they will have the opportunity to deepen their understanding through real-life fieldwork and exploration.



In History, the children explored the topic of *Law and Power*, learning about Henry II and the development of the Common Law. To bring their learning to life, the class took part in a historical courtroom role-play, where pupils acted as the prosecution, defence, bailiff, judge and jury. Together, they discussed

the evidence and reached a verdict in a case involving a defendant accused of theft. This engaging activity helped the children understand how trials have evolved over time and how justice today is designed to be fairer than in the past.



In Mathematics, the children have continued to deepen their understanding of unit and non-unit fractions using a wide range of practical resources and representations, including counters and shapes. They have also thoroughly enjoyed developing their fluency in times tables and arithmetic through regular practice and challenge activities, helping to strengthen both confidence and recall.

In English, the children have particularly enjoyed writing third-person animal stories, demonstrating both creativity and imagination. They also wrote formal complaint letters to Mr Sadler, explaining why they disagreed with his decision to ban after-school clubs. The children were certainly *fuming* about this! It was fantastic to see them using persuasive language so effectively and expressing their opinions with clarity and confidence.



Year 4 – Reading & Drama

In Year 4 Drama this term, pupils have been exploring themes of empathy, friendship and belonging through a range of engaging activities inspired by the powerful story *The Boy at the Back of the Class*. Through role play, freeze frames, hot seating and group performances, the children have developed a deeper understanding of the experiences and emotions faced by others, particularly those who may feel new, isolated or different.

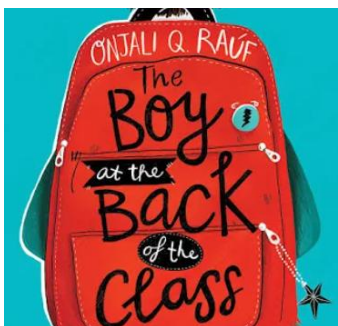
The story provided many opportunities for thoughtful discussion about the importance of kindness, compassion and inclusion. Pupils reflected carefully on what it means to make others feel welcome and how small acts of



friendship can have a significant impact on someone's wellbeing and sense of belonging. They also explored the challenges that some people may face when moving to a new country or adapting to unfamiliar surroundings, helping them to develop greater awareness and understanding of different cultures and experiences.

Throughout the unit, the children worked collaboratively to create short performances and dramatic scenes, confidently sharing their ideas and interpretations with their peers. They learned how body language, facial expressions and tone of voice can be used to communicate emotions and build atmosphere within a performance. Many pupils showed growing confidence when performing in front of others and demonstrated excellent listening and teamwork skills during rehearsals and group discussions.

The children particularly enjoyed stepping into the shoes of different characters and imagining how they might think or feel in certain situations. These activities encouraged pupils to consider multiple viewpoints and helped strengthen their ability to express emotions in a respectful and thoughtful way. It has been wonderful to see the creativity, maturity and sensitivity shown by the class throughout this topic.



Overall, this has been a highly engaging and meaningful unit of work that has not only developed the children's drama skills, but also reinforced the values of empathy, respect and understanding that are so important within our school community.

Year 5 History

Year 5 recently enjoyed a fantastic educational visit to Wicken Fen as part of their Geography learning about East Anglia and the unique fenland landscape. As we are fortunate to live so close to this important area, the children were able to experience first-hand many of the physical and human geographical features they have been studying in class. The trip provided a wonderful opportunity to bring their classroom learning to life and deepen their understanding through exploration and discovery.



Throughout the day, pupils learned about how the fens were formed and how the landscape has changed over time due to drainage, farming and human settlement. They explored the wide-open scenery, waterways and wetlands that make the area so distinctive, while discussing the importance of conservation and the role that places such as Wicken Fen play in protecting wildlife and natural habitats. The children were fascinated to learn about the rich biodiversity of the area and spotted a variety of plants, birds and insects during their visit.

It quickly became clear to the children that learning about the geography of the fens also involves understanding the history of the region. They discovered how people have lived and worked in this challenging landscape for hundreds of years and how communities adapted to the wet and marshy conditions. Pupils particularly enjoyed visiting the traditional cottage, where they explored how families once lived and compared it to modern homes and lifestyles. They were

intrigued by the simple design of the cottage and the practical ways people used natural materials from the local environment in their everyday lives.



The workshop area proved especially popular, with children enthusiastically investigating the different materials and tools that would have been used in the past. They enjoyed discovering how reeds, wood and other natural resources from the fenlands were carefully crafted into useful objects and household items. Many pupils commented on how resourceful people had to be and were surprised by how different daily life would have been compared to today.



Throughout the visit, the children represented the school brilliantly, demonstrating curiosity, enthusiasm and excellent behaviour. Staff at the centre commented positively on the pupils' engagement, thoughtful questions and respectful attitudes. The trip was a highly valuable experience that supported learning across both Geography and History, while also encouraging the children to appreciate the unique environment and heritage of our local area.

Year 6 – SATs, SATs, SATs !!!

Year 6 have recently completed their SATs tests, which are used nationally to measure the progress children have made throughout their time at Raleigh and Admirals Academies. We are incredibly proud of this cohort and the maturity, resilience and determination they demonstrated throughout the testing week. The children approached each test with a positive attitude and should feel extremely proud of the effort and commitment they have shown, not only during SATs week itself, but throughout the entire year in preparation for this important milestone before transitioning to Year 7 in September.



Over recent months, pupils have worked exceptionally hard during lessons, revision sessions and additional interventions designed to support and strengthen their confidence in reading, grammar, mathematics and reasoning. Staff have been hugely impressed by the children's perseverance and willingness to challenge themselves, and it has been wonderful to see the progress they have made both academically and personally. The calm and focused atmosphere across the week reflected just how prepared and determined the children were to do their very best.



To help the children feel relaxed, settled and ready for each day of testing, Year 6 pupils were invited into school earlier than usual to enjoy a special breakfast together each morning. Children were able to choose from cooked breakfast items, toast, cereal and fruit, helping them start the day feeling well-fed and energised before their tests began. These breakfast sessions also

created a lovely sense of togetherness and provided an opportunity for pupils to spend time with friends and staff in a calm and supportive environment before entering the classroom.

We were also extremely grateful to receive generous donations of bread, bagels and rolls from Warburtons, which were greatly enjoyed by the children throughout the week. Their kindness and support helped make the mornings feel extra special and contributed to the positive atmosphere that surrounded the SATs period.

To celebrate the children's hard work and the successful completion of their tests, Year 6 finished the week with a well-deserved visit to Thetford Garden Centre. During the trip, pupils enjoyed milkshakes, games and time together in a relaxed and enjoyable setting. It was wonderful to see the children laughing, socialising and unwinding after what had been a busy and demanding week. The visit provided a fantastic opportunity for the cohort to celebrate their achievements together and create positive memories as they begin to look ahead to the exciting next stage of their education.



Uniform Reminder for the Summer term '26

Taken from the Set Uniform list 2025-2026 available on our website

At Raleigh Infant Academy children are able to wear:

- Blue Raleigh sweater or cardigan
- White or blue polo shirt
- Dark grey trousers, shorts and skirts
- Blue checked summer dresses



At Admirals Academy children are able to wear:

- Maroon Admirals sweater or cardigan
- White shirt
- Maroon & gold Admirals tie
- Dark grey trousers, shorts and skirts
- Blue checked summer dresses



Footwear

- Plain black shoes that are suitable for play – we allow plain black trainers without heavy design. We also allow plain non-heeled boots but would suggest that these be light weight so not to impede the children running.
- Sandals, heeled, and open-toed footwear are not safe for school and therefore, we would ask this to be replaced.

Additional Summer Attire

- A hat within the second half of summer term, preferably one that covers the neck. Children will be asked to stay in the shade without a hat.
- During the second half summer term, or sooner if needed, pupils do not need to wear a tie in order to be more comfortable in the rising heat.

ATTENDANCE

WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160



2

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 1 parent = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

10 IN 10

5

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = **2** Sessions

3

FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 2 parents = £1280

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

4

2ND TIME

2 parents and
1 child = £320
2 children = 640
3 children = 960
4 children = 1280

No discount for early payment



3RD TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court.

A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child

1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents & 4 children = £20,000

Event date	Summer Term 2 25/26 PROVISIONAL Event Diary & Additional Notes
w/c 8/06/26	Year 4 Multiplication Check begins (MTC)
w/c 8/06/26	Year 1 Phonics Screening
12/06/26	International Day of Welcome – Open event for parents, 2.15pm – 3.00pm
w/c 22/06/26	Year 2 SATs week
22/06/26	Raleigh EYFS Sports Day, timings tbc
23/06/26	Raleigh & Admirals Sports Day – timings tbc
29/06/26	Reserve date for Sports Day (if Tuesday 23 rd June postponed)
1/07/26	Academy Fete: Held on the Admirals playground, 2.00 to 4.00pm
w/c 6/07/26	Year 6 full transition week to new schools
7/07/26	Transition information: Parents and pupils will be informed in writing of new classes for September 2026/27
8/07/26	Transition morning: Pupils will spend the morning (9.00am – 12.15pm) with their new class teachers for 26/27. However, due to logistics this may not necessarily happen in their new classrooms.
9/07/26	Transition day: Pupils will spend the day (8.40am – 3.00pm) with their new teachers for 26/27. However, due to logistics this may not necessarily happen in their new classrooms.
7/07/26	KS2 SATs results published to schools
13/07/26	Year 6 Residential
16/07/26	Reception & Year 1 Classroom parties. Pupils to come to school dressed in their own clothes. Party runs from 1.30 – 2.45pm
16/07/26	Year 2 'Moving on' Party. Pupils to come to school dressed in their own Party runs from 1.30 – 2.45pm
16/07/26	End of Year Disco: Pupils to come to school dressed in their own clothes Year 6 Disco 1.15 – 1.50pm, All Admirals pupils 1.50pm – 2.50pm
16/07/26	Year 2 'moving on' assembly. Held in the Raleigh Hall. Doors open to parents at 8.45am, begins at 9.00am. The hall can accommodate 2 adults per child
17/07/26	Year 6 leavers assembly Held at the 'Church on the Way'. Doors open to parents at 10.45am, begins at 11.00am. The venue can accommodate 2 adults per child
17/07/26	End of year assembly. Begins at 2pm, for pupils and staff only 3pm Academies close for the Summer Holidays
17/07/26	End of Year reports distributed to parents
3/09/26	Start of Autumn term 26/27 for pupils