



Albyn School

*An independent day school
for boys and girls aged 2-18*





Welcome to Albyn School

When your child joins the Albyn community they become part of a happy, safe and vibrant community where boys and girls learn and thrive together. And where you are also encouraged to be part of the extended Albyn 'family'.

We know your child's wellbeing is a priority for you, so we put that at the centre of everything we do. As a smaller school, we are able to know your child as an individual. Our year groups are big enough for friendship groups to form, and small enough for everyone to know each other and enjoy a chance to shine. Lifelong friendships and a love of learning are hallmarks of an Albyn education.

You will find our pupils are respectful and kind. They accept each other for who they are, and they look out for each other. They enjoy coming to school, and it brings out the best in them.

At Albyn, boys and girls feel safe and at home; the perfect environment for curious minds to benefit from our broad academic curriculum. We love to nurture young minds, to develop their knowledge and skills, and to build their character to enable them to succeed and to be able to face the challenges of the 21st century.

The Albyn ethos breeds a positive attitude towards learning: our pupils

want to excel, and they develop high aspirations for their futures. Their great exam results are the by-product of an Albyn education, rather than the main objective. Because our pupils enjoy learning, they achieve great things, and if they face challenges, we help them to see these challenges as opportunities to learn and to grow, and through them to become a better, more resilient person.

Beyond the classroom there are even more opportunities for your child to enjoy. With more than 100 different activities and societies to choose from every week, they can develop existing interests or explore new ones. From music, sport and debating to the Combined Cadet Force, Model United Nations, and Formula 24 electric car building and racing, there really is something for everyone.

Investing in an Albyn education for your son or daughter gifts them an extraordinarily positive, fulfilling and nurturing start to their journey of lifelong learning.

A prospectus can only scratch the surface of everything that is fabulous about Albyn. I hope that you will be able to visit us to experience our school's warmth and vibrancy for yourself. What you will unquestionably find is that the School is infused with a spirit of youth and vigour – as its motto suggests it should be!



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stefan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke underneath the name.

Stefan Horsman
MA (Oxon) FRGS
Headmaster



Albyn School

*The Albyn Nurseries:
Where the journey begins...*

Albyn School Nurseries

Our Nurseries educate children aged 2-5 years



Why Nurseries?

Albyn School Facts

3

The Albyn School Nurseries consists of three individual nurseries – Toddlers, Ante Pre-School and Pre-School.

120

We care for over 120 children all year round across all 3 nurseries.

16

From Toddlers to Upper 6, your child will spend a total of 16 years with us here at Albyn School.

39

Our three exceptional nursery managers have work at Albyn School for a combined 41 years.

37

We have 37 experienced and qualified staff working across all three nurseries.

5

Children in our Pre-School will spend 5 months transitioning into Lower 1 before officially starting in August.





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Our nurseries understand the importance of making learning fun and teaching through play.
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Welcome to the Albyn School Nurseries

*Your child will grow confidence,
make friends and most importantly,
have fun.*

The Albyn School Nurseries comprise the Toddler Nursery (age 2-3), Ante Pre-School (age 3-4) and Pre-School (age 4-5).

Our nurseries form an important part of the School as it is the beginning of the Albyn journey which will take the majority of the children through to Upper 6. With the nurseries located on the grounds of the School, your child will benefit from its sports facilities, libraries and specialist teaching staff who visit the nurseries for weekly lessons. This familiarity with the School and staff eases the transition for your child when progressing into Lower 1.

With emphasis on the importance of play, your child will learn language and literacy skills, develop their first steps towards numeracy and build a strong foundation for future learning. We will also instil habits of good health and well-being and provide your child with a calm, stimulating and secure environment in which they can grow in confidence, make friends and most importantly, have fun.

The Albyn School Nurseries are a registered childcare provision with the Care Inspectorate in Scotland. Our staff are very well trained and experienced.



Every staff member in the Nurseries has a HNC in Childhood Practice or a SVQ Level 3. They also have training in First Aid, REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene, Infection Control, Child Protection and training in Getting it Right for Every Child and Schemas.

They provide a high quality of care and will deliver your child's early years education based on the guidelines of the 'Curriculum for Excellence'.

What makes us different?

- Staff ratio is either 1 to 3 or 1 to 5.
- Sessions are all year round or term-time.
- Toilet Training during your child's time in the Toddler Unit.
- Literacy and Numeracy is embedded in everyday activities.
- Specialist teachers for Music, PE and Art.
- Bespoke learning for those children with a special interest in a subject.
- Support for learning plans can be put in place for your child.
- Beyond the classroom our children spend a lot of time outside in the fresh air.
- Trips to various different fun places in and around Aberdeen.
- Special events for parents, grandparents and other family members to attend such as sports days, ceilidhs, Christmas and summer concerts among many others.
- Purpose-built facilities with bright, open classrooms and a garden.
- In-house catering.
- School nurse on site all year round.

Mrs Emma McDonald
Head of Nurseries

Toddlers (Ages 2-3)



In the Toddler Nursery we understand how important it is for your child to settle quickly and happily into their class. We adapt to the specific needs of your child and will give them the level of attention required during their transition into nursery.

Activities

Throughout their year in the Toddler Nursery, your child will partake in a wide variety of activities designed to stimulate their imagination and develop key skills. These include; puzzles, arts and crafts, baking, imaginative play, story time and lots of physical activities such as yoga and walks in the park. Once a week the children receive a music lesson from a specialist music teacher and at the end of each term will perform in a musical concert for parents and staff. The children also visit the library in the Lower School on a weekly basis during which they can loan books to take home. Every afternoon there is an opportunity for Sleep Time for children who may need some rest after lunch.

Outdoor Play

We feel that outdoor play is essential for every child's development and is an excellent way for your child to get exercise. In our nurseries your child will have the opportunity to play outside as often as possible. There are also opportunities for trips out with the school grounds but these are under close supervision and only with parental consent.

Meals and Snacks

The food that we offer is both healthy and varied and we are able to cater for a range of dietary requirements. We are very fortunate to have our own in-house cook who will prepare and make most of the children's meals and snacks. A typical morning and afternoon snack would include fruit, toast, cereal or pancakes and lunch may be homemade soup and bread or fresh fish followed by jelly or yoghurt for dessert. Our menu is available on our parent notice board at all times.

Parental Involvement

We welcome parents who would like to share a nursery session with us to see how a typical day unfolds. While this is voluntary, we do try to ensure that everybody who wishes to participate is given the opportunity. In addition, we like to communicate frequently with parents to keep you up to date with your child's progress as well as upcoming events.

Transition to Ante Pre-School

Before your child is due to join the Ante Pre-School Nursery in August, they will be carefully prepared for their new social environment through pre-start visits with their classmates. Parents will also be invited along to have a look around and ask the staff any questions that they may have.

Ante Pre-School (Ages 3-4)

In the Ante Pre-School we ensure that the aims of the curriculum are co-ordinated to provide a more challenging environment as we begin preparation for Lower School. We follow the principles from the 'Curriculum for Excellence' by using an 'active' approach to help your child develop a positive attitude to learning.

Activities

In Ante Pre-School your child will get the opportunity to take part in some activities which may be slightly more advanced than in the Toddler Nursery, such as baking, gardening, drama and science time. They will also begin to familiarise themselves with computers and IT by playing games on a PC and using the interactive white board. They will still receive weekly music lessons with a specialist teacher and will visit the Lower School Library regularly, however they will also be introduced to gym time taught by an Upper School PE teacher.

Outdoor Play

As in the Toddler Nursery, our Ante Pre-School children will be encouraged to play outside regularly. The playground acts as an extension of the classroom, featuring a wet wall, 'fairy garden' and games which give your child opportunities to learn as they play. With parental consent, your child will take trips as part of class projects. These include trips to the theatre, forest adventures, train journeys and visits to castles and museums.

Meals and Snacks

Snacks and lunch options are similar to the offerings in the Toddler Nursery (see previous page) however your child will be taken by staff to the school dining room for lunch each day where they will be given a choice of what they would like to eat. No child will ever be forced to eat food they do not like however they will be encouraged to taste a variety of food. They will also be given responsibilities during snack times such

as helping to set the table and to clear away their plates to teach good manners and positive attitudes towards food.

Parental Involvement

Nursery sessions are available for parents who wish to spend some time in the Ante Pre-School and see what goes on in a typical day. Notifications and upcoming menus will be displayed on our Parent Information board which you will see when you drop off or collect your child and staff will be available during these times to answer any queries you may have.

Transition to Pre-School

From April to June, Pre-School staff will spend time in the Ante Pre-School class, meeting and interacting with your child in order to ease the transition from one to another. Groups of children will also visit the Pre-School on a weekly basis. In addition, the Ante Pre-School and Pre-School will join together for assemblies and music sessions.



*PE and music
are taught by
specialist teachers.*



Pre-School (Ages 4-5)

The focus of this year is to prepare your child for the primary years in Lower School, making the transition as smooth and easy as possible.



Daily life in the Pre-School is similar to the Ante Pre-School however the focus of this year is to prepare your child for Lower School, making the transition as smooth and easy as possible. There is also the option for your child to participate in weekly classes such as football and ballet, an introduction into co-curricular activities in preparation for school life.

Applying for Albyn School

All pupils in the Pre-School have the option of applying for a place in Lower 1 at Albyn School. Entrance tests occur in January and offers of places will be made in February.

All Pre-School children will spend time in the Lower 1 classrooms from April onwards to familiarise themselves with the school environment. Your child will also experience 'playtime' and will be given more responsibility throughout the nursery day.

In June, all Pre-School children progressing into Lower 1 at Albyn will be invited to attend our Lower School Induction afternoon.

During this induction, the children will spend time in their classrooms with their new teachers, they will take part in activities with the Classroom Assistants and will have time to play outside.

We find that the introduction from April to the Lower School and the induction in June really help the children to settle in and have more confidence about starting lessons with other children in a completely different environment than in the Nurseries.

The nursery staff will ensure that your child is ready to start school with enthusiasm and self-assurance.

Non-Pre-School Children

The external children joining lower 1 will also be invited to attend the Lower 1 induction in June. This will be a great opportunity for these children to familiarise themselves with their future classmates and new surroundings.

Parent Induction

Parents will also be invited to the Lower 1 Induction afternoon. During the induction, you will have the chance to see the Lower School classrooms and meet with the Lower 1 teachers who will explain what is involved in the daily routine of a Lower 1 pupil. During this time, we welcome you to ask any questions you may have and it is a great opportunity to get to know the teachers.

If you would like to find out more about the Albyn Nurseries or if you would like to arrange a visit, please contact our Admissions Team on:

T: 01224 322408

E: admissions@albyschool.co.uk



Albyn School

*The Lower School: Designed to
inspire and equipped to achieve.*

Lower School

From Primary 1-7 (ages 5-11)



Why Albyn Lower School?

Albyn School Facts

20

Our small class sizes in the Lower School average around 20 pupils per class.

14

Our Lower School contains 14 beautifully bright classrooms located over 3 floors.

2007

Our custom-built Lower School building was opened in 2007.

2005

Albyn School stopped being an all-girls school in 2005 when we accepted our first boy pupils into Lower School.

28

There are 28 different co-curricular activities running weekly within the Lower School.

4

Lower School pupils are placed into one of our 4 clans when they start school in which they will remain until Upper 6.



**FRENCH
HYBRID
CURRICULUM
NOW
AVAILABLE**



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Our small class sizes
in the Lower School
average around 20
pupils per class.
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Welcome to Lower School

Our pupils grow into individual, enthusiastic, and friendly children who leave Lower School fully prepared for life in the Upper School.

There are many different features that make the Lower School special and a great fit for those children who are looking for a happy, supported and a well-balanced education. While learning to work together collectively for the good of each other, your child will be encouraged to discover their own strengths, to have the courage of their own convictions and to step out of their comfort zones as individuals.

Our team is made up of the Head of the Lower School, Deputy Head, teachers and classroom assistants, all of whom are very approachable and will ensure that your child receives the best support in and outside of the classroom. Every teacher cares for the children in their class and will help them achieve their potential.

We believe in the importance of building strong partnerships between your children, you and the teachers in the Lower and Upper School to build a nurturing and thriving environment for our pupils. When entering the Lower School pupils are allocated to Clans which they will remain in throughout their time in Albyn School.

This encourages interaction between older and younger pupils encouraging a family style environment. We hold

regular Morning Briefings during which parents can come into the School to learn about how to assist with their children's education outside of school, interact with staff and other parents and it is also an opportunity for our parents to voice their opinions. Our Upper School teachers provide specialist lessons for the older pupils in the Lower School in subjects such as Music, PE and foreign languages as well as Art and Design. This familiarises our pupils with what to expect before they move to the Upper School.

We have recently introduced the Albyn Curriculum Enrichment program which has extended the school day to finish at 3.55pm for all L2-L7s. This program is designed to provide your child with the opportunity to take part in a huge selection of different activities to broaden their education and skills.

Albyn School encourages pupils to adopt core values on how they should conduct their lives regardless of others' race, religion or gender, and our children are taught how to apply those values in their everyday conduct. These values help our pupils grow into individual, enthusiastic, and friendly children who leave Lower School fully



prepared for life in the Upper School. We ensure that every pupil experiences the smoothest transition possible.

French Hybrid Curriculum

We now offer the French Hybrid Curriculum in the Lower School. Pupils studying the hybrid curriculum will follow the Albyn curriculum for all subjects except for the following: Mathematics, French, History, Geography and Citizenship. These will be taught in the French language medium. More information on the Lower School French Hybrid Curriculum can be found on pages 12-15.

Mr Nathan Davies
Head of Lower School and Nurseries

Pastoral Care

Your child's health and well-being is the most important part of their everyday life at Albyn School. We want your child to learn in a happy, safe environment where they are supported every step of the way. We understand that at some point your child may face some challenging times along their journey. Albyn School's pastoral care policies seek to make it as easy as possible for your child to voice any troubles they have, big or small, to our staff who will work to resolve them.

From your child's first day in Lower School you will witness our pastoral care in action. Parents can expect a report on how the first day went while the class teachers will remain the first point of contact for any pastoral issue as they will be with your child for most of the week. They will see your child every day and will offer the support, encouragement and care to help the children to achieve their very best. At the end of a school day Lower 1 to Lower 5 class teachers will escort their pupils to meet up with you and create an ongoing dialogue about the progress of your children.

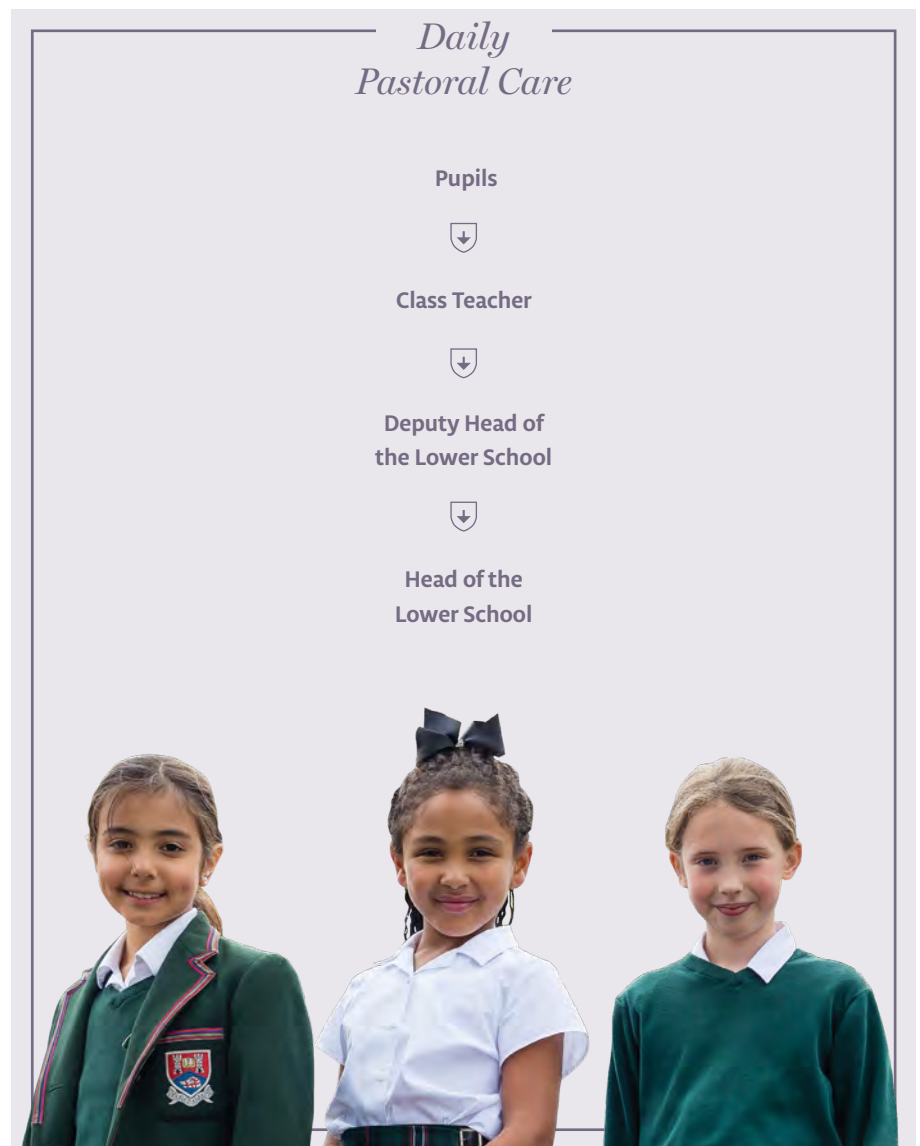
Our Lower School has a rigorous behaviour management and anti-bullying strategy, which is effective in minimising disruptive behaviour. The Head or the Deputy Head will deal with any serious misconduct and parents will always be contacted about any significant disciplinary action that has had to be administered or if we had any concerns about your child.

Where parents have concerns, they are always welcome to come in and speak with either the Head or the Deputy Head of Lower School. Both play an active role within the Lower School community, ensuring they get to know all the pupils while they are in our care. Lower School staff also eat with the pupils every day to get to know each child individually.

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*More than anything else,
we want our pupils to be happy
and enjoy learning at Albyn.*
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Pupils' academic and social progress is reported on regularly with one written progress check, one longer written report and two meetings each year.

Parents are also able to write, email or phone the School to speak to staff about any concerns they may have.



Albyn Curriculum

To find out more about the French Hybrid Curriculum, see pages 44-45.

Your child will be given many opportunities to develop themselves further, mastering skills they may already have and acquiring new ones.

Curriculum

With our small class sizes of around just 20 pupils, our Lower School teachers have plenty of time to get to know your child individually along with the rest of the class. They also get to know the parents well too, taking time to speak to them and providing information on their child's progress throughout the year.

Our pupils receive a vibrant and extensive education in the Lower School with the introduction of specialist subjects including French, Spanish, Mandarin, Music, PE and Art & Design to learn alongside Mathematics, Literacy and ICT.

There are classroom assistants who, along with our learning support specialists, will help in each classroom to support those pupils who may require additional support.

Literacy

Reading

Our pupils are encouraged to develop their reading skills from a very early age with all classes having timetabled access to the Lower School Library. As their reading skills develop, novels and extended texts

are introduced, giving our pupils a variety of different genres, authors and styles to read. We want your child to feel confident about their reading, but to also enjoy the learning process and to discover a genre or style which they like to read best.

Writing

From a very young age your child will be taught writing skills in a number of different ways, allowing them to build a foundation of knowledge and understanding from which they can develop their own writing style. They are taught spelling, handwriting, grammar and punctuation correctly and progressively to enable the pupils to gain a proper understanding of language and sentence structure.

Listening and Talking

Pupils are taught how to express their ideas in a clear and comprehensible manner with their class, and are taught to listen carefully and courteously when others are sharing theirs. This develops their ability to form opinions and viewpoints which will help them to

eventually lead discussions and take part in debates later on in the School. The pupils also gain the skills to plan, prepare and present information within a variety of contexts and be able to support presentations using media and IT skills.

Maths

The teaching of maths centres around the TeeJay Maths scheme and the Scottish Heinemann Maths programme. The focus in Lower School is on mental arithmetic and encouraging your child to learn core mathematical facts in sequential order to speed up their mental processing.

ICT

Our Lower School use the Oxford International Primary Computing scheme as a framework to build our learning around. It takes a real-life, project-based approach to teaching our pupils the vital knowledge they need for the rapidly evolving digital world. The pupils learn how to do the following:



“Mistakes are the best thing in the world - that’s how we learn.”

LOWER 3 PUPIL

- Working with text; using word processing software to edit, design and publish text
- How to control the computer; programming games and quizzes in ‘Scratch’ (an easy-to-learn programming language designed specifically for children)
- Handling data; working with spreadsheets to organise, filter and display data
- The Internet; learning to use the internet safely and responsibly
- Multimedia; creating dynamic resources using images, video and sounds
- Computers in society; asking big questions about real-life applications of technology, from social media safety to the history of the World Wide Web

International Primary Curriculum

Albyn Lower School has adopted many tenets of the International Primary Curriculum (IPC). The IPC was originally pioneered by the Shell Schools Primary Curriculum Project who developed an internationally focused primary curriculum for its employees based overseas. The IPC is now used in 1800 schools around the world.

The principle of the IPC is to focus on personal, academic and international learning that will prepare children with the knowledge, skills and understanding to cope with the world around them. International-mindedness is embedded into all IPC learning to ensure that children grow up with a very clear global understanding.

In our Lower School we aim to create confident and resilient learners, equipped with the essential skills to comprehend and contemplate the more complex learning they will face in secondary and tertiary education and beyond.

Albyn Curriculum Enrichment

Education in the Lower School is above the standard curriculum and we want to ensure that our pupils have a balanced and enriching experience by including a mix of both academics and activities. The year will be split up into three blocks of approximately 11 weeks so pupils can change to a different activity at the start of each block.

The areas to choose from are; sport, health and life skills, expressive arts, community involvement and discovery.



PE and Games

Physical Education and Games not only keep your child healthy and active, but also teach teamwork and strategy skills which are transferable to all aspects of their life.

We teach a broad range of sports in Lower School to allow your child the opportunity to discover a sport they are good at and enjoy. We understand that not every child likes sports, however being active is good for both physical and mental well-being. Our specialist teachers and sports coaches make PE as fun as possible for our young pupils whilst also educating them on the importance of exercise and keeping fit in a safe and healthy way.

Lead by a strong and dedicated team, our PE and Games staff are highly skilled in teaching the pupils the importance of exercise and healthy living from a young age. They know the needs of the pupils and encourage them to try new sporting activities.

Your child will have the opportunity to take part in individual, team and specialised sports depending on the time of year. From Lower 1 our pupils are introduced into many different sports which take place in the School Gym, in

*Lower School
Sports*

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Athletics / Badminton / Cricket / Football / Golf
Gymnastics / Hockey / Netball / Rounders
Skiing (from Lower 6) / Social Dance
Swimming (from Lower 4) / Tennis / X-Country

our flood-lit all-weather court and at the playing fields at Harlaw. Once the pupils reach Lower 6, sporting activities are taught and practiced at our large playing fields at Milltimber while more specialised sports are held at Aberdeen Sports Village, Aberdeen Snowsports Centre, Paul Lawrie Centre and various other sporting locations close in proximity to the school.

Sports Clubs and Fixtures

In the co-curricular section of the prospectus you will see that there are many sports clubs which pupils in the Lower School can join. These are for Lower 5 pupils and older as some of the activities are mixed with children from the Upper School. This mix of ages between the Lower and Upper

School is a positive experience for the younger pupils who will aspire to be like their older peers and will learn to work well with those of different ages.

Pupils from Lower 7 have the chance to join pupils from the Upper School on the annual ski trip to Les Deux Alps in France for the Schools Ski and Snowboard Championships. This exciting trip includes over 100 children from other British independent schools. Pupils receive extensive training with experienced coaches for 2 days before they compete in slalom races. This trip is growing more popular and our pupils are climbing further up the winners league table each year, with one of our pupils coming first in one of the highly competitive races.



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*Keep up to date with
all the latest sports
results on our website
albynschoolsport.co.uk*

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The Arts

The Arts provide unique opportunities for Albyn pupils to be creative, experimental and to express themselves.

Art and Design

Art and Design is taught in-class from Lower 1 to Lower 4, where your child will paint and draw, learn crafts and be introduced to different media in preparation for Lower 5 where their lessons will take place in the Upper School art studios. Once a week pupils will visit the Art Department where they will be taught by specialist teachers and will be given the opportunity to be creative amongst the inspiring work of their older peers.

During these lessons your child will be taught the more technical aspects of painting and drawing and will learn how to create collages, make papier maché models and master clay. These tasks provide an opportunity for pupils to develop visual awareness and an understanding of how to use a range of different artistic methods to express themselves.

We want our pupils to feel confident about showing off their artistic abilities and encourage them to continue their passion for art throughout their journey at Albyn School. Their wonderful artwork is proudly displayed all around the

school, in their classrooms, at Open Mornings, on the website and in the annual School magazine.

Drama

Drama classes start in Lower 6 and continue once a week until pupils move to Upper School. Drama is an excellent way for pupils to build on their confidence and to learn how to work together to take part in plays and re-enactments. Larger scale plays and musical theatre productions take place periodically.

Drama also plays a part in everyday learning, adding new layers to history lessons. Every few years our Lower 7 pupils are involved in a World War 2 evacuation experience, during which they dress up in historical clothing and pack their authentic suitcases to prepare them for a train journey to Inverurie where they are 'evacuated' to a local school.

The pupils are currently rehearsing for their wonderful rendition of the musical, Annie, which will take place early next spring.





There are over 30 different instrumental and vocal groups within Albyn School.

Music

Albyn School produces a large number of very talented musicians. Music lessons begin in Lower 1 where your child will learn the basics of singing and rhythm, giving them a foundation from which their talents can grow. When they reach Lower 3 our pupils will be given two music lessons per week, one which still focuses on singing and another which teaches them how to play the descant recorder. Your child will be encouraged to practise playing the instrument around four times a week at home, teaching them the discipline required to learn an instrument and the rewards of regular practice. Singing lessons continue right the way through Lower School, with all pupils from Lower 3 to Lower 7 becoming members

of the Lower School choir which often perform in various concerts and events for parents and visitors to the School.

Albyn is part of the Primary Schools Tour organised by the Scottish Opera - Scotland's national opera company. This connection has been a great hit with the Lower 5 pupils who thoroughly enjoy taking part in different types of musical theatre performances.

Drumming is introduced into the musical curriculum in Lower 6 however should you wish your child to learn something different, one-to-one tuition is available for many instruments. There are also opportunities to join two orchestras within the Lower



School and a selection of specialist vocal ensembles as part of our co-curricular activities. Pupils who have achieved up to a Grade 3 with their instruments can join the Elementary Orchestra and those who have achieved Grade 4 or above can join the First Orchestra.



Co-curricular Activities

Co-curricular activities give our pupils a chance to pursue other interests and meet like-minded friends.

At Albyn School we offer an impressively large and varied range of co-curricular activities for your child to choose from. This list is ever-growing and the School welcomes suggestions from pupils for new activities to be introduced!

These societies and clubs offer opportunities for our pupils to broaden their horizons, learn new skills and make friends who have similar interests. Our co-curricular activities may develop into life-long hobbies, or may even lead towards a career path which otherwise might never have been explored.

With some of the activities on offer, our pupils get the opportunity to work with and compete against pupils from other schools in friendly competitions and activity days.

With such a wide selection of co-curricular activities, we are sure your child will find a club they will enjoy taking part in.

Most of the clubs and societies take place during lunchtimes and after school with the exception of the sporting activities which occasionally take place on a Saturday.

These activities are subject to change. New co-curricular activities will be introduced from time to time depending on demand.

Music



- Choir
- Junior Fideles
- Musical Theatre
- Orchestra
- Recorders
- Saxophony
- Strings
- Vocal Ensemble
- Wind Group



Sports



- Badminton
- Ballet
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Hockey
- Karate
- Netball
- Running
- Skiing
- Speed Training



Others



- Chess
- Code Club
- Craft Club
- Euroquiz Club
- French School
- Web Radio Club
- History Club
- Pocopops
- Scripture Union





Transition to Upper School

At Albyn School we make the transition from the primary years to the secondary years as smooth and stress-free as possible to give your child the best start to the Upper School.

We understand that the transition from Lower School to Upper School can be a scary prospect for your child. It is an important step along their educational journey and here at Albyn School we aim to make the move as smooth and stress-free as possible for our pupils.

If your child currently attends the Albyn Lower School they will have already started the transition process. The Lower School building is attached to the Upper School building, allowing our Lower School pupils to gain access to the facilities of the Upper School. Your child will be taught specialist subjects by Upper School teachers throughout Lower School which lets them familiarise themselves with the staff and classrooms before moving up. In Lower 6, pupils will experience a longer school day once a week in preparation for Lower 7 where the day will run from 8.40am to 3.55pm, 5 days a week. This gets our pupils used to the longer school day before starting Upper School.

April is when we begin the formal introduction to the Upper School for both

internal and external pupils. We will send out an information pack on everything you and your child will need to start their Upper School education, including uniform and PE kit lists and where these items can be purchased, book lists and an invitation to our Upper 1 induction in June.

The Upper 1 Induction is an opportunity for both internal and external pupils and parents to come into the School for a taster of what to expect in Upper 1. Pupils are introduced to each other and are separated into their Clan/Form Classes where they will meet their Form Teacher. Form Teachers will see your child on a daily basis, providing them with support throughout the year. They are also the first point of contact for parents whilst your child is at Albyn. After meeting Form Teachers, pupils will then be taken through the school to a selection of different classes where they will begin to experience what life is like in the Upper School. They will be given introductory lessons in subjects such as science, modern languages and social

sciences. This is followed by lunch in the canteen and an afternoon of team building activities to help the pupils get to know one another and work together.

While the pupils are exploring the Upper School, parents are given the opportunity to find out more about the School's pastoral care and child protection policies, along with additional curriculum information. After these presentations, parents will have time to speak to the Senior Management Team, Clan Leaders and other parents to get a feel of what to expect in the coming year. This helps them to better prepare the pupils for the transition and to also familiarise themselves with members of staff that will be taking care of their child whilst they are at school.



Albyn School

*The Upper School:
Making decisions for the future.*

Upper School

From Senior 1-6 (ages 12-18)



Why Albyn Upper School?

Albyn School Facts

86%

86% of our Upper 6 pupils gain 1 or more Advanced Higher.

80+

There are over 80 different co-curricular activities running weekly within the Upper School.

98%

An incredible 98% of Albyn Pupils will go on to university.

30+

There are over 30 different instrumental and vocal groups running weekly in the music department.

2016

We opened our state of the art Wood Foundation Engineering Science Centre in 2016.

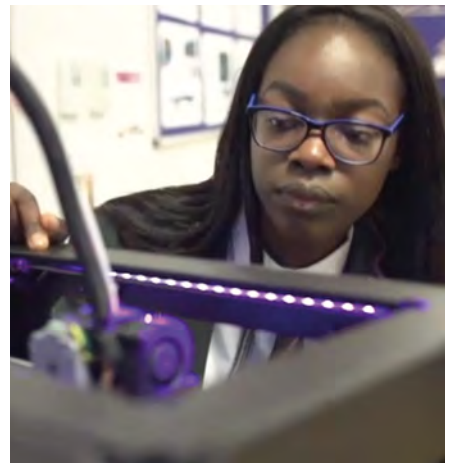
99%

A fantastic 99% of Albyn Pupils gain A-C grades in National 5 Examinations.

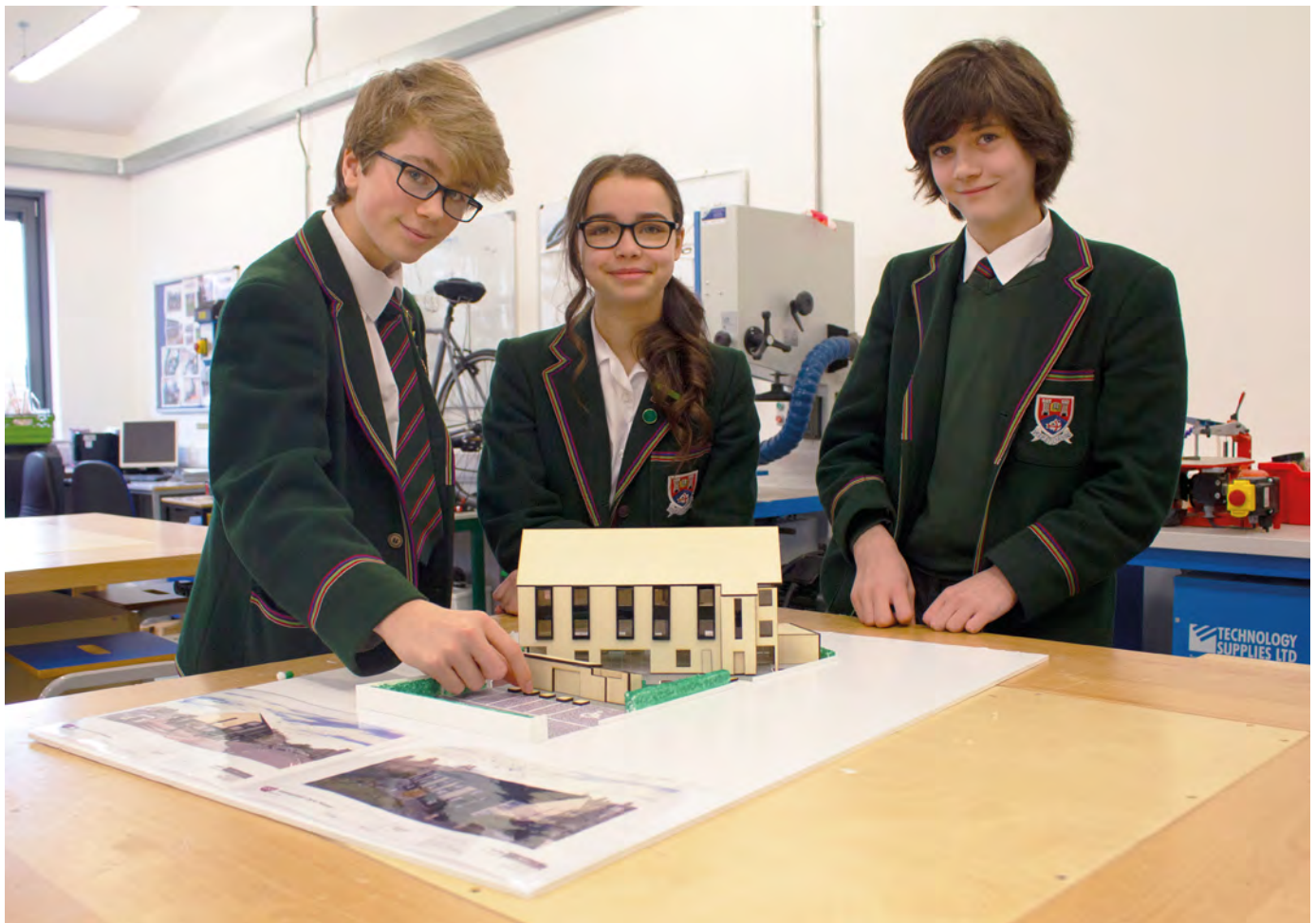


**FRENCH
HYBRID
CURRICULUM
NOW
AVAILABLE**

100m Start



— — — — —
Our pupils
develop to become
motivated, dedicated
and committed
young adults.
— — — — —



Welcome to Upper School

98% of Albyn Pupils go on to Higher Education. Our goal is to fully prepare your child for life beyond Albyn.

Entering the Upper School is the beginning of your child's journey of self-discovery. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum that ensures that pupils are exposed to a range of arts, humanities and science subjects. It provides academic rigour and allows our pupils to gain insight to a multitude of potential career paths and to investigate where their strengths and interests lie. Our very well-qualified teachers work hard to guide our pupils every step of the way towards achieving their aspirations.

The happiness and well-being of your child is our main priority at and we assure you that your child will progress at Albyn School. The School's Clan system teaches our pupils to learn to work together in teams whilst building friendships with pupils in other year groups. We encourage pupils to treat each other as equals and how important it is for them to give back to the local and global community through charitable work.

We prepare our pupils for life beyond Albyn as best we can by using state-of-the-art equipment and technology within our classrooms. Our newly built Wood Foundation Engineering Science Centre is fitted with a suite of computers installed with CAD software and also houses a 3D printer, whilst next door in the workshop

area there are an extensive range of machine tools and soldering equipment for pupils to carry out practical work. Our art studios contain a suite of Macs which are installed with Abode software for graphic design work and photo editing. Our music department holds its very own recording studio and our science department boasts a complete PCR and electrophoresis lab station for DNA investigation. Our pupils have access to laptop and desktop computers and many are also issued with tablet computers to access on-line resources to help them get the most out of their lessons.

Over lunchtime and after school our pupils are given the option of over 60 different co-curricular activities to become involved in. These include photography club, the Literary and Debating Society, the Model UN, Formula 24, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Young Enterprise, a multitude of sports teams and over 30 different instrumental and vocal groups.

Beyond the classroom, our pupils have many opportunities to visit different cities and countries during activities week every year. There is also a bi-annual expedition which has so far taken our pupils to Africa, India and in 2018, to Mount Everest and Peru.

We have always encouraged individualism within our pupils and with this perfect blend of modernism and tradition, our pupils develop to become motivated, dedicated and committed young adults.

French Hybrid Curriculum

We now offer the French Hybrid Curriculum in the Upper School. Pupils studying the hybrid curriculum will follow the Albyn curriculum for all subjects except for the following: Mathematics, French, History, Geography and Citizenship. These will be taught in the French language medium. More information on the Upper School French Hybrid Curriculum can be found on pages 12-15.

"It is in the Upper School that we hone in on pupils' particular aptitudes and talents, whether they are academic, artistic, musical or sporting."

STEFAN HORSMAN - HEADMASTER

Pastoral Care and Community

Your child's health and well-being is the most important part of their everyday life at Albyn School.

Pastoral Care

More than anything else, we want our pupils to be happy and enjoy their learning at Albyn. However we are aware that there may be times when life can become a little challenging or overwhelming for some.

Every pupil at Albyn has a strong support system around them for when times get tough. Assistant Heads, Heads of Clan and Form Teachers all dedicate their time, energy and expertise into listening and nurturing our pupils. They appreciate that our pupils have individual needs on a number of different levels and will always do what they can to make sure these needs are met. We also strongly encourage our pupils to support and care for one another's well-being and to let staff know if they have concerns for a fellow pupil.

At the beginning of each year our Upper School pupils will be introduced to their Form Teacher who will register their class twice a day, in the morning and after lunch.

The three layers of pastoral care

Deputy Head



Head of:

Clan Douglas / Clan Forbes / Clan Gordon / Clan Stuart



Form Teacher:

Clan Douglas / Clan Forbes / Clan Gordon / Clan Stuart



Pupils



Dame Esther Rantzen visiting Albyn School to discuss Childline and issues facing young people.



“When I started at Albyn, I didn’t know anyone but being part of a Clan made it a lot easier to integrate and get to know other pupils. It feels like we are a big family and I always know my Clan will always support me.”

UPPER 2 PUPIL

Form teachers are the first point of contact for all pupils and their parents.

They meet each pupil periodically on a one-to-one basis to ensure that each individual is coping well and achieving their potential. Form Teachers have a substitute teacher who will cover the role during any absences and also act as another mentor for the pupils should they wish to speak to someone other than their Form Teacher.

Each pupil is assigned to a Clan when they join Albyn. These Clans are Douglas, Forbes, Gordon and Stuart. We believe that our strong Clan system helps

foster relationships between pupils and staff and creates community spirit within the School. Regular Clan events such as sporting, singing and debating competitions allow for interaction between all pupils of all ages throughout the Upper School. This can act as a support system for pupils, giving them the option to speak to an older pupil within their Clan about issues which may be concerning them or to the Head of the Clan instead of their Form Teacher.

We provide an environment where pupils feel safe, secure and comfortable in an atmosphere of mutual respect



and trust. Our pastoral team are always on hand to support each child should any issues arise whether it be academic or well-being related.

Albyn Curriculum

To find out more about the French Hybrid Curriculum, see pages 44-45.

Our curriculum allows pupils to develop their intellect and to hone their academic, artistic, sporting and musical interests.

Upper 1 and Upper 2

In Upper 1 we introduce your child to a broad range of subjects which they will study for their first two years of Upper School. Their timetable will include:

Art & Design, Biology, Chemistry, Classics, English, Geography, History, two Foreign Languages*, Mathematics, Modern Studies, Music, Personal & Social Education, Physical Education & Games, Physics, Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies, Computing, Design & Technology, Drama **.

**After an introduction to all four languages, pupils will opt to study two from French, German, Spanish and Mandarin.*

***Computing, Design and Technology and Drama rotate in blocks so that a pupil studies only one of these subjects at a time for approximately 12 weeks.*

Upper 3 and Upper 4

Following their first two years of studying a multitude of subjects, your child will get the opportunity to select eight National 5 subjects. Their timetable will consist of the following:

- English and Mathematics
- At least one science
- At least one language
- We advise at least one social subject

Plus three other subjects from the lists below.

Sciences/Technology	Languages	Social Sciences	Expressive Subjects
Computing Science	French	Business Management	Art and Design
Chemistry	German	Economics	Drama
Engineering Science	Latin	Geography	Music
Physics	Mandarin	History	PE
Biology	Spanish	Modern Studies	

Pupils will also have periods of Personal and Social Education, RMPS, Study Skills and PE/Games in addition to the above choices.


Upper 5

All Upper 5 pupils must choose five subjects to study at Higher Level.


At this point our pupils will be thinking about university applications and should choose subjects appropriate to what courses they would like to apply for.

All the subjects listed above and others are listed in subject booklets produced annually. It is also possible to sit National 5 in Maths or English as part of these five subjects if these qualifications were not achieved in Upper 4. In addition to these subjects, pupils will be obliged to take part in PE and Games and Personal and Social Education.




*86% of our
Upper 6 pupils
will gain at least 1
Advanced Higher.*




*Albyn School is consistently one of the highest performing
independent schools in Scotland for Higher results.*

Qualifications

Year Group	Qualification	UK / Overseas Equivalent
Upper 3 & 4	National 5.....	GCSE/IGCSE
Upper 5	Highers.....	AS Levels
Upper 6	Advanced Highers.....	A Levels

Upper 6

Pupils take a minimum of three subjects in Upper 6. This can be a mixture of Advanced Highers and Highers.

Upper 6 pupils are also obliged to follow a programme of Games and Civics – a course combining elements of Careers Education, PSE and RMPS.

In U6 the balance shifts from teacher-led classwork to more independent study. U6 pupils will work on projects and dissertations over the year. For those not familiar with the Scottish system, Advanced Highers are as challenging as A Levels.

Beyond the formal teaching of the Albyn Curriculum pupils are expected, as a rule of thumb, to involve themselves in two lunchtime co-curricular activities each week. The majority of pupils participate in music, sport and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, for which we are a registered centre in the UK.



— — — — —
— — — — —
*Keep up to date with
all the latest sports
results on our website
albyschoolsport.co.uk*
— — — — —
— — — — —



PE and Games

Physical Education and Games play a key role within life in the Upper School. Sports encourages our pupils to stay active and to stay fit.

Competitive sports can teach a number of skills which are transferable to other aspects of your child's life such as teamwork, endurance, strategy and healthy competition. It also opens opportunities for our pupils to interact with other schools, locally, nationally and internationally when taking part in competitions and tournaments.

The PE and Games department at Albyn School is tightly run by a strong team of individuals who each specialise in their own sporting areas such as athletics, football and tennis. This proactive team dedicate their time to educating pupils, both through practical and theoretical lessons on the importance of exercise and healthy living.

The pupils have the opportunity to take part in individual, team and specialised sports depending on the time of year.

— — — — —

PE teaches teamwork, endurance, strategy and healthy competition.
 — — — — —

In recent years our netball and football teams have been particularly successful, achieving places in the final rounds of national competitions. Those involved with athletics, skiing, hockey, tennis and golf have also won honours for the School. Many of our sporting activities take place at Albyn's playing fields at Milltimber, in our floodlit all-weather court and in the School Gymnasium. However we are extremely privileged to have a fantastic selection of sporting facilities in and around Aberdeen, including award-winning golf courses, an artificial ski centre, the River Dee for our rowers and fantastic sports centres. We also have a fully equipped fitness suite within the School which pupils can use for training or to keep fit.



Sports Clubs and Fixtures

Weekly fixtures, home and away, are held between Albyn and other school sports teams for the pupils to experience friendly competition and enhance their confidence and skill level.

The School takes part in inter-school skiing competitions in artificial ski centres across Scotland throughout the year but during February and January (weather dependent!) the pupils travel to the Scottish mountains and compete in real snow conditions.

Albyn also takes part in the Schools Ski and Snowboard Championships in Les Deux Alps in France every December. This exciting trip is open to pupils from Lower 7 to Upper 6 and includes over 100 children from other British independent schools. Pupils receive extensive training with experienced coaches for 2 days before they compete in slalom races.

This trip is growing more popular and our pupils are climbing further up the winners league table each year, with one of our pupils coming first in one of the races.

Upper School Sports



- | | | |
|---------------|----------|--------------|
| Athletics | Hockey | Social Dance |
| Badminton | Netball | Swimming |
| Basketball | Rounders | Tennis |
| Cricket | | |
| Cross Country | | |
| Football | | |
| Golf | | |
| Gymnastics | | |



The Arts

The arts are very important at Albyn School. We want our pupils to be feel they can express themselves artistically with confidence, creativity and passion.

Art and Design

We are keen to develop the artistic talents of pupils and their work is proudly displayed around the School.

Aside from what may be described as the more conventional types of art such as painting and drawing, Upper School pupils also have the option of undertaking work in fashion & interior textile design, computer graphics, stained glass printmaking, ceramics, jewellery, photography, printmaking and graphic design. These are only a few of the types of art where your child will express their creativity. Apple computers installed with Adobe software have recently presented an opportunity for pupils to produce some fabulous digital work. The department makes valuable

contributions to the production of set designs and props for whole school theatrical performances such as Macbeth, Oliver and The Tempest. This provides opportunities for pupils to become involved in creative activities outside the formal classroom environment.

Visual and aesthetic awareness are qualities enhanced by the study of art and design and are very useful in a wide range of careers. Pupils with the desire to study Architecture or who are interested in a career in Product Design or Engineering will benefit from experiences and qualifications gained through studying art and design.

The calibre of our students is of such a high standard that some have been admitted to very prestigious



art courses in London, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow and Aberdeen.

At Albyn, we put our pupils' needs for self-expression and creativity at the heart of all we do. Pupils who wish to pursue a career in art and design, can be assured that they are in the right place to achieve this goal.



A former pupil gained a 1st class honours degree from Duncan of Jordanstone School of Art. As part of her course, she secured an internship with Glasgow's internationally renowned Timerous Beasties.



Drama

This very versatile department has produced some exceptional actors in recent years.

Once in Upper 3, your child will have the option to study drama where they will learn how to analyse text and the social and cultural influences on drama. Those who select drama at Higher Level will explore contemporary Scottish plays with the Wood Arts & Lecture Theatre to perform in, along with the main stage in the FP Centenary Hall for bigger performances.

Our pupils have shown their raw and magical talent while offering superb performances in Shakespeare's Macbeth, The Tempest and next spring, As You Like It. When the drama and music departments come together, true magic is created. Our pupils have given some wonderful and very powerful performances in Godspell. Experimenting with different types of staging, costume, sound production, lighting and music, each performance has been a great

team effort with a mix of pupils with completely different interests coming together to put on spectacular shows.

Music

Music is very popular at Albyn School. Aside from the 30+ musical co-curricular activities, there is always something magnificent being conjured up in the Music Department.

You will see our enthusiastic musicians performing at Autumn and Spring concerts and at Christmas and Easter. They also perform at charity events across the city and at The University of Aberdeen's Elphinstone Hall. Pupils in the early stages of learning how to play an instrument will get many chances to play at informal concerts within the school, designed to build their confidence when playing in front of an audience.

The department has a comprehensive music programme, second to none where we use Charanga music school resources to enhance our lessons. We also use Earmaster, which is a programme used

by music schools and conservatoires to improve the pupils aural skills. The music department continues to be at the very forefront of technology. The introduction of Flipsnack and Powtoons have opened up a new and exciting world for creating easily accessible and stimulating resources and we have a recording studio for recording voice overs, podcasts and certificate exam performances.

Music skills learned through the Lower School come into play for those pupils who decided to study music at National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher, where pupils will study topics including listening, performing and composing music from different time periods, countries and styles. Wonderful instrumental and vocal pieces composed by our pupils have been played at school events such as Open Mornings and development events.

Music seems to be an enduring interest as our Former Pupils love coming back to the school and enjoying the musical performances of our current pupils and like to get involved themselves!



— — — — —
*Co-curricular activities
provide a healthy balance
between pupils academic school
work and their interests.*
— — — — —



Co-curricular Activities

It is important that our pupils take part in activities they enjoy and have a passion for.

Beyond the classroom we want to make sure that every pupil in the Upper School has the opportunity to experience a broad range of enriching co-curricular activities. It is important that our pupils take part in clubs and societies that they enjoy and have a passion for. We encourage our pupils to involve themselves in numerous different activities to enable them to develop interests beyond their academic studies.

These activities may simply remain as a hobby for your child, running alongside their studies. Alternatively, these experiences may inspire pupils towards careers which they may not otherwise have considered.

With some of the activities on offer our pupils get the opportunity to work with and often compete against other schools in friendly competitions and activity days.

Our co-curricular activities take place before school, at lunchtimes and after school. There are also sports fixtures and training that our pupils take part in locally and at other locations on a Saturday.

These activities are subject to change and like in the Lower School, new co-curricular activities will be introduced from time to time depending on demand.

Upper School Activities

Languages

French Film Club / Jeux at Activités

Spanish Film Club

Music

A Tenor or Less / Acting Ensemble / Capriccio / Ceilidh Band
Choir / Con Brio / Fazz Junk / Fideles / Intermediate Choir
Intermediate Vocal Ensemble / Music Theory / Orchestra
Percussion Ensemble / Saxophony / Sound Engineering/Radio
String Ensemble / Upper School Ensemble

Sports

Athletics / Cross Country Club / Fitness Blast / Football
Golf / Hockey / Laser Run / Netball / Performance Squad
Running / Skiing / Speed Training

Others

Biology Club / Book Club / Creative Media Club
Duke of Edinburgh Awards / Entrepreneur Club / Formula 24
French School Web Radio Club / Gardening Club / Geography Club
History Club / Literary and Debating Society / Mackie Society / Mindfulness
Model United Nations / Mythology Club / Puzzles and Strategy Club
Scripture Union / Warhammer Club / Young Enterprise



Charities



We teach our children the importance of giving back to our society through volunteering and charitable fundraising. Our pupils donate exceptional amounts of money each year to local and international causes which they raise in school through events and activities.

We hold close associations with many charities such as Water Aid, Unicef and CLAN to name only a few. We also have a Fairtrade Group who meet weekly to raise awareness within our Albyn community of poor working conditions in underdeveloped parts of the world and the importance of buying Fairtrade

products. Our Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) group also meet regularly to develop a sense of community awareness amongst young people and to encourage them to give back to local causes.

Our school Clans often organise fundraising activities including bake sales, Dancersize and festive jumper days to raise money for selected charities.

All pupils take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in Upper 3 and upwards. Through this scheme the pupils carry out volunteering projects, expeditions, physical activities and adopt life skills that better prepare them for entering into adulthood which our pupils find extremely rewarding. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is

internationally recognised and well respected by universities and employers.

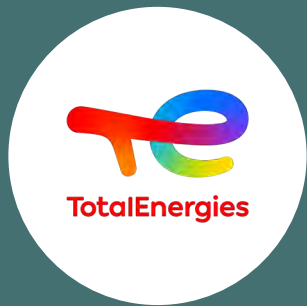
Every other year our senior pupils are offered the opportunity to spend part of their summer undertaking expeditions to countries in SE Asia, South America and Africa where they have tried to make a difference to local communities by digging wells, constructing greenhouses, building schools and teaching younger children. These trips are life changing for our pupils. By spending an entire month overseas they gain insights into the daily struggles that some people face.

Our hope is that our pupils leave Albyn School with an understanding that while life can be a challenge, there are many ways in which they can help others.

—  —

Charity work is an important aspect of life at Albyn School. Our pupils learn the value of giving back to society in many different ways.

The TOTAL French School



Combining the Albyn Curriculum with the Mission laïque française to create a French Hybrid Curriculum.

We are delighted to welcome pupils, staff and families of the TOTAL French School to Albyn School following a successful amalgamation of both schools over summer 2018.

The TOTAL French School was founded in 1972-73 after the oil company TOTAL contacted the Mission laïque française to entrust the opening and management of a school to meet the needs of its employee's families who had relocated from France to Aberdeen.

The TOTAL Oil Marine School, later known as the TOTAL French School was established in the grounds of Aberdeen Grammar School and registered with Education Scotland. Originally intended solely for the employees of TOTAL, entry was subsequently broadened to families wishing their children to follow a curriculum that mirrored the French school system.

In August 2018, the French School relocated to Albyn School. Here families can choose either to study Albyn School's existing curriculum leading to a mix of National 5, Highers and Advanced Highers or alternatively to follow a hybrid curriculum. Qualified teachers

employed by MLF and trained in France deliver French, History, Geography and Mathematics together with citizenship through the French language medium while other subjects are taught in English by Albyn School's own teachers.

The Hybrid Curriculum

Albyn School and French School Curricula Compared

There are many similarities in the education systems of modern European states although each will have some distinguishing features. Those parents who wish their children to follow the French hybrid curriculum will enjoy the benefits of a bilingual education in French and English while preparing pupils to continue their education in the UK or in France and other countries that adopt either language. The following is aimed as an introduction to this hybrid curriculum.

The French School Curriculum

The French Government's Common Core of Knowledge and Skills underpins the curriculum for primary and lower secondary education and sets out the minimum standards



to be attained by all by the end of compulsory schooling. It is organised around seven key competencies:

1. Command of the French language;
2. Proficiency in a modern foreign language;
3. The key elements of mathematics, scientific culture and technology;
4. Mastery of ordinary information and communication skills;
5. Humanist culture;
6. Social and civic skills;
7. Autonomy and initiative.

As many of the French pupils joining Albyn School will be returning to France, those following the hybrid curriculum will be assessed using the French system of assessment.

Core skills are assessed at the end of cycle 2 in CE2 (Lower 4), and measure the acquisition of three competences: proficiency in the French language, basic mathematics, social and civic skills.

The second stage is assessed at the end of sixième (Lower 7) where pupils are

assessed at the end of cycle 3 in the seven key competences mentioned above.

There is a third and final assessment at the end of cycle 4 in troisième (Upper 3). The pupils sit an exam known as the Diplôme National du Brevet (DNB). This exam assesses the knowledge and skills acquired at the end of their schooling.

The Nurseries

Albyn School educates children in three distinct sections of the school. The nurseries provide early years education for children age two to four years old in the Toddler, Ante Pre School and Pre School sections. Regulated by the Care Inspectorate, children learn language and literacy skills and develop their first steps towards numeracy. While there are similarities with the French pre-school system (L'École Maternelle) currently there is no hybrid curriculum for this section of the school where all children are taught through the medium of English.

There is a small but significant difference in the manner of how the two pre-school systems are organised. Whereas L'École



Maternelle is aimed at children aged 3-5, Albyn's Nursery is aimed at pupils aged 2-4 so that in terms of equivalence:

La petite section de maternelle ou PS (3 ans) = Albyn School's Ante Pre School

La moyenne section de maternelle ou MS (4 ans) = Albyn School's Pre-School

La grande section de maternelle ou GS (5 ans) = Albyn School's Lower School (Lower 1)

The Lower School

Pupils aged 5-12 are taught in Albyn's Lower School which is broadly equivalent to L'École Primaire although Albyn's Lower School starts a year earlier (La grande section de maternelle) and ends a year later (La sixième). Table 1 (below) illustrates the equivalence in year groups.

Table 1: Comparison between L'École Primaire and the Albyn's Lower School

La grande section de maternelle ou GS (5 ans).....	Lower 1
Cours préparatoire ou CP (6 ans).....	Lower 2
Cours élémentaire 1re année ou CE1 (7 ans).....	Lower 3
Cours élémentaire 2e année ou CE2 (8 ans)	Lower 4
Cours moyen 1re année ou CM1 (9 ans)	Lower 5
Cours moyen 2e année ou CM2 (10 ans)	Lower 6
La sixième (11 ans).....	Lower 7

Those following Albyn School's curriculum develop their skills of numeracy and literacy while being introduced to a wide variety of new subjects that include languages such as French, Spanish and Mandarin and using the cross curricular format of the International Primary Curriculum. Subject specialists from the Upper School teach Art, Music, Physical

Education and Games from the Upper School. An overview of what is covered each year can be found on the Lower School section of Albyn School's website www.albynschool.co.uk

Those following the French hybrid curriculum will be taught the following subjects in the French language medium:

Mathematics for around four hours per week; French for between five and six hours per week and History, Geography and Citizenship for two to three hours per week. The rest of the curriculum will be taught through the medium of English.

The TOTAL French School



The Upper School

Pupils aged 12-18 are taught in the Upper School which is the equivalent of Le Collège and Le Lycée as shown below:

Table 2: Comparison between Le Collège et Le Lycée and the Albyn's Upper School

La cinquième (12 ans)	Upper 1	La seconde (15 ans)	Upper 4
La quatrième (13 ans)	Upper 2	La première (16 ans)	Upper 5
La troisième (14 ans)	Upper 3	La terminale (17 ans)	Upper 6

In the first two years of the Upper School (U1 & U2) pupils study a very broad range of subjects (see Table 3). These include the core subjects such as English, Mathematics, all three sciences, IT, Technology, two foreign languages and a range of arts, humanities and social science subjects. In addition, pupils will undertake games, physical education (PE) and a personal and social education programme.

Table 3: Subjects on offer in Upper 1 and Upper 2

Arts	Humanities & Social Sciences	Languages	Maths, Science & Technology
Art & Design	English	French	Biology
Drama	Geography	German	Chemistry
Music	History	Latin	Physics
	Modern Studies	Mandarin	Mathematics
	Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies	Spanish	Information Technology
			Design Technology

In U3 and U4, those following the Albyn School curriculum will study eight publicly examined subjects at National 5 level including English, Mathematics and at least one science and one foreign language. Together with all the subjects listed in Table 3 we also offer Business Studies, Economics Engineering Science and PE as publicly examined subjects and ensure pupils continue with their personal and social education, Religious Moral and Philosophical Studies (RMPS), Study Skills, Physical Education and Games.

For French pupils following the hybrid curriculum, they will continue the study of French, Mathematics, Geography, History and Citizenship all taught through the medium of French. They will also study English, Physics, Chemistry

or Biology, Spanish or German public examination courses with other Albyn School students together with Physical Education and Games although with flexibility in the exact choice of subjects.

The curriculum in the top two years of the School (U5 and U6) is principally designed for those senior pupils seeking qualifications to gain university places. Pupils need to study five subjects at Higher level in Upper 5. Each subject is allocated 8 teaching periods per week with a mix of 35 and 40 minute periods. U5 and U6 pupils are also obliged to follow a programme of Civics which incorporates elements of Personal Social Education (PSE), Religious, Moral and Philosophical Education (RMPS) and other special events and speakers related to

careers and general education. They will also have three periods of Games each week. The subjects listed below in table 4 provide a good idea of what is open to pupils including more specialist courses such as Music and Engineering Science.



The Mission laïque française works to spread the French language and culture by creating and running schools outside France.

Table 4: Typical Range of Subjects offered in Upper 5

Subject	Level	Subject	Level
Art & Design	Higher	History	Higher
Biology	Higher	Latin	Higher
Business Management	Higher	Mandarin	Higher
Chemistry	Higher	Maths	Nat 5 & Higher
Computing Science	Higher	Modern Studies	Higher
Drama	Higher	Music	Higher
Economics	Higher	Music Technology	Higher
Engineering Science	Higher	PE	Higher
English	Nat 5 & Higher	Physics	Higher
French	Higher	RMPS	Higher
Geography	Higher	Spanish	Higher
German	Higher		

Those French pupils in U5 and U6 will follow courses that the Première and Terminale, leading them to the baccalauréat. They may also follow three subjects from Albyn School's curriculum provided that one subject

is English and one subject is a second language (either Spanish or German).

There are subject booklets that provide more detailed information about the curriculum in different stages of the School that can be obtained through the

Admissions Department at Albyn School. More detailed information about the French curriculum can currently be found on the TOTAL French School website ee.mlfmonde.org/aberdeen-total/

Our History

The School has developed in many ways since its foundation but continues the tradition of being conspicuously successful.

1867

Albyn School was founded in 1867 as an all-girls school known as the Union Place Ladies School. In 1886 we relocated to 4-6 Albyn Place and changed our name to the Albyn Place Ladies School.



1898

In 1898 a former Albyn pupil was among the first group of women to be awarded an Arts Degree from Aberdeen University.

1925

In 1925 the School moved onto its current site in Queen's Road. The Queen's Road Buildings still exemplify the original architecture of the 19th century merchants' houses.

1959

In 1959 we expanded our new premises to acquire No. 17 Queen's Road which many of our Former Pupils will remember as a boarding house.

1967

In 1967, for our Centenary celebration, our Former Pupils generously donated funds to build the Centenary Hall which remains the heart of Albyn School today.

1992

In 1992 our Science Labs were built at the back of our School grounds to accommodate the increased interest in Chemistry, Biology and Physics.

2005

In 2005 we became a co-educational school by opening our doors to boys in the Lower School. A few years later in 2007 we built a brand new state of the art Lower School building consisting of three floors and 14 wonderfully bright classrooms that look out across Aberdeen.

2012

In 2012, the four traditional Victorian villas were complemented by contemporary structural glazing which now forms the new light and welcoming entrance to the School. Later, the new Oliver Wing was opened by HRH Prince Richard, Duke of Gloucester.

The building comprises of 10 modern and spacious classrooms for teaching English, Mathematics and Information Technology.

2014

In December 2014 the School underwent major renovations which saw the conversion of an atrium into three floors which now accommodate the Wood Arts and Lecture Theatre, the Lower School Library and a comfortable Upper 6 study area.



2016

Its most recent phase of development led to the construction of the Wood Foundation Engineering Science Centre in 2016 to meet the needs of increasing numbers seeking careers in science, engineering and design.

Travelling back to its roots, Albyn reintroduced boarding which has provided pupils from further afield, a beautiful 3-storey Victorian boarding house to reside in during term time.



Albyn School has been providing education and care for pupils for over 150 years.



2017

In 2017 we proudly celebrated 150 years of Albyn School and in September, The Herald named Albyn School as being the top independent school in Scotland for Higher results.

2018

In August 2018 the Total French School amalgamated with Albyn School, creating a hybrid curriculum for pupils based on the principles of the Mission Laïque Française (MLF).

Their Future

With excellent grades, a strong work ethic and clear guidance, the majority of Albyn pupils gain acceptances into their first choice of university.

Throughout your child's journey through Albyn School they will be encouraged to continually consider their future, to think about their aspirations and to work out the best path to get them where they want to be.

We understand that this can be a daunting prospect for a young person, however our Head of Careers will provide a wealth of advice and assistance. Pupils will be given as much information as possible to ensure they are making a fully informed decision, and once they have decided which degree they want to study, pupils will be guided through the UCAS application process every step of the way. To decide which university to attend, our Head of Careers also organises trips for pupils to visit Open Days all over the UK.

Our pupils go on to study great courses at very prestigious universities such as:

- Oxford University
- Cambridge University
- Yale University
- Princeton University
- The London School of Economics

- The University of Aberdeen
- Robert Gordon University
- The University of St Andrews
- The University of Edinburgh
- The University of Glasgow

A high percentage of Albyn pupils go on to study degrees in the sciences including different types of Engineering, while others go on to study careers in Medicine, Law, Architecture, and Business.

With excellent grades, a strong work ethic and clear guidance along the way, the majority of Albyn pupils manage to gain offers from their first choice university.

Once our pupils leave Albyn School, we hope they will stay in touch. Former pupils will be invited to attend a host of school events which they would once have been a part of. Other events are held solely for past pupils, during which they can reunite and reminisce over their Albyn years. Most importantly, our Former Pupils can be a source of inspirations to our current pupils. They are welcome to come into the School to offer advice and share words of wisdom with the younger generation.







Albyn School

*Albyn School: A happy, safe
and vibrant community.*

Contact Albyn

visit www.albynschool.co.uk

ADMISSIONS

For more information on how to apply to Albyn School
please contact the Admissions Team:

Email. admissions@albynschool.co.uk

Tel. 01224 322408

