



# ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

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5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Sunbeams parents,

We thought we would write to you all at this exciting time of year when you are busy choosing a school place for your child for September. We are aware that this is a big decision and that you are very fortunate to have so many choices of great schools in the town.

We wanted to share with you some information about how our Sunbeams children who have transferred to St Alphege have performed, to help you to make this important decision.

- All of our Sunbeams children settle quickly into the Reception routine as they are already very familiar with the school environment and in normal circumstances, access the school building regularly.
- They are familiar with many of the staff who will look after them when they move into Reception.
- We always carefully consider friendships when selecting the children's classes, meaning that they will stay with many of their Sunbeams friends.
- Each year we are delighted that the majority of our Sunbeams children choose us to continue their educational journey. A decision that we take very seriously! We appreciate that your children are the most precious thing you own and entrusting them into our care is a great honour.

Due to the current situation, we are so sad not to be able to invite you all into school to see the fabulous things St Alphege has to offer. If you have not already seen them, please take a look at our virtual tours which are available on the school website. Or follow the links below:

- Welcome to St Alphege virtual tour: <https://youtu.be/YgtVrt0KwjY>
- Welcome to Reception: <https://youtu.be/cAn9-LeA-vg>
- What makes St Alphege unique and special? <https://youtu.be/GsrBW0hZeNo>
- Welcome to Year 1: <https://youtu.be/ODcHbd-OY5Y>
- Welcome to Year 2: <https://youtu.be/4EXpNwYhE>

We are very proud to tell you that year on year, our Sunbeams children outperform the children who transfer into Reception from other Nurseries in all areas of the Early Years framework. On entry to Reception, in Reading, Writing and Maths 75% of our Sunbeams children were working at expected levels, compared to 51% of other pupils. We believe this to be down to several factors:



St Alphege Values



Koinonia



Forgiveness



Trust



Kindness



Love



Joy

**Artsmark  
Platinum Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

- our children feel settled from the start, meaning they can focus on their learning without the potential anxieties of an unfamiliar environment.
- the Nursery staff and Reception staff work closely together to ensure transition is seamless for them all and of course they have all had the very best start in our fantastic nursery!

This excellent start continues as they move through the school and data from the end of the Reception year continues to show our Sunbeams children outperforming other pupils, despite all pupils receiving an excellent education from the start.

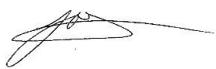
- At the end of the 2019 academic year (there was no data collected last year due to lockdown!) 90% of our Sunbeams children reached expected levels in Maths and English, compared to 75% of other pupils.
- 20% of our Sunbeams pupils also reached greater depth in these areas, showing excellent progress from their strong starting points.
- This picture is mirrored across all 17 areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage, showing the advantages that our Sunbeams children have when transferring to St Alphege.

Our outcomes at the end of Year 2 continue to be above both Kent and National data averages and all of our children make excellent progress from their individual starting points due to excellent teaching year on year. **Our Sunbeams children continue to perform brilliantly, either reaching expected standards or achieving greater depth by the end of Year 2.**

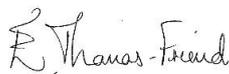
Once you have watched the virtual tours, we are also offering an opportunity for a conversation with the leadership team via Zoom, where you will be able to ask us any questions you may have. Please have a look at the Reception 2021 tab on our school website where the dates for these are listed. If you would like to book into one of these sessions, please contact the school office and we will arrange this for you.

If you would like to discuss any of this further, then please do not hesitate to contact us. We will of course support any decision you make and assist your child in having the very best start to their school journey!

With kindest regards,



Jacqui Spinks      and  
Head of School



Liz Thomas-Friend  
Executive Headteacher