



Atlantic Academy Portland

an Aspirations Academy

Miss Heppell - Principal of Primary

Mrs Bishop - Principal of Secondary

Maritime House
Southwell Business Park
Portland, Dorset. DT5 2NA

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www.atlantic-aspirations.org

May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

We're delighted to welcome you and your child to Atlantic Academy as part of our new reception class! I'm Miss Heppell and I'm the Principal at Atlantic Academy.

Starting school is always a big moment and we think developing strong links between home and school is the best way to ensure a positive experience for everybody.

As such we will be holding two 'Stay and Play' sessions, on the following dates;

Tuesday 24th May 2022 at 1.30pm-2.30pm

Friday 1st July 2022 at 1.30pm-2.30pm

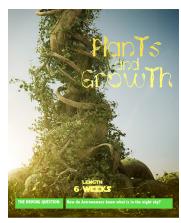
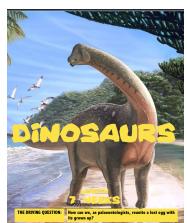
Please arrive with your child at the main Primary entrance where you will be greeted by Mr Blanthorn, and together shown through to the Reception learning spaces. Feel free to attend either or both of these sessions.

In order for us to make contact with your child's current pre-school to ensure a smooth transition to Atlantic, please complete the google form linked [here](#) to advise us of the name of the current pre-school and any friends that your child has and would like to be placed with at Atlantic, although this cannot be guaranteed.

In line with all students starting school and moving up a year we will be holding our transition morning, on **Tuesday 5th July** for your children to come and get to know each other, the staff and the school environment. We hope the activities that we've planned will help put your child (and you!) at ease and get them feeling as excited as we are for the new school year. Please bring your child to the Primary entrance (black fence with entry gate, to the left of the main Primary Entrance) for 9am where you will be shown into the drop off area and your child will be taken to class and collected from at 11.45am.

In the meantime please follow this link to watch a tour of our [Reception area](#).

To provide you with a flavour of life in Reception at Atlantic Academy, we'd love to share some of the topics and activities your child will be taking part in throughout the year.



What makes you, you?

How can we, as palaeontologists, reunite a lost egg with its grown up?

How do astronomers know what is in the night sky?

Who has the greatest powers of all?

As scientists, how do we know how plants survive?

How do humans have an impact on the sea?

School Trip
Dinosaur Museum.

Experience
Planetarium

Experience
Super Hero Day

School Trip
Kingston Maurward





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If you have any concerns or questions about your child's transition, please let us know by contacting myself or Mr Blanthorn, our Head of Early Years Foundation Stage, through the [Atlantic Academy website](#).

At Atlantic Academy, we use the online education software called '**Tapestry**'. This is a digital assessment system where we hold observations of your children and can track their progress. By logging on with a secure username and password you will be able to view some of the observations, photographs and even a video of your child in Early Years. You will also receive an email telling you when a new observation or piece of work is available for you to view. This will enable you to follow your child's progress closely and reflect upon achievements with your child. You can add comments so that we as staff find out about activities your child really enjoys and about the learning they get up to at home. Staff will reference your child's learning to the EYFS profile, so you will know which area of learning your child is achieving in and the age band they were working in for that activity.

Please note this is just one of the many forms of assessment we use, whatever is on Tapestry is not the only information we use to assess your child's development. All of this information is stored on a highly secure server, which is monitored closely. E-safety is extremely important to us at Atlantic Academy, therefore we ask you to provide us with the following information and to sign the agreement overleaf to show that you understand and agree with our guidelines.

The Early Years Team will be pleased to help you to make observations on your devices. We will be arranging an information evening and a dedicated stay and learn session to support you to navigate the 'Tapestry' application, which you can download onto your smartphone or tablet.

We hope that you enjoy accessing your children's learning and watching their progress as much as we do! If you have any questions or comments about any of this, please contact your child's class teacher.

Please see the google form [here](#) to read the agreed guidelines for accessing and using Tapestry and to give your consent.

We look forward to connecting with you over the next term, as we prepare for the start of your child's learning journey with us.

Please see below a list of events coming in the Summer term that we would like to invite you to;

- Primary Sports Day - Thursday 7th July
- Primary Dance Day - Thursday 14th July
- Atlantic Academy Open Evening - Wednesday 6th July

Again, thank you for choosing Atlantic Academy as your child's school,

For now we do have a school [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter account](#) where you can follow some of the activities we are taking part in.

Yours faithfully

Miss M Heppell

Principal - Atlantic Academy Primary

