

To help Aldenham continue to thrive please use the Wish List donation form to tell us how you would like your contribution applied or you can give online at <https://bit.ly/3a7sY9F>

For further information about the Aldenham Foundation's fundraising activities please contact

Ann Saffery Development and OA Manager
Email aesaffery@aldenham.com
Telephone +44(0)1923 851612

Aldenham School
Elstree
Hertfordshire
WD6 3AJ

Telephone
+44 (0)1923 858122

Email
development@aldenham.com

Website
www.aldenham.com



Aldenham School General Charitable Trust
Registered Charity No 1062393



Aldenham

founded 1597

The Vincent Building Development



Aldenham Prep School – designed for purpose



“The greatest thing about school so far has been the trips and residential; we went to France and practised speaking French. I like English and am good at creative writing.”

Archie is Head Boy at Aldenham Prep School and looking forward to following his brother into the Senior School.



Aldenham Prep School was first established in the year 2000 in some of our existing buildings. It has become a popular, nurturing environment for our younger pupils. Boys and girls have enjoyed their early years learning based on Aldenham’s strong family values.

Enthusiastic parents who had chosen the nursery at Aldenham for their children persuaded the Governors to convert one wing of Wilson House, the former Sanitorium, into classrooms. This provided room for a Reception class and for the Prep School to begin.

The Nursery and Pre-Prep expanded by one form each year and in 2003 the children were ready to move on to the next stage in their preparatory education. In order to accommodate them, the building initially used by the Senior School for eleven plus entrants, Martineau’s House, was transformed to create a space for the Prep School. The building was renamed Woodrow House and the Aldenham Prep School was complete.



Children have thrived in the warm and friendly environment, with a strong all-inclusive ethos that provides a sound foundation for boys and girls. Yet, until now that has been provided in buildings which were not built for primary years pupils and do not link together to form a whole entity.

In 2021, when the Vincent Building is completed, Woodrow House will be returned to the Senior School creating a second House for our eleven to thirteen year olds.

Remembering Dick Vincent OA



Lord Vincent, known to many as Dick, had an enduring relationship with Aldenham. On leaving the School in 1950 he joined the British Army to become a full-time soldier with the Royal Artillery. His military career spanned 46 years and on his retirement as Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, in 1996, he was ennobled in the Birthday Honours, being created a life peer, with the title Baron Vincent of Coleshill. He became Chancellor of Cranfield University and for many years Dick was a Governor of Aldenham School and eventually made an Emeritus Governor. He was also an inspirational Past President of the OA Society. Dick died in 2018 and the Vincent Building will be a lasting memorial to him, which we hope will serve as inspiration to the children who are lucky enough to learn there.



The new Prep School building will honour the memory of Lord Vincent of Coleshill. The Prep School Headmistress, Vicky Gocher, inspires her pupils

The Vincent Building



The Aldenham Foundation is committed to providing a brand new building for its younger children and this major development will be fully funded. In order to enhance the learning environment and in particular the outdoor space we will be looking for help.

We want to create the most attractive grounds, in keeping with the whole Aldenham site. There will be a multi use games area (MUGA), an amphitheatre and a wildlife area including a pond.

The children love to be outside and we know that spending time in nature is proven to have a positive effect on academic performance as well as improving concentration, confidence and a feeling of wellbeing. A yurt and a tepee in the School grounds will offer year round facilities for developing curiosity, creativity and connectedness - the foundations of learning.

The Vincent Building is a purpose-built school for children from ages 3 to 11. Environmental education is embedded into the curriculum at Aldenham.

"My favourite subject is Maths especially challenging fellow pupils to a times tables duel on the iPads. The new building looks amazing and I will come back to see my teachers, they are the best!"

Alexander is the proud nephew of an OA, Dr Nick Schindler (K1998 2005). He is moving on from Aldenham Prep to the Senior School in September 2020.



On Button Field we plan to provide a pavilion for shelter, refreshments, indoor play and much more. There will be seating for spectators and for picnics.

The Vincent Building will provide an ideal modern facility, with its own Hall that will accommodate the whole school for assemblies and events. There will be 100 retractable seats that will turn the Hall into a mini theatre.

A dedicated pavilion will be a valuable facility for outdoor events.
A Prep School Hall will provide a versatile space for many occasions.

"My time at the Prep School instilled me with confidence. I have made friendships for life and I know that I'll be welcome back at Aldenham, it's part of my family."

Sarah is the third in her family to come to Aldenham. She joined the Prep School at the age of 8 when her brother and sister were in the Senior School.



Specialist classrooms will include a Science Laboratory, Computing Room, Creativity Room for art, pottery and technology. There will also be a Drama and Music Studio with three practice rooms.

The new Prep School will also have its own Library and dining area, essentials that previous pupils have had to share with the Senior School. Children will continue to enjoy a close relationship with the Senior School and will have the benefit of using the main School Theatre and participating in master classes in various subjects.

Main entrance, Nursery classrooms and Science Laboratory in a single storey.
Back view, two storeys with classrooms, Library, Art and Music rooms.
Science master classes excite and enthuse the girls and boys.



How to help

There are several ways in which we hope people will be able to support this exciting development project. Please let us know how you can help by looking at our Wish List and choosing one or more of the following options:

Providing a seat

There are 100 retractable seats in the Prep School Hall, and each one will cost £555. If you would like to sponsor a seat and can make a Gift Aid declaration, a donation of £444 will enable us to buy a seat in your name.

Creating outside learning spaces

There is a list of things we want to provide in the grounds around the Vincent Building to enhance the outside learning spaces. You may wish to fully fund an item or contribute towards these areas. Have a look at our Wish List to see what we would like to buy.

Naming a room

There will be a variety of specialist classrooms and areas for whole school use that can be named by their sponsor. These are listed on our Wish List and we welcome offers from major donors to name a room in the Vincent Building. Please contact the Development Manager if you would like further information.

Further developments

We welcome donations for the longer term development of the Aldenham Foundation and also to enable us to provide an Aldenham education to some deserving students who may not otherwise be able to join the Senior School.

An unrestricted donation will enable us to use your contribution to help us achieve our goals well into the future.

Bursaries – for Senior School pupils

We are looking to increase the number of bursary places we can offer to exceptional students. The Aldenham Foundation currently spends c4% of income on bursary places. With this and charitable donations from a variety of sources, including the Colonel W H Whitbread Charitable Trust, the Aldenham Annual Fund and the Aldenham School War Memorial Education Fund, we are able to provide a number of major bursaries.

If you would like to make a donation towards bursaries or would like to discuss how you can help a child who would not otherwise be able to benefit from an Aldenham education, please let us know.

Supporting our overall vision

The Vincent Building is the first phase of the strategic plan for the Aldenham Foundation. Your help with this project will enable us to provide outstanding facilities for Aldenham Prep School.

The overall vision for the Foundation was agreed by Governors in 2018 after a thorough review and consultation with staff and parents. The strategy, Aldenham 2027, will enable the Foundation to develop in a way which can support its operation to 2027, whilst providing the framework for the long term stability of the Foundation into the future.

Aldenham 2027

By 2027 The Aldenham Foundation will have developed significantly in its scope, its financial position and its facilities. It will not however have altered its educational vision.

The Senior School will accommodate around 100 more pupils in Woodrow House for 11-13 year olds.

New facilities will be provided in the Senior School for Art, Computing, Design and Technology and the Sciences.

The Schools in the Aldenham Foundation will continue to share a reputation for excellence in academic achievement as well as creative areas and sports.

A gift in your Will

We are grateful to those who remember Aldenham in their Will and so help the School to thrive in the future. Richard Platt, the founder of Aldenham School, left orders for the establishment of the School in his Will. More recently several gifts have been made to the School that have enabled us to completely refurbish the Senior School Library.

Please let us know if you plan to leave a gift in your Will to Aldenham, by contacting: development@aldenham.com

OAs living in the US

OAs living in the US who wish to give their gift in dollars will benefit from the US income tax deduction. Gifts may be made by contacting the British School and Universities Foundation Inc. Their web site www.bsuf.org gives all the details you need for giving.



"Learning was fun, it made me want to work hard and study more. There was a real energy and I enjoyed everything about the School. I will be applying to Oxford or Cambridge to study Classics".

Viola was 8 years old when she joined Aldenham Prep School and is now in the Sixth Form.

