Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, an educator who was a pioneer and visionary in student assessment and in developing individualized plans for students, determined a school was necessary to provide an appropriate learning environment for students who learn differently and thus founded a school that was inspired by and named after Sir Winston Churchill due to his struggles with academics and confidence; and

WHEREAS, Winston Churchill had a speech delay, dyslexia and attention and concentration deficits. He was a bright student who learned differently, and he benefitted from the mentoring of a teacher who capitalized on his love for toy soldiers. He found success, grew self-esteem, and from that, he became a writer, public speaker, painter, Prime Minister and lifelong learner. Every student has the right to experience success at the level of their capability; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Churchill Academy opened in Montgomery, Alabama, as an alternative learning environment. Churchill Academy is accredited by Cognia and is a member of the Alabama Independent School Association, whose faculty and staff have participated in local and state professional development, workshops and courses to improve instruction, remediation, strategies and assessment for students; and

WHEREAS, Churchill Academy partners with five local universities to provide observation, practice teaching and internship experiences for its education students. Students may participate in dual enrollment by agreement with two and four-year college programs in the area and in work study where local businesses provide job training and employment. Students earn credits toward graduation with Essentials Pathways and College Prep diploma options available; and

WHEREAS, community partners, including Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Easter Seals and Goodwill, are invaluable to the success of Churchill Academy in providing opportunities for high school students. Student accomplishments include earning university scholarships and associate degrees in areas such as welding, heating and air conditioning, as well as nursing and culinary skills. Graduates are employed by federal, state and local agencies and businesses, and its students make an impact on the arts and sports; and

WHEREAS, the school's mission is to strive to define success individually within the structure of a supportive, nurturing environment, focusing on the uniqueness of the learners' social, emotional and academic needs, resulting in students demonstrating self-advocacy and reaching their full potential:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim November 16, 2026, as

Churchill Academy Day

in the state of Alabama. I encourage the public to join me in congratulating students, staff, and alumni on 30 years of educational excellence in a manner that emphasizes teaching the way different individual students learn.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF ALABAMA

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 12th day of November 2026.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor