NEWSLETTER

17th October 2025

Firm Foundations; Rooted in Love.

Rooted in love, we grow and learn together, supported by our firm foundations. We nurture and respect the individuals within our community, so that all can flourish and succeed, with aspirational hope.

"Do everything in love" 1 Corinthians 16:14

Another very busy week at Christchurch C of E Primary School!

Next week is the last week before the half term break – time certainly flies past!

To celebrate the end of term & as part of a Wellbeing Day all the children are invited to come to school on Friday 24th October 2025 in non-uniform.

We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who donated to our Great Ormond Street Hospital fund raiser last week.

We made an incredible total of:

If you have not already done so & would like to contribute to this worthy cause then please follow this link:

https://race.gosh.org/fundraisers/louisehall/race-for-the-kids-school

Thank you again for all your amazing support!

On Monday this week Mrs Bishop held a Phonics Workshop for the parents/carers of our Year 1 children. We do hope that those of you who were able to attend found this workshop of assistance.

After school on Wednesday 15th October 2025 some of our Badgers children represented the school at a Dengie Dodgeball Tournament held at Ormiston Rivers Academy.

We would like to thank the parents/ carers who transported the children to this event & Mr Djemal & Mrs Fuller for supporting them.

They were all amazing – well done Christchurch C of E Primary!!

Today we were visited by Neil from Essex Fire & Rescue Service who held an assembly all about Halloween & Firework Safety.

We would like to thank him for providing the children with lots of useful information & advice to help them & their families keep safe.

Today Badgers class have been very busy learning life saving skills at a Life Support Roadshow.

Well done to them all & please see next week's Newsletter for some pictures!

FUNDRAISING

On 11th October 2025, Thomas-James from Foxes & Steven- John Brew from Hedgehogs took part in a 5k run in support of Great Ormond Street Hospital – a charity very close to their hearts.

Well done boys what an amazing achievement!

CHRISTCHURCH C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Christchurch C of E Primary School
The Street, Latchingdon
Chelmsford, Essex CM3 6JS
Telephone 01621 740328

Part of the Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust

Tours for Prospective Parents

We are a small, friendly church school. We are very proud of our children and their achievements and we would be pleased to show you around our school at our open day.

Tuesday 4th November 2025 - 9am to 11.30am & 2pm to 3pm

By appointment only – please call our School Office on 01621 740328 for an appointment.

Firm Foundations; Rooted in Love.

- At Christchurch C of E Primary we value positive relationships and caring attitudes between all in our school community.
- We aim to provide a stimulating environment, in which high standards of achievement are fostered and where all pupils are challenged and encouraged to reach their full potential
- Our school is driven by our Christian values of friendship, love, respect, hope and perseverance; which guide all our plans and actions.
- We are passionate about promoting and safeguarding the welfare of our children and are committed to providing a happy, safe and welcoming atmosphere, in which children can learn and develop. Our core values are Safe, Ready, Respect.

Applications for Primary (Reception) school place starting September 2026 can be made between 10th November 2025 and 15th January 2026.

Please visit https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-primary-school-place for full details.

Head of School Stickers

This week Mrs Hall has given Headteacher Stickers to the following children:

Rhys – Badgers for his amazing artwork
Elliot – Badgers for his fantastic artwork
Bonnie – Badgers for her brilliant artwork
Ruby D – Badgers for he excellent artwork

Newspaper Donations

As you can imagine art can be very messy (especially in Red Squirrels class) & we use lots of old newspapers to protect the tables.

If any of our parents/carers or their families currently purchase a daily or weekend newspaper we would be most grateful if, when you have finished with them, you could pass them to us!

Please send into school with your child/ren or hand in at the school office.

Thank you in advance!

Helping Hands Box

We are delighted that so many of our parents/carers are using our Helping Hands Box which is located in the school office foyer.

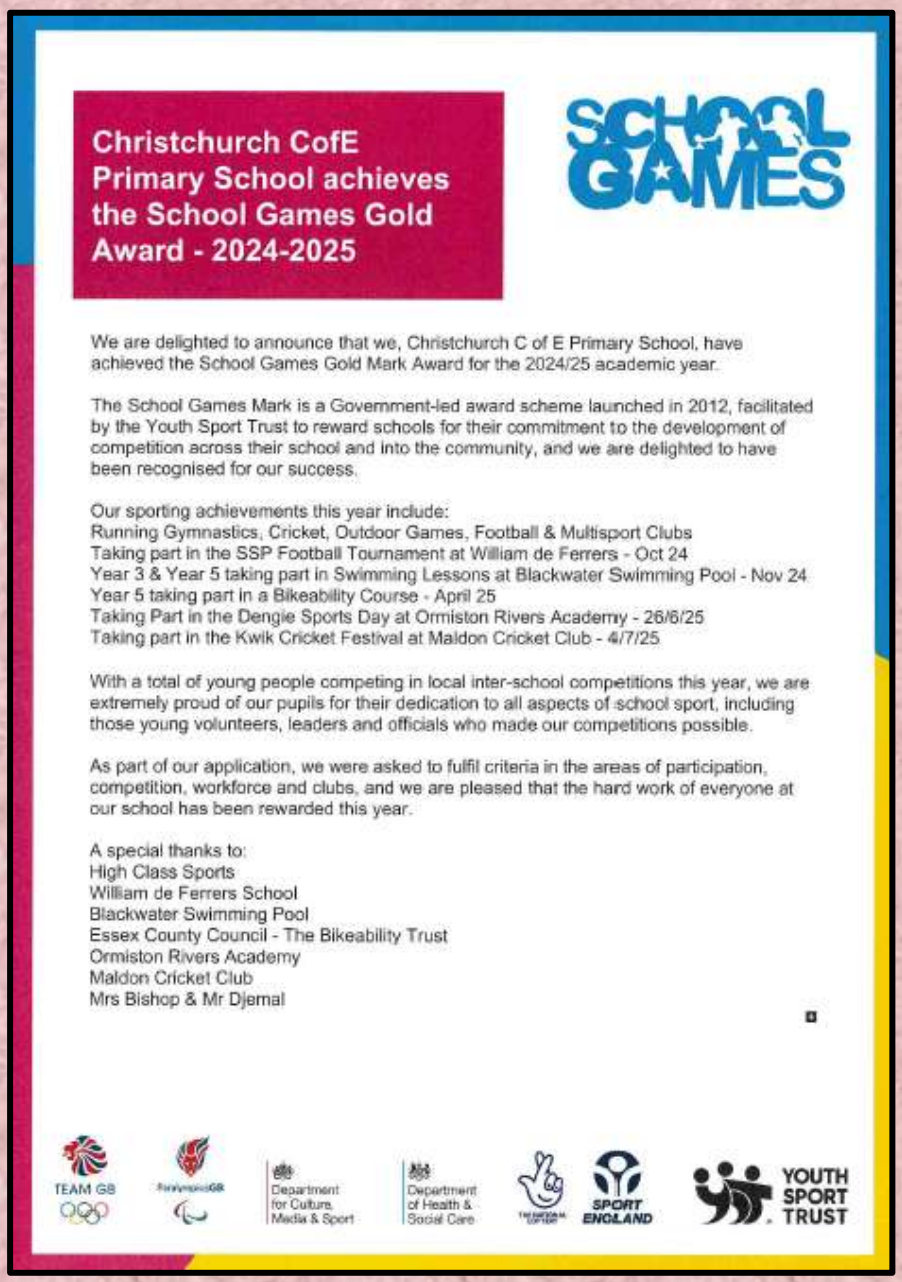
If you have any items in your cupboards which are in-date & you are able to spare then we would be very grateful for any top ups – please just add them to the box.

We all need to look out for each other & we really appreciate any contributions received.

Thank you to all those who have topped up our box your continued support is very appreciated.

School Games Mark – Gold Award 2024-2025

Well done Christchurch C of E Primary!



Christchurch CofE Primary School achieves the School Games Gold Award - 2024-2025

SCHOOL GAMES

We are delighted to announce that we, Christchurch C of E Primary School, have achieved the School Games Gold Mark Award for the 2024/25 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

Our sporting achievements this year include:
Running Gymnastics, Cricket, Outdoor Games, Football & Multisport Clubs
Taking part in the SSP Football Tournament at William de Ferrers - Oct 24
Year 3 & Year 5 taking part in Swimming Lessons at Blackwater Swimming Pool - Nov 24
Year 5 taking part in a Bikeability Course - April 25
Taking Part in the Dengie Sports Day at Ormiston Rivers Academy - 26/6/25
Taking part in the Kwik Cricket Festival at Maldon Cricket Club - 4/7/25

With a total of young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thanks to:
High Class Sports
William de Ferrers School
Blackwater Swimming Pool
Essex County Council - The Bikeability Trust
Ormiston Rivers Academy
Maldon Cricket Club
Mrs Bishop & Mr Djemal

TEAM GB
Department for Culture, Media & Sport
Department of Health & Social Care
SPORT ENGLAND
YOUTH SPORT TRUST

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Year 6 to 7 Secondary Admission Round for September 2026

As you may be aware, the new secondary school admission round opens on Friday 12 September 2025, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2026.

The statutory national closing date for applications is:

31st October 2025

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All the application information is available on the website above.

The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2025-26 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.

CHRISTCHURCH C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vine
Empowering All to Flourish

PUPIL PARLIAMENT

Well done to all the children who have been give roles within our Pupil Parliament – we know you will all be amazing!

Head Boy & Head Girl

Harrison & Ruby

Deputy Head Boy & Girl

Elliot & Rosie

Prefects

Molly, Judith, Stanley & Elouise

Wellbeing Ambassadors

Riley & Sawyer

Reading Ambassadors

Reuben & Katara

Technical Ambassadors

Freddie & Matthew

Sports Ambassadors

Humza, Ralphie Reggie, Dounya & Poppy

Maths Ambassadors

Elliot & Jason

Charity Ambassadors

Oliver & Molly

Worship Group

Rosie, Dylan, Thomas-James, Charlie, Yasmin & Oliver

School Council

Harrison, Toby, Dita, Ivy, Sidney & Isobel

Dengie Dodgeball at Ormiston Rivers Academy

Well done to the following children who represented Christchurch C of E Primary School at a Dengie Dodgeball Tournament held at Ormiston Rivers Academy on Wednesday 15th October 2025.

Riley, Judith, Ruby S, James, Lola, Penelope, Ruby D, Esme & Arlie-Blaiz

They were all amazing – well done!

Go Christchurch!

The J9 Initiative

J9 is named in memory of Janine Mundy, a mother of two, killed by her estranged husband in June 2003 whilst on police bail. The J9 initiative is designed to raise awareness and provide the skills to recognise abuse and the confidence to respond to disclosures, opening the door to safety and support.

We are delighted to announce that all of our teaching staff have attended J9 training sessions and therefore Christchurch C of E Primary School can help anyone suffering domestic abuse to obtain information which will help them to access a safe place where they can seek information and the use of a telephone.

If anyone needs to access this help then please come to the school office stating J9 and assistance will be provided.

Letters sent home / info on website for w/e 17th October 2025

The following letters have been sent out and/or put on the school website (under Key Information/ Information Hub/ Letters Home).

- LETTER TO ALL PARENTS: Parents Evenings – 4/11/25 & 6/11/25 (emailed & sent 16/10/25)
- LETTER TO ALL PARENTS: Autumn Term – Planned Activities (emailed d16/10/25)
- LETTER TO ALL PARENTS: Legal Basis for taking photographs/digital images will now be Legitimate Interest, and not Consent (emailed 16/10/25)
- LETTER TO YEAR 3 & YEAR 5 PARENTS: Swimming Lessons 5/11/25 to 10/12/25 (emailed 16/10/25)

PE DAYS – Autumn Term 1 2025

Please can children come into school wearing their PE kits on the following days:

EYFS – Thursday
Hedgehogs (all Year 1 & Year 2) – Monday & Thursday
Foxes – Monday & Thursday
Badgers – Tuesday (Year 6 only) & Thursday (Year 5 & 6)

Children should come to school wearing their PE kits on these days. If for any reason your child is unable to take part in their PE lessons, they should come to school wearing their normal School Uniform and bring a letter explaining why they are not participating. Please note all long hair **must** be tied back during PE lessons.

Lost Property

We will be keeping any items which we are unable to return to the children in a **Lost Property Basket** which is **located in the School Office Foyer.**

If your child/ren have lost any items then please have a look through the basket to see if you are able to locate.

Please remember to name items to assist with returning them to the children – thank you!

Parents Evenings

A letter has been sent out & emailed this week to enable an appointment to be booked at our Parents Evenings being held on:

Tuesday 4th November 2025 – 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Thursday 6th November 2025 – 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Please can you ensure that if you would like to book an appointment that the slip is returned by Wednesday 22nd October 2025.

Reading Raffle

Reading is an important life skill. We want to reward and encourage children to read at home. Therefore, we have launched our Reading Raffle!

For your child to be entered into the Reading Raffle each week, your child needs to read **at least 4 out of 7 times a week**.

They need to have their **Reading Diaries signed and shown to their class teacher on a Friday morning**.

The raffle will run from Friday to Thursday each week

If your child has read **at least 4 out of 7 times**, then their name will be entered into the raffle.

A name will be picked at random from each class. The winner of each class will win a book! This raffle will be every week and we hope to see all children entering every week!

Congratulations to this week's winners – we hope you enjoy reading your new books!

Jaydon – Red Squirrels

Abdullah - Hedgehogs

Charlie - Foxes

Bonnie-Lee – Badgers

Attendance – w/e 17/10/25

The winning class for the week ending **17th October 2025** is Foxes class.

Year	Attendance %
R / 1(Red Squirrels)	93.98%
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	98.02%
3 / 4 (Foxes)	98.89%
5 / 6 (Badgers)	94.74%

Each Friday we hold a raffle for all pupils in school, on time all week. This week the raffle was drawn and the winning pupil was Esme from Badgers class.

If your child is not in school, please remember to phone each morning before 9 am and leave a message **for safe guarding reasons we must have a reason.**

If you receive a text message, please contact the school to explain the absence. If we do not hear from you telephone calls will be made and if we are unable to contact you then a home visit may be appropriate.

If you child arrives late then please could an adult accompany them into the office to sign them in. Anyone arriving after the registers close (after half an hour) will be classed as an unauthorised absence unless we are aware of the reason in advance.

Safeguarding requires the school to know why a child is not in school. Every child legally must attend school and parents/carers have a duty to notify the school.

Each week the Friday Assembly is led by members of Badgers Class. This week's leaders were all Year 6.

Well done to you all!

Stars of the Week – w/e 17/10/25

Year	Name
R / 1(Red Squirrels)	Tate & Rosie
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	Evie-Leigh & Summer
3 / 4 (Foxes)	Logan-Jack & Amber
5 / 6 (Badgers)	Esme & Judith

Good Manners – w/e 17/10/25

Year	Name
R / 1(Red Squirrels)	Mia & Layla-Grace
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	Summer & Connie
3 / 4 (Foxes)	Amelia & Carmel
5 / 6 (Badgers)	Molly & Ruby

Lunch Time Stars – w/e 17/10/25

Ruby D – Badgers

Henry-John – Red Squirrels

Reading Challenge – w/e 17/10/25

Year Group	% of class who have read
R	77%
Year 1	66%
Year 2	66%
Year 3	25%
Year 4	77%
Year 5	38%
Year 6	28%

Hot Chocolate Winners–w/e 17/10/25

Year	Name
R / 1(Red Squirrels)	George
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	Jessica
3 / 4 (Foxes)	Stanley
5 / 6 (Badgers)	Riley

Mrs Bishop will be taking the Hot Chocolate winners on a Monday & their picture will be in the following week's Newsletter.

Please see our website for full details of Dates to remember. Details of any events will be sent out nearer the time.

Please note that all events are for the children/staff only unless specified.

Academic Year 2025-2026

October 2025

24th Oct 25 – Wellbeing Day – Children invited to come to school in non-uniform

27th to 31st Oct 25 – HALF TERM HOLIDAY

November 2025

4th Nov 25 – 9pm to 11.30 – Tours for Prospective Parents September 2026 – Newsletter post refers

4th Nov 25 – 2pm to 3pm – Tours for Prospective Parents September 2026 – Newsletter post refers

4th Nov 25 – 3.30pm to 5.30pm – Parents Evening – letter sent 16/10/25 refers

6th Nov 25 – 3.30pm to 5.30pm – Parents Evening – letter sent 16/10/25 refers

December 2025

2nd Dec 25 – 9.30am – NCMP Screening – Year 6 – Height & Weight – letter emailed 2/10/25 refers

2nd Dec 25 – 9.30am – NCMP Screening – Reception – Height, Weight & Vision – letter emailed 2/10/25 refers

10th Dec 25 – 9.15am to 9.50am – EYFS & KS1 – Christmas Service at Christ Church

10th Dec 25 – 10.15am to 10.50am – KS2 – Christmas Service at Christ Church

13th Dec 25 – 10am to 3pm – PTFA Christmas Fair at Latchingdon Village Hall

17th Dec 25 – Christmas Jumper Day – Children invited to wear their Christmas jumpers

17th Dec 25 – 12.30pm to 1.20pm – Christmas Dinner – details to follow

22nd Dec 25 to 2nd Jan 26 – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

January 2026

5th Jan 26 – First Day Spring Term

February 2026

13th Feb 26 – NON-PUPIL DAY

16th to 20th Feb 26 – HALF TERM HOLIDAY

March 2026

5th March 26 – World Book Day – details to follow

30th March to 20th April 26 – EASTER HOLIDAY

April 2025

13th April 26 – First Day of Summer Term

May 2026

4th May 26 – BANK HOLIDAY

25th May to 29th May 26 – HALF TERM HOLIDAY

July 2026

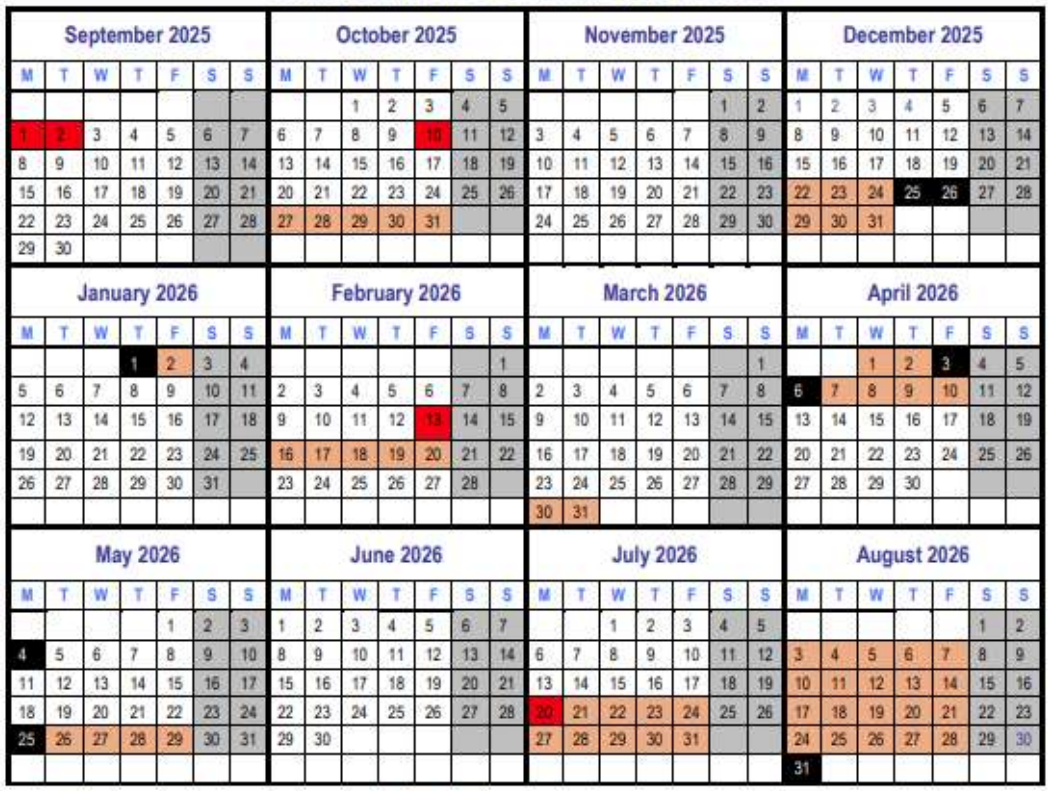
20th July 26 – NON-PUPIL DAY

21ST July 26 – SUMMER HOLIDAY

PLEASE NOTE BELOW CHRISTCHURCH C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026

Christchurch C of E Primary School

School Term Dates - Academic Year 2025-2026



= Schooldays = School holidays = Bank holidays

= Weekends = Non-pupil days

In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term:	Monday 1 September 2025 – Friday 19 December 2025 *Half Term 27 October – 31 October*	75 days
Spring Term:	Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026 *Half Term 16 February - 20 February*	55 days
Summer Term:	Monday 13 April 2026 – Monday 20 July 2026 *Half Term 25 May – 29 May, and May Bank Holiday - 4 May*	65 days
		195 days

Please note:
The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academies.
You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.

PTFA

The PTFA Members are:

Chairperson: Mrs S Brew

Treasurer: Mr A Brew

Secretary: Ms R Smith

Staff Members: Mrs L Hall & Mrs D Bishop

WhatsApp Reminder

Christchurch C of E Primary School
The Street, Latchingdon
Chelmsford, Essex CM3 6JS
Telephone 01621 740328

Firm Foundations; Rooted in Love.

27th February 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

We have been made aware of some inappropriate and unacceptable language being used within Whatsapp groups outside of school.

This is something which we take seriously. We want to work with you to ensure children are using online platforms safely and appropriately, as well as knowing how to report anything which concerns them, if you decide to give your child access.

Therefore, we wanted to take this opportunity to provide some guidance for you, which you might find helpful. Further guidance can be found on the NSPCC website.

We will also be providing some additional Online Safety sessions for the children.

What is WhatsApp?

WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries. It allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls. You can connect with people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute. All you need to set up a WhatsApp account is a phone number.

What age rating is WhatsApp?

The app is rated 13+.

Tips to help keep your child safe on WhatsApp

1. **Get to know privacy settings** - There are four main settings that you can use to help your child control who can see their information:

   Everyone – allows all users to see your profile photo, about or status.
   My contacts – only allows people from your phone contacts to see your profile photo, about, status, last seen and online.
   My contacts except… – allows you to exclude certain people in your phone contacts from seeing your information.
   Nobody – doesn't allow anyone to see your information.

- The default setting on WhatsApp is 'everyone' but you can help your child to set their privacy controls by clicking the 'settings' cog and selecting 'privacy'. Here you can select each type of information and change it to the setting that you want.

Christchurch C of E Primary School fully complies with information legislation. For the full details on how we use your personal information please click https://www.vineschoolstrust.co.uk/resources/our-documents/#gdpr or call 01621 740328 if you are unable to access the internet.

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WhatsApp Reminder

- To prevent children being added to groups by people they don't know, we recommend changing the group settings to 'My contacts except' and using the tick icon to select all contacts. This option means only your child's phone contacts, except those you exclude, can add your child to groups. But by selecting all contacts, it means that nobody can add your child to a group chat without first sending them an invitation.

- In the same section, you can also switch off 'read receipts', which means other people cannot see when you have read their message. This might help if your child is feeling under pressure to respond to messages.

2. Make use of safety features

- Show your child how to block and report other users of the app or inappropriate content. For information on how to block or report on WhatsApp visit: How to block and report contacts | WhatsApp Help Center.

- Talk to your child regularly about what they should and shouldn't share with others on WhatsApp. You can read more about this here: Social media | NSPCC

- Remind your child that, even if they think what they are sending will stay private, others might save, forward or screenshot it. Talk to them about making sure others are comfortable with what they are sending and let them know they can come to you if they are worried about something they have shared on the app.

3. Set rules about location sharing

- Decide with your child if it is appropriate for them to share their location with others and who they are allowed to share it with.

- You can disable location permissions by going into your device settings and switching off location services for WhatsApp.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Hall
Head of School

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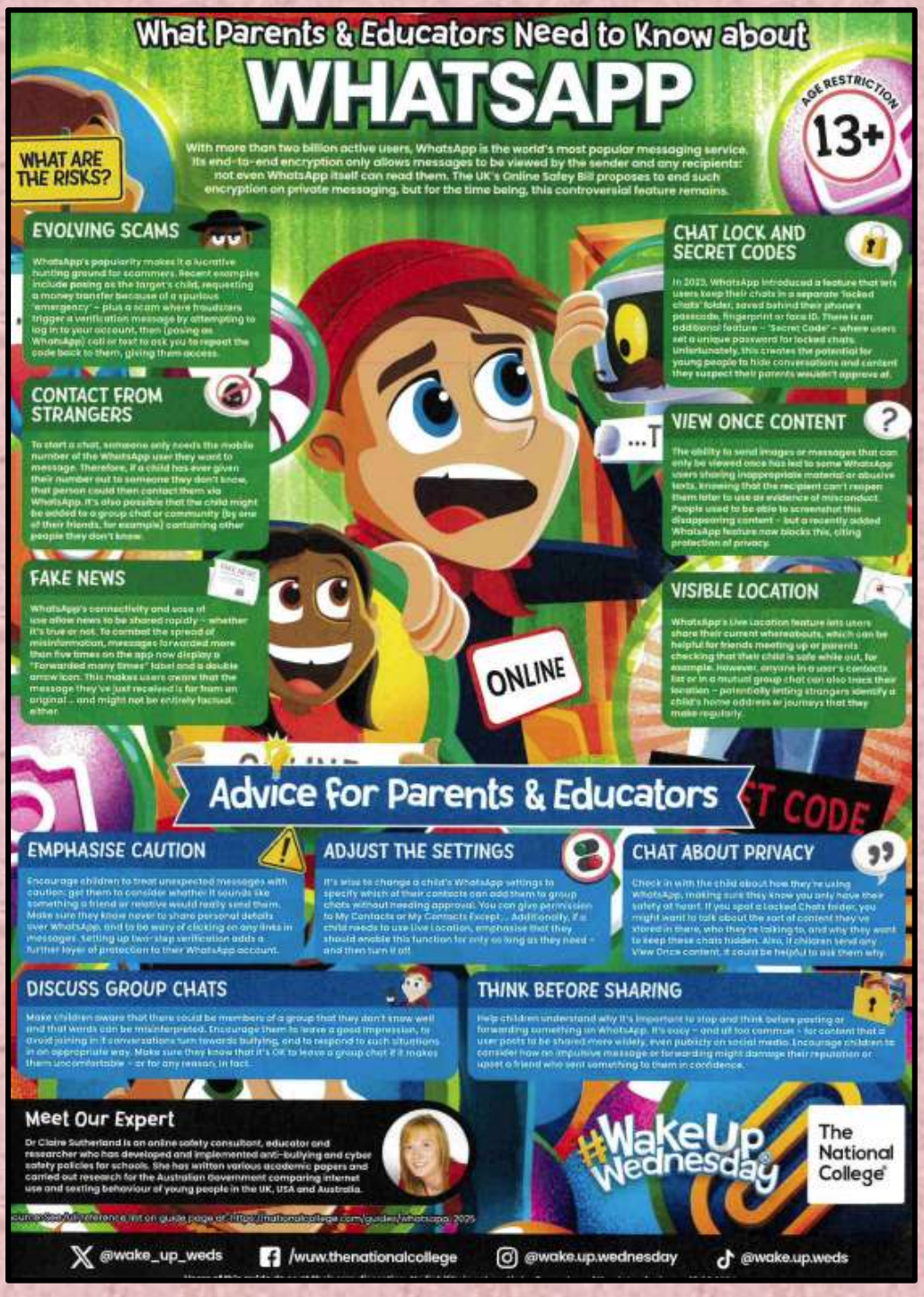
WhatsApp Reminder



Safeguarding Briefing

Edited by Andrew Hall
Specialist Safeguarding Consultant

Wednesday 8th October 2025

Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

You may have seen in the press today or heard from your county library service that the children's publisher Puffin has issued an alert about books by Andy Cope including those in the Spy Dogs, Spy Cats, and Spy Pups series.

The books include a link to additional content, but the link is no longer owned by Mr Cope. The new owner publishes pornographic content. This means that children visiting the link are seeing highly inappropriate webpages.

As a result, libraries, bookshops, retailers and schools have removed the books from their shelves until such time as there is a resolution.

The story of course is fine to read, it is only the additional online content that is affected.

There is no suggestion that either Mr Cope or Puffin are responsible for the third-party site.

If it is helpful, I've written some information for parents below.

Thank you to everyone who let me know about this.

All the best,

Andrew

Parent/Carer Information

Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.

It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.

We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

We will continue to share updates from the publisher as more information becomes available.

ESSEX&SUFFOLK WATER *living water*

Our Ref: Steeple Road
4 September 2025

The Occupier
Latchingdon Cofe Prima-
ry School
The Street
Latchingdon
Chelmsford
CM3 6JS

Dear Customer

We're planning some work in your area

We want to keep you up to date with work we are carrying out in your area.

You may be aware that we have been replacing 2.9km of water main alongside Steeple Road, from the junction with the B1018 Burnham Road in Latchingdon to the junction of The Drive/Woodland Park Chase in Mayland. The project is essential as it will replace an ageing water main that has historically led to interruptions in service to the area. Our goal is to ensure a reliable and uninterrupted water supply for you and the community.

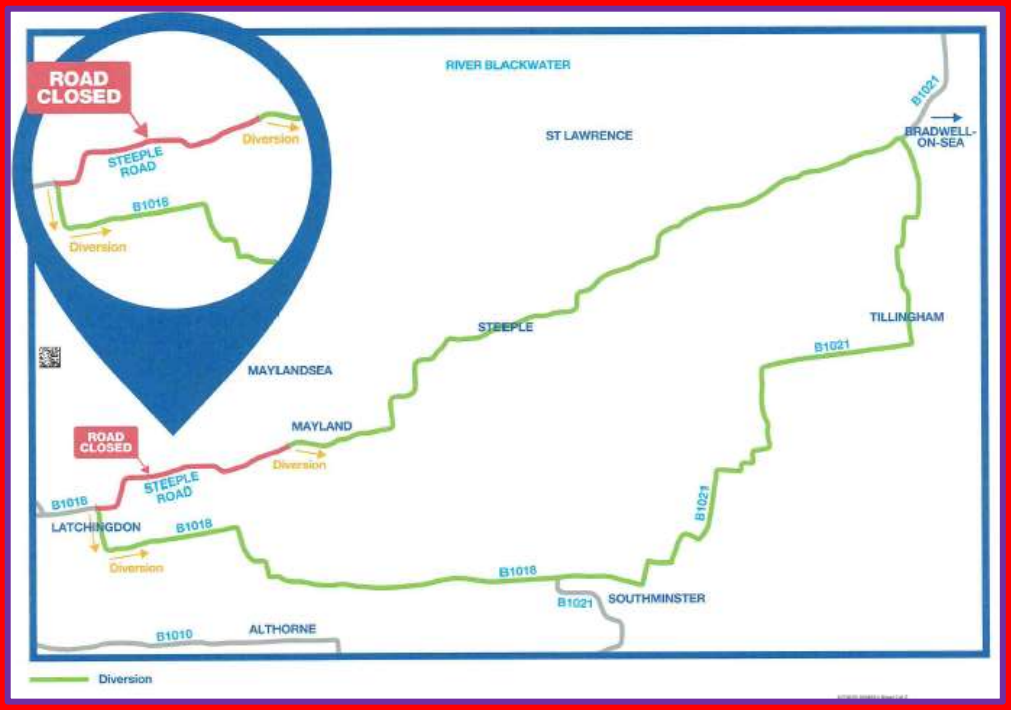
The work initially commenced on 21 July 2025 and we anticipate it will last until November 2025. While we aim to stick to this timeline, please understand that unexpected delays can happen in construction projects, and we appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to complete this vital project.

Most of the work takes place in the adjacent fields, minimising any disruption to the community. However, there is one section where we need to work within the road carriageway between the junctions of **B1018 Burnham Road to just east of Lawlinge Road in Latchingdon**.

For everyone's safety, we are required to implement traffic management in the form of a road closure whilst installing the new water main. The timing of the road closure has been purposely planned to commence towards the end of the peak summer season to reduce the impact on surrounding seasonal based businesses, particularly towards and adjacent to the River Blackwater.

This road closure will therefore commence on the **6 October 2025** for a duration of **4-6 weeks**. Every effort will be made for this work to be completed at the earliest opportunity within this timescale.

Working in conjunction with Essex County Council Highways Department, a diversion route has been planned to ensure that vehicles of all sizes are able to use a road category equivalent to the one that has needed to be closed. We want to clarify that



ESSEX PROFESSIONAL COACHING

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CHILDCARE CLUBS

About Holiday Clubs with EPC...

- ✓ Fun, nurturing, and inclusive childcare for children aged 4 - 12
- ✓ Tax free & Childcare vouchers accepted
- ✓ Funded spaces for children who are eligible for Free School Meals via Essex Activate
- ✓ Flexible booking times, choose a half day, full day, or extended day booking
- ✓ Football & Activity Camp at the same venue

Ofsted Registered

SCAN HERE TO REDEEM

YOUR FREE TICKET TO...

A DAY AT ANY OF OUR FOOTBALL OR ACTIVITY HOLIDAY CLUBS

Scan the QR code to redeem your exclusive discount

T&Cs apply. Valid for new customers only; booking fee required. Offer not transferable or redeemable for cash.

01206 670 237 epcoaching.co.uk

Essex Fire Museum

Halloween Open Day

2025

26th and 28th Of October

10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS

Book Now

Free Entry

Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

hcrg Care Group in partnership with BARNARDO'S

Changing childhoods. Changing lives.

Commissioned by: NHS Essex County Council

Mid Essex START WELL Roadshows

IF YOU'VE GOT A LITTLE ONE UNDER 5, THESE DROP-IN EVENTS ARE FOR YOU!

Whether you're getting ready for preschool or just looking for a bit of support, the **Start Well Roadshows** are here to help.

You'll find ***friendly faces***, ***expert advice***, and ***loads of useful info*** on things like *toilet training*, *speech and language*, *SEND support*, *starting school* and much much more.

There'll be fun activities to keep little ones busy while you chat with professionals and peer supporters who really understand what it's like.

It's all free, drop-in, and relaxed — just turn up and see what's on offer!

Dates, times & locations of the roadshows

Maldon Area

- Wed 15th Oct 1–3 PM ***Maldon Library***
- Tues 28th Oct 10 - 12 PM, ***Dengie Family Hub Delivery Site***

Braintree Area

- Wed 22nd Oct 2–4 PM ***Carousel Family Hub***
- Wed 29th Oct Time 11-1pm, ***Witham Library***

Chelmsford Area

- Sat 18th Oct 10:30–12:30, ***Chelmsford Library***

For more information:

Visit: www.tlc-essex.info/resource/mid-essex-start-well-roadshows/

Or scan the **QR code**

MID ESSEX CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP

Working together to ensure all children & young people in Mid Essex get the best start in life

If you have any questions please email: C&FPartnershipLeads@essex.gov.uk

Essex County Council

Join us at the SEND Roadshow in Burnham on Crouch

Date: Wednesday 22nd October 2025
Time: Drop in anytime9:30 AM - 12:30 PM (all ages)
Quieter times: Prefer a quieter visit? Pop in after 11:30 AM.
Location: Burnham on Crouch Baptist Church, Station Road, Burnham on Crouch, CM0 8HJ
Cost: FREE

What to Expect:

Have questions about your child's needs and the best support available? The SEND Roadshow brings together a variety of professionals under one roof, including local support groups, education professionals, health teams, and social care teams.

You can:

- access support and information
- understand the different services available
- discover local support, such as parent groups and inclusive activities
- attend free talks

For more information on the event - including who will be there- take a look at: https://send.essex.gov.uk/local-offer-roadshow-mid-essex

The Essex Local Offer Team
Helen, Jenny, Clare, Louise and Amie

Visit the Essex Local Offer website to find out more.

Ask Better Questions

The art of asking questions is more complex than we might assume. Teachers ask hundreds of questions every day as they try to unravel what pupils are thinking. If we are to maximise the benefit of using questions to gather feedback, we should aim to ask a range of question types, from information recall to promote retrieval practice to higher-order questions which encourage the development of answers.

1. BE CLEAR

Ask questions which are clear and concise to reduce ambiguity and to ensure that pupils understand what type of response you are looking for. Repeat your question to provide clarity and give wait time.

2. PLAN AHEAD

When developing your scheme of work and planning a series of lessons, allocate time to discuss common misconceptions with colleagues. This will allow you to formulate questions to help dispel misconceptions pupils may have about your subject.

3. GIVE TIME

Give pupils time to process the question you have asked them and to think about their response. This will boost their confidence in sharing ideas without feeling that they are being put on the spot. Research suggests 3-5 seconds of wait time.

4. BUILD ENGAGEMENT

Take the time to build a classroom culture where pupils feel confident in sharing responses. You can do this by establishing expectations, and creating an environment where pupils feel that they can contribute without fear of retribution from their peers.

5. PROMOTE EXTENSION

Pupils will want to find the shortcut that allows them to provide the shortest response. Instead, encourage pupils to extend on their initial response by asking them a follow-up question, "Can you give me an example...?"

6. MOVE FROM LOW TO HIGH

Use lower cognitive questions to establish foundation knowledge recall, and then build on this by subsequently asking higher-order questions to deepen understanding.

7. USE LOW-STAKE RECALL

Use questioning to gather information quickly about what pupils have understood. This can be achieved through closed questions that allow you, as the teacher, to uncover any misconceptions and gaps in knowledge of the subjects you need to re-teach.

8. ENCOURAGE THEIR QUESTIONS

Build in time for pupils to ask their own questions, either to you, as the teacher, or to their peers. This will support their own development towards mastery in your subject.

9. COLD CALL

Encourage pupils to share their ideas with the rest of the class by directing questions to specific pupils. For example, "What is the process of erosion, Tom?".

10. PRACTISE QUESTIONS

Make time to practise drafting and asking questions with colleagues. This can support the development of the clear and concise questions that you then ask pupils and reduce the potential for misunderstanding.

The National College®

This guide is part of The National College staffroom poster series

A collection of information posters for your school staffroom.

Meet the Expert: Michael Chiles

Principal Examiner, Curriculum Development Adviser and an experienced school leader.

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