



# Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

## OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 11 | 28th November 2025

### What has been happening?

#### Year 1 Visit to the Park

Year 1 had their first trip of the year to Oaken Grove Park. The children really enjoyed spotting physical and human features around the park. It also helped with their knowledge of seasons as it was a frosty morning. The crisp grass crunched under their feet and some frost patches could be seen clearly, as well as the parts that had 'defrosted' in the sunshine.

It was a great learning opportunity and all the children were beautifully behaved.

Thank you to all the volunteer helpers!

#### Beech Class Update

We wanted to let you know that Mrs Alston, Beech class teacher, will be having surgery and will not be in school for the next 6 weeks. We send her our very best wishes for a successful procedure and a speedy recovery.

During Mrs Alston's absence, the children in Beech will be in the excellent care of Mrs Snapes and Mrs Sakal.

Mrs Snapes already knows the children well, which will help ensure continuity and a smooth transition during this period. Both teachers will be working together to maintain the high standards of teaching and learning that Beech class enjoys.

#### Parking and Driving Sensibly

You will have noticed the PCSOs and the 'mini police' representatives from Courthouse in Mulberry Walk before school. They are here to help parents/carers drive and park sensibly and support our community. They did a great job and we are very grateful. As one of our key values is kindness, I am sure all our parents/carers will be kind and polite to our helpers.

As a reminder...

Stick to the speed limit, park sensibly and thoughtfully, look out for little people at all times.

Do not mount the curb

Do not park on bends

Do not block driveways or parking areas

Be patient and model kind, thoughtful behaviours

### The Alwyn Aims

These are the rules we all try to follow:

- Use kind hands, feet and words
- Say how we feel
- Look and listen
- Look after our things
- Always do our best



#### CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2025

Alwyn's Christmas lunch is on  
**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December.**

Please place your child's order on Parent Pay by  
**FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER.**

Please note that there will not be any jacket potatoes or grab bags available on this day.

If you do not place an order or place an order after this date, your child will need to bring in a packed lunch.

This date is also Christmas/own jumper day.



#### A Change in the weather

Please ensure your child comes into school with a warm, waterproof coat, and if possible, hat and gloves.

We do go out in all weathers so the children do need appropriate outdoor wear for playing.

Boots, particularly welly boots, are not appropriate for a day in a classroom, so please do not let your child wear them to school unless they bring in school shoes to change into. Thank you.



Look out for more school news on our Alwyn  
facebook page or Instagram.



# Alwyn performance time is coming!

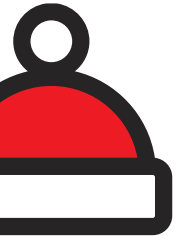


## Reception Christmas Performances, 9th & 10th December, 9.30am

Our reception classes will perform some fantastic seasonal songs, usually with actions, to their parents and families. The performances are the same on each day.

There is no need to request tickets for these performances.

**There will be a cash collection after each performance for our chosen charity.**



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## Year 1 Christmas Performances, 16th & 17th December, 9.30am

The Year 1 classes will be working together to perform 'Penguin Pete', one of our favourite school plays. They will repeat the same performance on each of the days however you will need to order tickets in advance.

Tickets can be [ordered here](#).

The numbers for each performance are limited due to Health and Safety reasons so put in your requests promptly. Each performance will be the same and include all of the three classes in Year 1.

We can allocate up to 2 tickets per family (in total, not per performance), however there is an option of requesting further tickets if they become available. The extra tickets are not guaranteed so if you do not receive confirmation then your request has not been successful.

**There will be a cash collection after each performance for our chosen charity.**



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## Festive Songs with Year 2, 17th December, 2.30pm

Our Year 2 parents are invited to come and listen to, or join in, with some festive songs and carols. This should be a jolly occasion and allow the children to demonstrate their singing talents.

There is no need to request a ticket for this. Just turn up ready to sing!



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## At all of our performances there will be a cash collection

This year we equally divide the donations between our school fund and the charity, 'Children's Hospital Pyjamas'. The charity provides pyjamas for children who have been admitted into hospital and have not had time to pack the essentials needed for a hospital stay. Further details about the charity can be [found here](#).



## Responsible Behaviour Curriculum in Alwyn and Courthouse

Our vision is to develop well rounded, confident and responsible children who aspire to achieve their full potential. We want our children to do their best in all aspects of school life - work, play, friendships and behaviour, and to take pride in all they do. We want them to develop respect and a sense of responsibility for themselves, each other, property, the wider community and the environment. To support this aim, we follow a behaviour curriculum that is explicitly taught and also weaves throughout the whole of school life.

Each week, the classes explore a different theme. They have a Monday 'check-in' circle time to introduce it and set a goal to work towards throughout the week. On Tuesday, the Year 1 and 2 assembly is time to think about the whole school approach to the theme. They celebrate their successes with a Friday 'check-out' circle time in their class.


To support this learning, there is a weekly leaflet for parents (below) to introduce the theme and sometimes gives ideas on how to help.

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC IS

# PREDICTABLE ROUTINES

### Why are routines important?

- Predictable routines help your child to feel safe. Knowing what is going to happen on a day to day basis creates a comfort blanket around your child.
- Over time the safe feeling that predictable routines creates strengthens and supports children to cope well when there are changes such as moving year groups or school.





### Your role in this.

- Plan routines for challenging times of the day such as getting ready for school or bedtime. Things run more smoothly when there is a routine and children need to know what is expected of them at pressured times.
- Talk to your child about their routines, explain why routines are the way they are e.g. 'We don't have time for the park on Thursdays, we need to go straight home for tea so you can get ready for dance class.'

### Supporting routines




- Use a poster or tick chart for pressured routines such as getting ready for school. This enables children to have a visual of what they need to do next.
- Use timers or alarms to give an audio clue for children to follow such as, 'When the music plays on the alarm, we have to stop watching TV and put our shoes on.'
- Get children involved such as getting them to lay the table in the routine for meal times, think back to the information about helping your child take responsibility.
- Praise your child if they follow the routine without you reminding them! Be specific about the good thing they have done.





## The Responsible Behaviour Curriculum

QED Quality Education Development

BLUE ZONE	GREEN ZONE	YELLOW ZONE	RED ZONE
 sad	 happy	 frustrated	 angry
 tired	 calm	 worried	 terrified
 sick	 feeling ok	 silly	 yelling
 bored	 ready to learn	 excited	 hitting
I can try...  stretch	I can try...  drink water	I can try...  deep breaths	I can try...  take a break

These zones of regulation are also a great way to help the children think about and identify their feelings, along with an idea to help manage them.

### What have Reception been learning this week?

This week the children in Reception have been learning the sound f and ff in phonics. We have introduced the helpful words of and off and have been continuing to practice blending words when reading. In Maths we have been combining shapes to create new shapes and investigating ways of making 3,4 and 5. The children are able to explain parts and wholes when looking at numbers and breaking them up into parts using cubes. During book time the children have enjoyed reading 'Night monkey, day monkey' and have found out facts about night monkeys.

**Ask me to tell you a word beginning with f.**

**Ask me to tell you a word ending in ff.**

**Ask me to tell you a fact about night monkeys.**

**Ask me to tell you about Vincent Van Gogh's Starry night painting.**

**Ask me to show you all the ways to make 5.**

Next week the children will be learning the 'L' and 'LL' graphemes as in lion and hill. Please make sure you are reading with your children and practising the phonic sounds that we have done so far. We will continue to read and innovate the story 'Night monkey, day monkey' and will be continuing to sing our Christmas songs. The children will need to wear Christmas clothes for the performances on the 9th and 10th December. These can be brought in in a named bag by Friday 5th December and can be left at school. Enjoy your weekend.

### What have Year 1 been learning this week?

In English, we innovated parts of the story 'How to catch a star' and children used their own ideas to say how the boy could catch a star. There were some very impressive and imaginative ideas! In maths, we have started exploring subtraction by finding a part of a whole. In science, we have been exploring the senses, sight and hearing. In R.E., we discussed what Christians would give to Jesus if he was born in Maidenhead, with a focus on meaningful and special gifts.

**Ask me to tell you one physical and one human feature I saw during our trip to the park.**

**Ask me to tell you my ideas for how the boy could catch a star.**

**Ask me if there are 7 fish in a bowl and 4 are yellow, how many would be red?**

**Ask me to tell you some things I can see and hear on the way to and from school.**

**Ask me to tell you a gift that Christians would give Jesus that is special.**

Next week we will be continuing with subtraction using first, then and now sentence structure.

## KEY DATES!

**School Year 2025-2026**

**Autumn Term 2**

29<sup>th</sup> November  
PTA Christmas Fete  
12 noon - 3pm

9th & 10<sup>th</sup> December, 9.30am  
Reception Performance

16th December  
Christmas/own jumper day  
Christmas lunch

16th & 17<sup>th</sup> December,  
9.30am Yr1 Christmas Play  
[Book tickets](#)

17th December, 2.30pm  
Yr2 Festive Sing-a-long

19th December  
Last day of term.  
Children home at 1.30pm

**Enjoy the break**

**Spring Term 3**

5<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
Children return to school

12th-16th January  
Music Week

9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> February  
Book Week  
Book Fair after school

16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February  
Half Term Break &  
Challenge

**Enjoy the break**



## What have Year 2 been learning this week?

The highlight of this week for Year 2 was designing, kneading, shaping and then finally baking their own bread rolls. The verdict was that they were delicious!

We've also started a new topic in science learning all about materials and their properties. We have talked about human-made and natural materials and the difference between an object and material.

**Ask me to tell you what 2D shape faces the following 3D shapes have:**

cylinder

cube

square based pyramid

triangular based pyramid

cuboid

**Ask me to name some human features that we looked at in geography**

**Ask me to tell you the difference between human and physical features**

**Ask me to find some objects made out of the following materials:**

wood

plastic

wool

metal

glass

Next week we will be writing Samuel Pepys' diary entry.

**Congratulations!**

**A huge 'well done' to all the children who have been in the golden book, this week.**

**We are very proud of you!**



## KEY DATES!

**School Year 2025-2026**

**Spring Term 4**

23rd February  
Children return to School

23rd - 27th February  
Art/DT Week

2nd March  
Internet Safety Day  
Parent/carers talk at 2.30pm

5th March  
World Book Day

10th & 12th March  
Parent/carers consultations

11th March  
Year 2 Trip: Look Out Centre

16th-20th March  
Grown ups into school  
afternoon

20th March  
Non-uniform for Comic Relief

23rd March  
Drama Workshops

27th March  
Last day of term.  
Children home at 1.30pm

30th March - 10<sup>th</sup> April  
Easter holidays

**Summer Term 5**

13th April  
All children back to school



## Our Fabulous Parent Teacher Association

Remember as a member of the school community, you are automatically part of the Parent and Teacher Association (PTA). They run brilliant events throughout the year but need your help. Please get in touch with them if you wish to take part or have some great ideas to share



### Christmas Fair is tomorrow!!

Our biggest fundraising event of the year, is the perfect way to kick off the festive season! Expect twinkly stalls, joyful tunes, and plenty of seasonal cheer for the whole family.

But we can't do it without you! If you can spare just an hour to help out - whether it's setting up, running a stall, or tidying up - we'd be incredibly grateful.

Every bit of support makes a huge difference.

[Sign up to volunteer here:](#)

Let's make this year's Christmas Fair the most magical one yet!

The raffle will be drawn and winners announced at the fair on Saturday.

Fantastic prizes:

£250 Cash, £100 Love To Shop voucher (donated by Oakfield Chartered Surveyors), £50 Restaurant voucher (donated by Sauce & Flour) and more ...

Tickets can be [bought here](#)



### Christmas Auction - Now Live!

Don't forget to check out the auction, already open with some brilliant prizes waiting for your bids.

Have a [look here](#)

### Calling All Bakers!

We'd love to stock the Christmas Fair Café with delicious homemade cakes. If you're an expert baker (or just keen to give it a go!), please bring along your creations to help make the café extra special.





## **Caterlink Christmas Lunch Menu**

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

**(also Christmas Jumper Day)**

*Roast Turkey and Pork Chipolata Sausage (beef casing)*

*or*

*Roast Halal Turkey and Vegan Christmas Chipolata*

*or*

*Vegan Wellington and Vegan Christmas Chipolata*

**WITH**

*Roast Potatoes, Sage & Onion Stuffing, Garden Peas and Carrots*

**DESSERT**

*Gingerbread Cookie or Fresh Fruit Salad*

**Please order on Parent Pay by  
Friday 5th December 2025**

**Please note that there will not be any Jacket Potatoes or Grab Bags on this day**



Information for  
parents and carers

**NHS**

Berkshire Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Drop-in flu clinics

**At Foundation House, Windsor SL4 4LE**

We are holding drop-in clinics  
for your child's flu vaccination  
on the following dates:

- 18.11.25 14:30-16:30
- 27.11.25 14:30-16:00
- 5.12.25 12:00-16:00

**If you haven't completed a  
consent form yet, you can  
complete one using the  
information sent by your child's  
school or complete one at the  
clinic with one of the team**



Goto the address below to share your  
views and ideas



**[cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/feedback](https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/feedback)**



## Community Pages: Christmas Holiday Activity Clubs

Community Events Disclaimer: Please note that the events listed are organised by external parties and are not endorsed or recommended by Alwyn Infant School. We provide this information as a courtesy to our community. We advise families to exercise their own discretion and judgement when participating in any events or activities.

# FOOTBALL CAMP

Click here to book!

Ofsted Registered

## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

**Price + Offers**

from £20 per day

Sibling discount: 10% off

Early Bird discount (10% off)  
Code: snow10

**Age**

5 - 12 Years Old

**Venues**

Newbury:  
Winchcombe School

Maidenhead:  
Alwyn Infant School

Reading:  
Calcot Junior School

**Dates + Times**

Monday 22nd, Tuesday 23rd  
December & Friday 2nd January

Standard day: 9am-3pm  
Extended day: 9am-5pm

www.mnrcoaching.com

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@MNRCoaching\_

WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS!  
For Holiday Camp Enquiries- Email [holidaycamps@mnrcoaching.com](mailto:holidaycamps@mnrcoaching.com)

# MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

Click here to book!

Ofsted Registered

## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

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from £20 per day

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WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS!  
For Holiday Camp Enquiries- Email [holidaycamps@mnrcoaching.com](mailto:holidaycamps@mnrcoaching.com)

"My girls started Samurai Kickboxing just over a year ago, I couldn't have imagined what a massive part of their lives it would become. My two quiet, shy & lacking self-confidence girls have transformed into strong, confident young females with awesome kickboxing skills!"

**SAMURAI Kickboxing**

**Free Holiday Camp Day & Hot Meal with the FUEL Programme!**

Thanks to the RBWM FUEL programme, we're able to offer days at camp for FREE at our Christmas Kickboxing Camp - including a hot lunch each day for children who:

- Receive benefit-related free school meals
- Attend school within the RBWM Council area

This amazing support means eligible families can enjoy active, enriching holiday fun at no cost!

To book: [FUEL Bookings](#)

**Hot Lunch Option for All!**

Not eligible for FUEL? No problem!  
All students can enjoy a tasty hot lunch during camp for just £7 per child, per day.

Open to all levels – beginners welcome

Fun, high-energy sessions with Grading every Friday (Grading fee applies if not attended for the full week)

Build skills, confidence and friendships!

Location: Alltwood C of E School, Maidenhead

Dates: December 22nd & 23rd

Time: 9am – 3pm daily

Standard Price: £32/day

More info available on our [website](#)

[info@samuraikickboxing.com](mailto:info@samuraikickboxing.com)  
01753 534817  
[www.samuraikickboxing.com](http://www.samuraikickboxing.com)

SIGN UP TODAY  
EARLY BIRD OFFER  
ENDS MIDNIGHT 7TH DECEMBER 2025

# IPRO FOOTBALL CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CAMPS

**2 DAY CAMP**  
22ND & 23RD DECEMBER

**1 DAY CAMP**  
2ND JANUARY

**FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL 3G**

**GREAT NEWS!** CAMP DAYS ARE NOW RUNNING FROM 8:30AM - 5:00PM

SCAN ME TO BOOK

CALL 07908 172175, VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR EMAIL US AT [OFFICE@IPROFOOTBALLCOACHING.CO.UK](mailto:OFFICE@IPROFOOTBALLCOACHING.CO.UK)

IPROFOOTBALLCOACHING IPROFOOTBALL



## Community Pages: What is happening in our local area?

Community Events Disclaimer: Please note that the events listed are organised by external parties and are not endorsed or recommended by Alwyn Infant School. We provide this information as a courtesy to our community. We advise families to exercise their own discretion and judgement when participating in any events or activities.

**Saturday 13 - Wednesday 24 December 2025**  
**Braywick Leisure Centre, Maidenhead**



**Snow White**

**£5 OFF YOUR PANTO TICKET!**  
Valid for adult and under 16s tickets on Sun 14 Dec (5pm) and Tue 23 Dec (2:30pm). Offer ends Fri 21 Nov 2025.  
CODE: AMSSP-2025  
Book online at [www.maidenheadpanto.co.uk](http://www.maidenheadpanto.co.uk)

dk productions



**A New Skatepark for Maidenhead!**

Support the Kidwells Park Skatepark Project  
We're building a modern, inclusive and inspiring skatepark in Kidwells Park, Maidenhead.

- Community-led project backed by local residents, skaters, BMXers & councillors
- Designed by skaters / BMXers, for skaters / BMXers - in collaboration with experts
- Safe, exciting & accessible - a space to stay active, social & creative
- Let's bring new energy to the park and give young people a place to thrive!

**HELP US MAKE IT HAPPEN!**  
We're raising funds now. Located in Kidwells Park, Maidenhead

Please visit the project website or scan the QR code for more information  
<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/kidwells-park-skatepark-project-maidenhead>

It's supporting Kidwells Park Skatepark Project, Maidenhead



Scan the QR code to find out more

Crowdfunder.co.uk | Search "Kidwells Park Skatepark Project"

**A Magical Family Adventure at Windsor Great Park Illuminated!**


From **14 November 2025** – **3 January 2026**, Windsor Great Park will sparkle with a brand-new illuminated trail, filled with dazzling new displays and returning favourites like the iconic Field of Light and Fairies.

It's the perfect festive outing for families and friends – wander through glowing woodland, watch colourful fountains dance, and stop to toast marshmallows or enjoy hot chocolate under the stars. Best of all, the trail is **dog-friendly every evening**, so even four-legged family members can join in the fun.

New for this year: **Low Sensory Sessions** on **Tuesday 25 November**, offering a calmer way to enjoy the magic.

Tickets sell quickly, so book early to make magical memories your family will treasure.

[www.windsorilluminated.com](http://www.windsorilluminated.com)



**WINDSOR GREAT PARK ILLUMINATED**  
14 November '25 – 3 January '26



**2go! Raring2go!**

**WINTER 2025/26**

MAGAZINE & WEBSITE THE GO-TO GUIDE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

[raring2go.co.uk](http://raring2go.co.uk)

WINTER 2025/26

PLACES TO GO Pg 5  
Book your festive deals [www.raring2go.co.uk](http://www.raring2go.co.uk)

THINGS TO DO Pg 14-15

COMPETITIONS Pg 30  
WIN WIN! WINTER

<https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/maidenheadandwindsor/winter2025/>

# Penalty Notice Changes

Term Time Leave is only allowed in exceptional circumstances and must be agreed, in advance, by the Head of School. An Exceptional Leave form must be completed and the school may ask for further evidence to support the application.

## First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

- £160 per parent, per child, paid within 28 days.
- Reduced to £80 per parent if paid within 21 days.



**Please ensure you communicate all absences for your child to school.**

## Second Offence

Within 3 years, if a second Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be

- £160 per parent, per child, paid within 28 days.
- No reduction for early payment.

## Third Offence Onwards - Within 3 years of the first offence

The third time an offence is committed for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the magistrates court.

Fines can be around £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found to be guilty in the magistrate's court can show as a criminal record.

## Notices to Improve

A Notice to Improve is a final opportunity for a parent to engage in support and improve before a penalty notice is issued. If the national threshold has been met and support is appropriate but offers of support have not been engaged with by the parent or guardian or have not worked, a Notice to Improve should usually be sent to give parents or guardians a final chance to engage in support.

A Notice to Improve does not need to be issued in cases where support is not appropriate and an authorised officer can choose not to issue one in any case, including cases where support is appropriate but they do not expect a Notice to Improve would have any behavioural impact (because the parent has already received one for a similar offence).

If sufficient improvement is not made following the service of a Notice to Improve, a penalty notice may be issued either during or at the end of the designated time period.

## Don't forget.

Penalty Notices are issued Per Parent, Per Child.  
For example 3 siblings absent would result in each parent receiving 3 fines. This could amount to £960

[Click this link to visit the school website for further information.](#)



## 10 sessions in 10 weeks

Penalty Notices will be considered for any 10 sessions (not days) of unauthorised absence in 10 weeks.

**5 Consecutive days** of term time leave can trigger a Penalty Notice

## Punctuality

Children in Reception should be at the classroom door by 8.45am.

Children in Years 1 and 2 should be at their classroom door by 8.50am.

The school gates are locked at 8.55am. If your child arrives to school after this time, your child will receive an unauthorised late mark- this affects your child's attendance.

If arriving late, you must bring your child into the school office and sign them into school with a reason for the lateness.

# School Day

Year Group	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Start Lunch Finish →	8.45am 11.45pm - 12.45pm 3.15pm →	8.50am 12pm - 1pm 3.20pm →	8.50am 12.20pm - 1.20pm 3.20pm →

## The School Gates

The Alwyn and Courthouse gates open at 8.40am until 8.55am and 3.10pm until 3.35pm

The opening times allow movement between our two schools and provide different points of access which should help with traffic and parking in our area.

The gate opening times are different from the time your child is required to be in school.

## The Importance of Being on Time

**Reception children need to be in school by 8.45am.**

**Year 1 and 2 children need to be in school by 8.50am.**

The classroom doors will open at these times and close as soon as the last child in the line enters the classroom; this usually takes less than 3 minutes. Any child arriving after the classroom door is shut, will be marked as late. Knocking on the classroom door once it is closed is disruptive to the children as their teacher is having to keep opening the door instead of settling their class for the morning.

Please be on time every morning. It can be worrying for a child to enter a classroom late especially when their classmates are sat on the carpet ready to learn. All children should have come into school, put their belongings in the cloakroom, their book bag in their drawer and their water bottle in the tray and have been registered before 9am each morning.

## Attendance Matters

Being in school every day is extremely important for all children in order to receive the best possible start to their learning. Your child's attendance is vital to a successful education, as this is the foundation for lifelong learning. Lessons are planned in sequences and if a child misses a part of this sequence, they are at a disadvantage when it comes to committing that learning to long term memory.

If your child is slightly under the weather, but well enough to come into school, send them in and mention it to the class teacher. They will keep an eye on your child and phone you if there are any concerns.

## Reason for absence

Please let the office know the specific reason for your child's absence rather than feeling unwell or ill. This helps us monitor any small outbreaks of similar virus' and supports the recording of absence.

## Medical Appointments

If you have a medical appointment during the school day, inform the school before the appointment and provide a GP/Hospital appointment card or letter.

## Leave Requests

Holidays during term time will not be authorised. Any other exceptional circumstances will require supporting evidence that shows the child has to attend something that results in missed school days.

Fixed Penalty Notices (fines) may be triggered if your child misses 5 consecutive days of school or 10 sessions in 10 weeks. A session means a morning or afternoon, not a day.

Please ensure that you make all reasonable efforts to send your child into school.