



# Weekly Newsletter

FRIDAY 28th MARCH 2025

Loving Learning Together



# Latest News

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hasn't it been lovely to finally enjoy the sunshine this week? Forest School sessions have been especially enjoyable, and teachers have taken the opportunity to organise other outdoor learning sessions, taking advantage of the good weather to escape the classroom—Year 1 even went on a bear hunt!

Following our wonderful Lydiate Learning Trust Launch Day earlier this month, the Trust have put together a lovely film capturing some of the highlights. Follow the link here to have a look: <https://www.lydiatelearningtrust.co.uk/2025/03/28/knotty-ash-celebration-event/>



A highlight this week has been to see the generosity of our Knotty-Ashers, big and small. Thank you to everyone who has donated Easter eggs for our raffle.

And a great big WELL DONE to Nathan who raised an amazing £87 for charity by doing 5 days of litter picking and a sponsored run! What a little star!



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## DOT ART COMPETITION

**VOTE FOR US!** Congratulations to Theo, Ariya and Mohammed-Zayn, our top 3 artists in this year's dot-art schools competition! Please vote for your favourite before Thursday 24th April. Visit <https://schools.dot-art.com/browse-schools/> to find Knotty Ash and use the VOTE NOW button under your favourite shortlisted artwork. Don't forget to check your email to confirm your vote or your vote won't count!

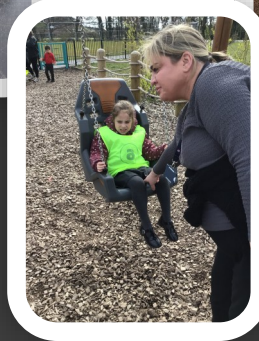


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We were delighted this week to receive photos of Oliver winning medals for his trampolining... along with a video showing exactly why he deserved them—what an amazing talent! Well done Oliver!



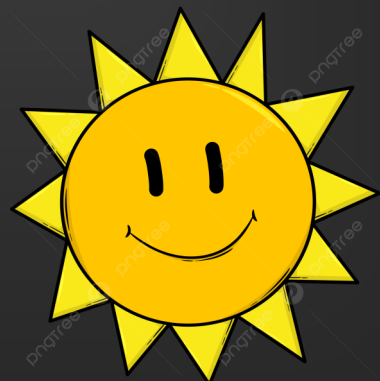
Some of our children went on a trip to the park this week. They looked for the signs of Spring... and had lots of fun in the playground.



Some of you will have seen images on social media showing dangerous items in the sandpit at Springfield Park. During the children's trip to the park, some sections had been cordoned off for cleaning by park volunteers. Please be reassured that thorough risk checks are conducted whenever we take children out of school.

Hope you all have a lovely weekend,

Miss Clements x



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# HAPPY MOTHERS DAY



**LET'S SIGN**

  
 mother/mummy

## Mothering Sunday

  
 mother/mummy





Happy Mother's Day




Love You

Mothering Sunday falls on Sunday March 30th 2025

© LET'S SIGN BSL graphics - [www.LetsSign.co.uk](http://www.LetsSign.co.uk)

**SENDING love TO ALL**

			
MOTHERS THAT HAVE LOST CHILDREN	CHILDREN THAT HAVE LOST THEIR MOTHER	THOSE THAT ARE LONGING TO BE MOTHERS	THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW THEIR MOTHERS
			
MOTHERS WHO ARE SINGLE	THOSE WHO ARE ADOPTED OR FOSTERED CHILDREN	THOSE WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM ILLNESS	THOSE WHO DO IT ALL FOR THEIR CHILD(REN)

**Macaroni KID**  
© CertifIKID



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### We Need You to be a Parent Governor

You may have seen an email from school asking for Parent Governors. We have two vacancies to join our friendly governing board, who meet once every 6 weeks to hear about school developments, ask questions and offer suggestions. There are documents to read, and it is a commitment but it's very rewarding and interesting. If you'd like a chat to find out more, please pop into school or give me a ring.

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This month, at Knotty Ash Primary School we've extended our partnership with Zero Food Waste. We are now hosting events in the school hall on a Saturday and Sunday evening.

Bags of food need to be booked in advance (see below for how to do this.) It's not a food bank; it's saving food from landfill :)

We are really pleased to be able to help with this good cause, but rest assured we are also working hard to make sure the school site is safe and there is minimal disruption to the local community.

**SAVEDAY EVENTS**

11 - 12pm  
Open Event - No booking required  
St Hilda's Church, Stuart Avenue, L25 ONG

12 - 1pm  
Open Event - No booking required  
Methodist Centre, Atherton Street, Prescot, L34 5QN

10pm  
Bagged Event - Bookings open at 7am  
Elm Hall Drive Methodist Church, Elm Hall Drive, L18 1LF

10pm  
Bagged Event - Bookings open at 7am  
Knotty Ash Primary School, Thomas Lane, L14 5NX

By working in partnership, saving surplus food & building community: great things can happen!

**SUNDAY EVENTS**

6pm  
Bagged Event - Bookings open at 7am  
The Place To Be, Eastern Avenue, L24 2SX

10pm  
Bagged Event - Bookings open at 7am  
Knotty Ash Primary School, Thomas Lane, L14 5NX

Everyone is welcome and everything we distribute is free

By working in partnership, saving surplus food & building community: great things can happen!

**HOW TO BOOK BAGS**

- Send us a message via messenger at 7am on the day you want to collect, bookings before 7am are not accepted.
- If there is more than 1 event that evening, please specify the event you wish to attend.
- All bags are allocated on a 1st come, 1st served basis in the order we receive messages.
- Please only send 1 message, someone will always reply, if you message multiple times you will lose your place.
- If you are allocated a bag, it will be ready for collection at 10pm.
- Please only request 1 bag per household per 7 day period.

By working in partnership, saving surplus food & building community: great things can happen!

**Zero Waste - Liverpool**  
7.2K likes • 11K followers

Like Message

Posts About More

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# What have we been learning?

## Nursery



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# What have we been learning?

## Reception



In literacy the children read the story "The Mother's Day Mice". They enjoyed sequencing the story and wrote some fantastic speech bubbles based on the story.

In PE the children have been taking part in different parachute games! They have had so much fun in PE this week!

The children finished the week by hosting a stay and play session for their parents! They loved showing their parents around and having the opportunity to complete activities together.

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 1



This week the children finished off writing their fact file about Antarctica and went on to begin exploring the story *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* before writing their own version next week. In Maths, the children have continued consolidating their understanding of numbers to 20 when doubling numbers and subtracting using a number line. In RE, the children learnt the Easter Story and sequenced the events. During our Geography lesson, the children secured their understanding of continents. In our BSL lesson with Miss Gloria, the children practised signing the alphabet, and some children got the opportunity to stand at the front of the class to show what they had learnt. We've had a lovely week in year 1 and we hope all our families have a nice weekend.

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 2



We've had a lovely week in our class and the children have been working really hard. In English, the children are developing their understanding of how to create a captivating sentence. We are using Scott's journey over a hundred years ago, and Felicity Aston's more recent expeditions to the South Pole, to inspire our own exploration story. The children are using a combination of compound and complex sentences to really bring a sense of danger and excitement to their story. Shortly, they will be collating their hard work into one cohesive piece in their showcase writing book. In Maths, we've developed a solid awareness of coin and note values and how to give the correct amount and we had a little bit of time to think about giving change too, before we've needed to move on to measurement. In Geography, we're learning the capital cities within the UK countries, as well as the names of the oceans around the world. A special treat on Wednesday was when the Dental Nurse Team came into class to teach us why it's important to brush our teeth. As ever, we're busy bees in year 2!

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 3



An amazing week closes in Year 3. The children have worked incredibly hard to learn difficult concepts. In English they have been learning to identify and construct main clauses (sentence) and subordinate clauses. We are hoping they will use their knowledge when writing their Stone Age stories which got off to an amazing start on Friday. In Maths they have been learning about perimeter and putting their knowledge of units of measure (m, cm and mm) to good use. So if you see them patrolling your perimeter fences you know why. In PE the children have been learning about holding tension in their bodies when they play tennis and use the apparatus in gymnastics. The children also spent time thinking about their parents and carers this week, in particular their Mums. Have a restful Mother's Day ready for the last push towards our Easter break.

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 4



Year 4 had a lovely start to the week in Forest School! We made some Mother's Day murals using objects around our forest school and we had a go printing flowers to make Mother's Day cards.

In maths, we have been focusing on our new topic of fractions in particular looking at mixed numbers on a number line.

In English, we have been in full writing mode as we draft up our plans for our own Stone Age themed stories! They are excellent so far and we look forward to finishing our draft next week!

In Art, we used clay to sculpt our very own Lion Man sculpture!

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 5



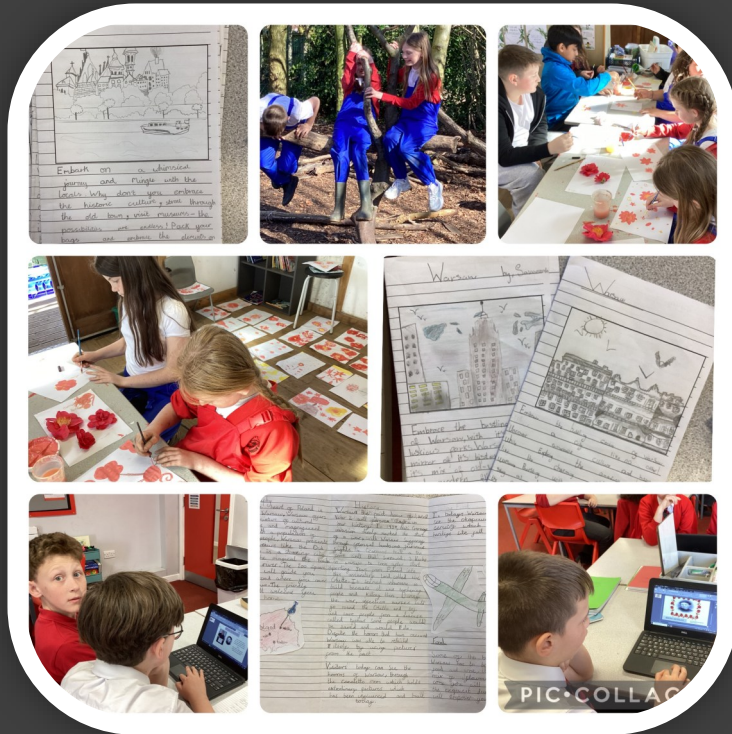
Year 5 ploughed their way through subtracting fractions this week. They even got on to the very difficult skill of subtracting fractions away from whole numbers. In English, we explored description and recapped on how to make interesting and exciting description. We also looked at mixing up our sentences lengths by using a variety of complex and simple sentences to build up tension. We even had Ms Hughes and Mr Patala teaching our English lessons this week! In History, we explored the Holocaust and what that means in today's world. For PE, we also continued our flag football! It's been a really interesting week!

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 6



Year 6 have been working extremely hard this week preparing for their sats. They started the week off with a lovely session in forest school including painting some spring blossom. In English, they have been writing and creating some absolutely amazing travel brochures for Warsaw including some fabulous illustrations. In maths, we have been looking at shape this week: types of angles, angles in triangles and quadrilaterals, circles and polygons. In computing, children are creating and recording a podcast using their knowledge of Irena Sendler. They have also been revising lots of topics, in SPAG looking at determiners and word families and keeping their arithmetic knowledge sharp with lots of mini quizzes. Keep up the hard work year 6!

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# What have we been learning?

## DRB 1



We cannot believe we have only one more week before Easter.

In the DRB we have been working really hard answering the questions 'where?' and 'doing what?' linked to our BSL story. Following this, we have been applying our knowledge of prepositions to real life situations. Please look on Seesaw for the filmed clips launching our Homework Challenge this weekend. We can't wait to see your photographs on Monday.

We have had fun using our counting and matching skills and discovered that we all really enjoy a game of dominoes. Our younger pupils have continued match quantities to BSL counting cards and have used these skills in cookery activities.

We have had tons of fun joining our friends for Art, PE and Forest School activities - just loving learning together!

Have a great weekend.

Team DRB

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# What have we been learning?

## DRB 2



This week our Junior DRB children have shown great progress in all areas of the curriculum and it's just lovely to see!

In Maths, they've been diving deeper into 2D shapes, and now they're confidently discussing their properties using impressive mathematical language. For example, "That is a quadrilateral." "A square has four equal sides and four vertices." "A regular hexagon has six equal sides, six vertices, and six lines of symmetry." or "An irregular pentagon has five vertices and five sides which are not of equal length."

In PE, we have been focusing on gymnastics, particularly balance. The children spent time practicing balancing on one leg before walking across the balance beam. Everyone did an amazing job and really challenged themselves.

In Languages, Ann started telling the captivating story of 'Escape from Pompeii'. The children were hooked from the very beginning, and are excited to explore the book further next week.

Wishing all the amazing mums, nans, and mother figures a wonderful Mother's Day this Sunday! Your love, support, and care make the world a better place. Enjoy your special day!

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# Attendance



Class	Attendance
Reception	91.7%
Year 1	93.3%
Year 2	93.3%
Year 3	96.8%
Year 4	93.1%
Year 5	96.4%
Year 6	94.3%

**Whole school attendance this week 94.1%**

**Class attendance winners Year 3 96.8%**

**Congratulations to Year 3—second week running!**

Remember, every child should be in school every day,  
unless they are too ill. For support, give us a call!

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# Online Safety

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

SNAP STREAK

97  
DAYS

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION  
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

### PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

### MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

### SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

### ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

### BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

### FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2021>

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# ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

## PROTECTING PRIVATE AND PERSONAL INFORMATION ONLINE

ISSUE 2

### PROTECTING YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

In today's digital age, it is more important than ever that children are learning how to protect their personal information online. Remind children that before sharing their information, they should ask themselves the following:

- Do I know this person?
- Is the site secure? (Look for a  in the web browser)
- Am I sharing any private details? (Birthday, school, address)

By following this process, children build a routine that protects their personal information.



### TOP ONLINE SAFETY TIPS FOR CHILDREN:

Help your child build smart online habits with these key tips:

- **Check privacy settings** – Only friends should see their posts.
- **Never share personal details** – No addresses, phone numbers, or school names.
- **Use strong passwords** – Mix letters, numbers, and symbols.
- **Only accept real friends** – Don't add strangers online.
- **Think before posting** – Photos and comments stay online forever.

### APP SPOTLIGHT - INSTAGRAM



This week's app spotlight is **Instagram**. Instagram is popular for sharing pictures and videos, but as a parent, it's important to know what to monitor if your child is using it. Without guidance, children could be exposed to harmful content, strangers, or pressure to post things they don't fully understand.

- Instagram requires users to be at least 13.
- Make sure your child's account is set to private.
- Regularly check who is following them; they should only connect with people they know.
- Keep up with what they are posting.

Scan the QR code to learn more:







# Who's Who?

## Leadership Team

**Miss Clements**     Headteacher

**Mr England**     Deputy Headteacher & SENDCo

**Ms Sweeney**     Head of Deaf Resource Base

**Mrs O'Hanlon**     Forest School and Mental Health Lead

**Mrs Carson**     School Business Manager

## Teachers

**Mrs Davies**     Nursery

**Mrs England**     Reception

**Mrs Nugent**     Year 1

**Mr Houghton**     Year 2

**Mrs O'Hanlon/Mrs Cartwright**     Year 3

**Miss Kerr**     Year 4

**Mr Hall**     Year 5

**Miss Hunter**     Year 6

**Mrs Woods**     DRB 1

**Mrs Rigg**     DRB 2

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# Term Dates and Events

Tuesday 1st April	Easter Bonnet parade
Wednesday 2nd April	Reception class Pirate Party
Friday 4th April	End of term 1:30pm

Term dates for this year and next year are available on the school website:

[School Term Dates and Inset Days – Knotty Ash Primary School](#)

PLEASE NOTE:

SUMMER TERM ENDS ON FRIDAY 18TH JULY.

Not Tuesday 22nd July as previously advised.

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# Family Activities & Support

The latest edition of the Liverpool Parenting Newsletter is here.

[www.allabout-family.co.uk/liverpool](http://www.allabout-family.co.uk/liverpool)

You will find new information about local support available for families and children in Liverpool, along with information regarding events and activities on offer running from March to May 2023.

We have also been sent information about Family Learning and Engagement Courses run by LCC Adult Learning Service. This can be found on our school website, link here:

<https://knotty-ash-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/family-information-and-support/>

For families in receipt of benefits related free school meals, there are a variety of activities over the Summer break, all of which are free and include a meal:

<https://merseyplay.com/summer-haf-holiday-activities-food-2023/>

Locally, St John's Church offer a range of community groups and activities for families:

<https://www.stjohnsknottyash.org/our-community>

There's also a range of groups and activities available at Yew Tree Children's Centre for parents whose children are 0-5 years.

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-years-and-childcare/childrens-centres/yew-tree-childrens-centre/>

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# **JOIN OUR**

## **FRIENDS OF BRIGHT PARK**

### **VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY**

Come and be a part of developing and maintaining the park and its programmes.

## Get Involved With:

- Park Maintenance
- Educational Activities
- Event Organising
- Administration
- Holiday Clubs
- Fundraising



**Come visit us at:**

Bright Park,  
81 Thomas Lane,  
Knotty Ash, L14 5NS



**REGISTER NOW**



0151 903 9488



[connect@brightpark.co.uk](mailto:connect@brightpark.co.uk)



# Pack your child a **HEALTHY LUNCH BOX**

Choose a variety of foods from each food group



Fruit



Vegetables



Dairy



Wholegrains



Lean meat  
& alternatives



A Healthy Lunch Box



MAKE WATER  
YOUR DRINK



PACK ICE BRICKS  
TO KEEP FOOD  
COOL



USE A THERMOS  
TO KEEP FOOD  
WARM



Health

This resource was developed and designed by the Health Promotion Service, Western Sydney Local Health District, with contribution by South Eastern Sydney Local Health District and Western Downs Local Health District.

[60 kids' lunchbox recipes | BBC Good Food](#)

[School packed lunch inspiration | BBC Good Food](#)

[Healthy packed lunches - British Nutrition Foundation](#)

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It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

### **Other illnesses** Follow this advice for other illnesses:

#### **Coughs and colds**

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

#### **High temperature**

If your child has a [high temperature](#), keep them off school until it goes away.

#### **Chickenpox**

If your child has [chickenpox](#), keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over.

This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

#### **Cold sores**

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a [cold sore](#).

Encourage them not to touch the blister or to share things like cups and towels.

#### **Conjunctivitis**

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have [conjunctivitis](#).

Get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

#### **COVID-19**

If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can go to school. Your child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have [symptoms of COVID-19](#) and they either:

- have a high temperature
- do not feel well enough to go to school or do their normal activities

#### **Ear infection**

If your child has an [ear infection](#) and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

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## Hand, foot and mouth disease

If your child has hand, foot and mouth disease but seems well enough, there's no need to keep them off school. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.

## Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice but tie hair back. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.

## Impetigo

If your child has impetigo, they'll need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups.

## Ringworm

If your child has ringworm, see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

## Scarlet fever

If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

## Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. But let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

## Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away. A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.

## Threadworms

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms. Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

## Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).



<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

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