



Be our best selves

COUGHTON

C of E Primary School

Issue 1

Key dates

Tuesday 24 th September	individual School Photographs
Thursday 26 th September	Open Day – Reception Entry 2025
Tuesday 1 st October	Open Day – Reception Entry 2025
Wednesday 2 nd October	Flu Immunisation – whole school
Thursday 3 rd October	PTA AGM School Hall 7pm
Wednesday 9 th – Thursday 10 th October	Parents evenings (Virtual on MS Teams)
Thursday 17 th October	Harvest Festival St Peters Church
Thursday 24 th October	Autumn Bake Sale On playground after school
Friday 25 th October	INSET Day School Closed to pupils
Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November	Half Term – School closed to pupils
Monday 4 th November	School Reopens to Pupils
Friday 8 th November	PTA QUIZ night 7.30pm at school
Saturday 7 th December	Christmas Fair Eric Payne Centre Alcester 12-3pm
Friday 20 th December	School closes for the Christmas holidays
Monday 23 rd December to Monday 6 th January 2025	Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 7 th January 2025	School reopens to pupils



Dear Families,

Welcome back! What a wonderful start to the term. It has been lovely to see the children settling into their new classes and engaging positively with their learning.

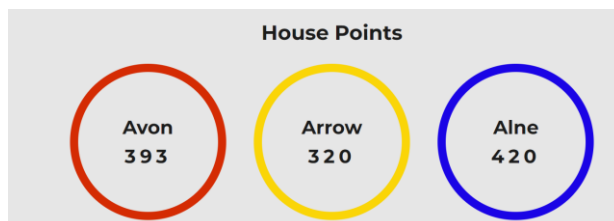
Welcome to all of our new families, those who start their journey in Reception with us and those who have joined us in year groups across the school. It is great to welcome you as part of our Coughton community.

This first issue has some key dates across the year so it may be worth adding to your calendars. I also attach a newsletter from the PTA which provides details about future meetings and upcoming events.

We are aware of some uniform orders not being processed from Alcester Schoolwear Shop. If you have had an issue with this please let us know.

Head of School
Mr Alex Kolb

Christian virtue: Respect



Coughton CE Primary School

Coughton CE Primary School
Coughton Lane
Coughton
B49 5HN
01789 762444

Important updates for Parents and Carers

Uniform

A reminder to name all clothing brought to school so that it can be easily returned to its owner. We are reminding children and allowing time at the end of the day for them to collect all of their things.

The second hand uniform stall in the PTA shelter is selling items for £1 each or online via <https://coughton-school-pta.sumupstore.com/>

Holiday / Leave of Absence Requests

All holiday requests will be unauthorised unless the circumstances are deemed exceptional by the Head of School. Should you wish to request leave of absence for your child(ren) please collect a form from the office.

Term dates 2024/25 can be found here:

<https://www.coughtonschool.org/term-dates/>

INSET DAYS

24/25- School,Closed For Children

Friday 25th October

Monday 6th January

Monday 2nd June

Monday 21st July

Wraparound

We have a digital wraparound booking system. For details and to book a place please follow the link:

<https://coughton.childcare-online-booking.co.uk/>

Breakfast club from 7.30am,
after school club until 6pm
(Fridays until 5.30pm).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wight 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the

Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).

- First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
- Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.

Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.

- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.

2024/2025 Leave of absence

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

The law relating to Penalty Notices is due to change with effect from 1 September 2024. Therefore Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absences taken after this date will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).
 - First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
 - Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount,
- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.
- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice) A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.

Warwickshire Attendance Service



COUGHTON SCHOOL OPEN MORNINGS

**THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER & TUESDAY 1ST OCTOBER
9.30AM-11.30AM**

**EXPERIENCE A SCHOOL DAY AT COUGHTON
SEE SCHOOL LESSONS IN PROGRESS
VISIT OUR FOREST SCHOOL
MEET MEMBERS OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY**

**TO BOOK ON TO ONE OF THE ABOVE SESSIONS PLEASE EMAIL
ADMIN3021@WELEARN365.COM WITH YOUR PREFERRED TOUR
DATE, NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS.**

www.coughtonschool.org

A reminder that those in Year 6 have until 31st October to apply for a secondary school.

Applying for a secondary school place

**1
September**

Application opens

31 October

Closing date for applications

**31
December**

Extended closing date for house moves

3 March

National Offer Day

31 March

Deadline for submitting appeals

Parents and carers

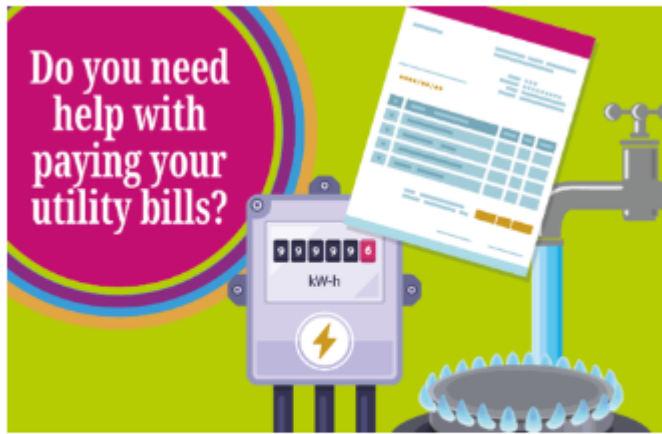


Empower your parenting journey by joining insightful workshops and programmes

The Family and Relationship Support Team provide online guides, virtual and face to face workshops and programmes for parents and carers. Topics include sleep, behaviour, teenagers, nurture, boundaries and rules, and more.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides>

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/warwickshire-parenting-support-71623337213>



Do you need help with paying your utility bills?

Apply for support to pay household bills

Warwickshire residents struggling to pay their utility bills can look to Warwickshire County Council for support.

Until 27 September 2024 the council's Local Welfare Scheme is distributing government funding from the Department for Work and Pensions' Household Support Fund to people living in the county who are finding it difficult to meet these household costs.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5542/apply-for-support-to-pay-household-bills>

https://inourplace.heiapply.com/online-learning/register?fbclid=IwY2xjawFCrKxleHRuA2FibQIxMAABHVs0dbrW20wkEwZkDosw7JEpQT_qUOCN3FyiA2HgEHmYXEAoSFRB-1f65w_aem_NJMgOTsVtY6pX6sfp7G

A



Workshops with Warwickshire Family and Relationship Support

Come along to three taster sessions and learn about the Warwickshire County Council Family and Relationship Offer. There will be introductions to our workshops and programmes with a focus on understanding children's behaviour, boundaries and rules, and routines and sleep including Q&A opportunities.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/understanding-childrens-behaviour-taster-session-rugby-tickets-939380360947?aff=odtdtcreator>

Does your child have all they need in their emotional 'kit bag'?

With the new school year starting, Solihull Approach is sharing their reflections and suggestions of what you can 'pack' into your child's emotional 'kit bag'.

Have you thought what your child might need emotionally to make the transition into their new year group a smooth one? Why not visit [inourplace](https://inourplace.com) to learn more about your child's emotional health and what their behaviour might be telling you?

Key Dates- In advance

Sports Day:
26th June 2025 1pm

Grandparent Gardening Day:
8th May 2025

Engaging Science day
7th March 2025

Parents Evenings:
9th and 10th October Microsoft Teams (Online)
5th and 6th February 2025 (In person)

Christmas Fair:
Saturday 7th December 2024, 12-3pm (Eric Payne Centre)

Car Parking

A reminder to park sensibly around the school site so that residents have access to their driveways. Please do not park on the double lines at the junctions to any of the surrounding roads. It is a danger to all road users if traffic can not turn into the road from the A435.

.

DOGS

A reminder that Warwickshire Schools are dog free areas except for guide dogs or assistance dogs. Please do not to bring dogs on to the school site whether on leads or being carried in arms.



<https://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/>

School anxiety



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zdkn3qt#z2d346f>

<https://www.autismcentral.org.uk/hubs/midlands-delivered-contact-and-ambitious-about-autism>



<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=f8bc22402f>

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-send/send-support-mainstream-education>

WhatsApp Group warning

Whilst WhatsApp has an age rating of 13+ (recently lowered from 16), a BBC investigation has found that children as young as nine have been added to WhatsApp groups and seen inappropriate content. If your child is using WhatsApp, check their group settings as by default, group privacy settings are set to 'everyone,' which means anybody can add your child to a group without their approval. You can change this setting to 'My Contacts' so only contacts can add them to groups without their approval and if somebody who is not a contact wants to add them to a group then they will need to send them an invite.

You should talk to your child about the risks of joining groups and show them how to use the reporting/blocking tools. You can find out more about the BBC investigation here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy0l4z8n1p9o>

Other recommended resources

Parent Info – Expert information for parents about digital family life www.parentinfo.org.

NSPCC Net Aware – Provides reviews and guidance on the most popular social networks, apps and games that children use. <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

NSPCC PANTS (The underwear rule) – A simple way to keep children safe from abuse, by teaching them to remember the 5 rules that spell 'PANTS'. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule/>

Internet Matters – A useful tool showing how to set parental controls across a range of devices and websites. <http://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/interactive-guide/>

CEOP social media:

For up to date information and advice:

- @CEOPUK on Twitter
- ClickCEOP on Facebook



Student Corner



Student Corner



Protective Behaviours

– what's that?



Protective Behaviours (PBs) is an internal process where each person applies the ideas to their own unique experience. This paper looks at what Protective Behaviours is and some of its uses. It is intended as an information paper with the hope the reader will see its relevance to their specific interests and will then attend training.

The PBs process is presented here as separate sections. In practice, all interact and support each other - to take one section out leaves the others incomplete.

Unwritten rules of society

We see how certain rules of society have a powerful influence on our choices of behaviour. Whilst these rules can be positive and help guide our interactions, many of them tell us we should, ought, or must behave in a particular way. For instance, children should do as adults tell them; professionals should always have the answer; men should not show their feelings and women should behave in a ladylike manner. These rules are not written down, are often contradictory and may not fit with our own experience. During training we look at their function, how they develop, their effects and why we may choose to follow them or not.

Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviours

During this session we look at the interaction between our feelings, thoughts and behaviour. We see that feelings are feelings, neither right nor wrong, good nor bad, positive nor negative. Some people seem to mask one feeling with another or use behaviour as a way of avoiding or covering feelings. We look at how behaviour is a choice with an effect. These effects may involve others as well as ourselves. Sometimes we do not know what our choices are or they may be limited by factors we cannot change. Once we are in touch with our feelings it helps free us to use our thinking. Our thinking can influence both our feelings and behaviour.

Theme 1 'We all have the right to feel safe all the time'

We explore this theme in detail, carefully looking at the connection between rights and responsibilities. We also take the concepts of blame and punishment out of commonly held ideas associated with responsibilities. Instead we focus on the 'ability to respond' contained within the meaning of the word. The difference between having a responsibility for ourselves and to others is also examined. Next we discover for ourselves the difference between feeling safe, fun to feel scared (adventurous), risking on purpose (which may not feel like fun but we want the goal at the end) and feeling unsafe. These differences are recognised by what we call our 'Early Warning Signs' (EWS), the specific bodily responses which tell us when we do not feel safe. These universal body signs mean Protective Behaviours is accessible to all people, irrespective of age, gender, sexuality, nationality, ability or belief system.

Theme 2 'We can talk with someone about anything, even if feels awful or small'

This theme is also explored in detail. In particular we focus on the ideas and effects of 'talking', and what might happen if we do not believe this theme. We encourage everyone to develop their personal networks of support; those people they could turn to if in need. Desired qualities of network people are identified and we examine how we would know if someone has these qualities. Types of networks and ways of letting people know we need to talk with them are also explored.



<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides>

Dimensions Toolkit

Helping to understand children and best ways to support their needs.



What are the Dimensions?

- Worrying and Anxiety
- Mood
- Sleep
- Relationships
- Loss and Grief
- Sensory Responses
- Education, Training or Work
- Addictions
- Eating
- Supportive Environments

<https://dimensions.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/>



Free guides, workshops and programmes for parents and carers

The [online courses](#) are designed to increase the confidence of parents-to-be, mums, dads, grandparents, and carers. All the courses can be completed flexibly, at your own pace. The courses are FREE for Warwickshire residents using the access code **BEAR**.

View the range of virtual and face to face workshops and programmes on the [Warwickshire Family and Relationship Support Eventbrite page](#) and make sure to follow to keep up with new updates.

There's also a selection of other online and face-to-face [courses for parents](#), covering a wide range of topics.