



Be our best selves

# COUGHTON

C of E Primary School

**Issue 10**

## Key dates

ag	
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Author visit
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	PTA Valentine Themed Cake Sale
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Half term
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	PTA Masquerade Ball
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Drumming Workshop - Willow Class
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Engaging Science Day
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Class photographs
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	School closes for Easter holidays
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	School Reopens for Summer Term
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term - school closed to pupils
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	INSET Day - school closed to pupils
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	School reopens to pupils
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	School closes to pupils for summer holidays



Dear Families,

We have witnessed some incredible work being produced across all year groups .It has been a pleasure seeing the children working so hard and trying their best.

It has been brilliant seeing many families in school for parents evening over the last couple of evenings. A reminder that parents meetings for pupils on the SEND register are coming up next week.

Throughout January we have had an increased focus on how grammar is being applied across children’s work. This started with a worship that explored the importance of strong foundations and has helped children to build their knowledge and skills. We are starting to see the impact of this in the accuracy of the children’s written work.

A reminder to keep us informed of any changes of address, phone numbers or medical needs so that we can keep our records up to date and help to support the children in case of emergency.

Head of School  
**Mr Alex Kolb**

**Christian virtue: Perseverance**  
**Alne: 600**  
**Avon: 340**  
**Arrow: 285**

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



Coughton CE Primary School

## Can you help?

We are looking to develop our lunchtime play provision by introducing some 'loose parts' play. Do you have any of the following (or similar) items you could donate?

Good quality pallets

Large drainage pipes

Clean tarpaulins

Scaffold planks

Large wooden cable reels

Dressing up clothes

Toy cars, blocks, small world play figures...

If you have any other resources you think might be suitable, please get in touch!



THANK YOU!





# CHATTER BOOKS

**A NEW READING GROUP  
FOR 9-12 YEAR OLDS AT  
ALCESTER LIBRARY  
FOURTH FRIDAY OF  
EVERY MONTH 3:45-4:45  
FREE TO JOIN!**

**THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO  
ALL - PLEASE CONTACT US  
IF ANY ADDITIONAL  
SUPPORT MAY BE  
REQUIRED**

ALCESTERLIBRARY@WARWICKSHIRE.GOV.UK  
ALCESTER LIBRARY  
GLOBE HOUSE, PRIORY ROAD  
ALCESTER B49 5DZ



[https://www.justgiving.com/page/coughton-cofe-primary-school-7?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/coughton-cofe-primary-school-7?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)



# 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

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> 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).



COUGHTON  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

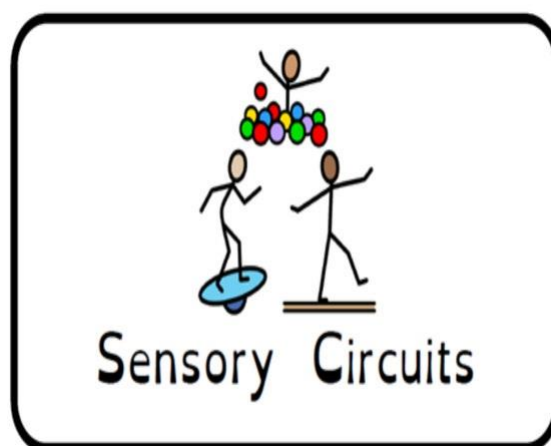


## Spotlight on SEND Autumn Term Highlights



As part of our involvement in the PINs project we were thrilled to welcome Heather from the **Autistic Girls Network** to our school this term. She presented an assembly to our Key Stage 2 pupils about Peer Acceptance. It was great to see a number of parents in attendance also.

**Sensory circuits** continue to provide a purposeful start to the day for a number of our pupils and we have received really positive feedback from the children, staff and parents about how much this has helped set them up for a day of learning. Thank you to Mrs Satchwell and Mrs Hemming for running this provision.



Thank you to those who have attended these meetings and given feedback.



**Calm kits** are now established in all classrooms as a tool that can support regulation for all pupils. They are portable and contain a variety of items including fidget toys, weighted objects, visual calming strategies and blankets. Many thanks to the PTA for funding these resources.

Our SENCO Mrs Blackwell can be reached by emailing [SENCO3021@welearn365.com](mailto:SENCO3021@welearn365.com)

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

## Warwickshire Attendance Service

## Key Dates- In advance

Safer internet day  
**11<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

Engaging Science day  
**7<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

World Book Day:  
**6<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Grandparent Gardening Day:  
**8<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

Sports Day:  
**26<sup>th</sup> June 2025 1pm**

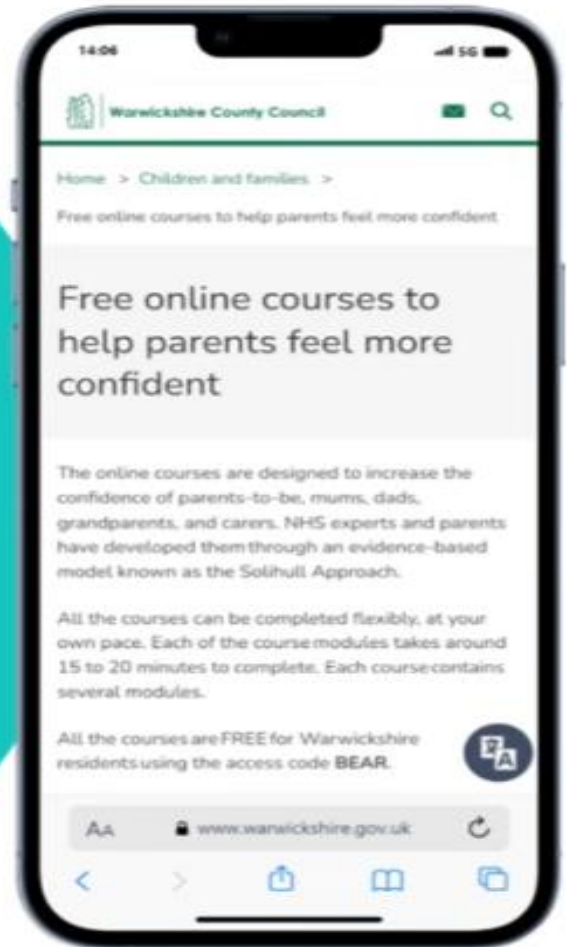
### DOGS

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.



# An online course to help you Understanding your child with additional needs

visit  
[warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides)  
to get started for free



## Free

**'Understanding your child with additional needs'  
course is for parents and carers of children who  
may be neurodiverse, or have a physical or  
learning disability**

Whatever their developmental age, these ideas and techniques may help you better understand your child and how to help process or manage their emotions.

Use the code **BEAR** to get free access.

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



## Spotlight on children's mental health: Know yourself, grow yourself

Children's Mental Health Week 2025 will take place from 3-9 February, with this year's theme: Know yourself, grow yourself.

This theme places focus on encouraging children and young people across the UK to be more self-aware and understand their reactions and motivations to help them grow, build resilience, and thrive.

The charity leading the initiative, Place2Be, has a range of free resources available on their website to help anyone promote or support the week.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5935/spotlight-on-children-s-mental-health-know-yourself-grow-yourself>



## Latest Warwickshire SEND newsletter is out!

January's edition of the Warwickshire SEND Newsletter is now available!

Find out about an upcoming Supported Internships fair for young people with an EHC Plan thinking "what next" after education, free SENDIAS consultations for parents and carers and a Minecraft-themed online social group for autistic teenagers. Plus more updates on SEND in Warwickshire.

<https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire/send-january25-8827902?e=5782bec683>

## Warwickshire SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2024-2029

In December 2024, Warwickshire County Council approved the Warwickshire SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2024-2029.

The strategy is a comprehensive five-year plan designed to address key challenges in services for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

The strategy has been shaped through the collaborative efforts of the Warwickshire SEND and Inclusion Partnership Board, reflecting a diverse range of expertise and experiences. It has been developed through significant engagement with key stakeholders, ensuring the voices of those who use and deliver SEND services have been central to its creation.

Key contributors include Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice, IMPACT (a group of young people with SEND experience), headteachers and SENCOs, health and social care partners and Department for Education representatives.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5825/cabinet-approves-warwickshire-send-and-inclusion-strategy-2024-2029>



Well done to the Y5/6 indoor sportshall athletics team who performed brilliantly at Alcester Grammar School finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the region!

## Free SEND consultations available for parents and carers

### Do you need to speak to a SEND advisor?

Warwickshire SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIAS) offers free impartial and confidential advice to young people aged 16-25 and parents/carers of children living with SEND across the county.

If you are looking for advice, you can now book an appointment to meet with a SEND advisor for a free 45-minute consultation. Appointment dates and times will be released at the start of each month.

You can choose your preferred way to book. Either visit the [SENDIAS Eventbrite page](#) or complete a [Consultation Request Form](#). Alternatively, you can get in touch with SENDIAS to request a call back by phoning **01788 593159** or emailing [warwickshiresendias@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:warwickshiresendias@barnardos.org.uk)

Below are details of upcoming SENDIAS consultations at Children and Family (C&F) Centres across Warwickshire:

- **St Michael's C&F Centre, Bedworth** - 20 March, 9.30am - 3pm
- **Riversley Park C&F Centre, Nuneaton** - 14 February and 1 April, 9.30am - 3pm
- **Claremont C&F Centre, Rugby** - 26 February and 9 April, 9.30am - 12.30pm
- **Stratford C&F Centre, Stratford-upon-Avon** – 14 March, 10am – 2.30pm
- **Lillington C&F Centre, Warwick** - 7 February and 25 March, 10am – 3.30pm

You can also [follow Warwickshire SENDIAS on Facebook](#) for regular updates and events.

# 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.