



Parklands High School

Learn | Respect | Aspire | Achieve

parklandsacademy.co.uk

 An Aspirational
Futures School

Parent Bulletin

23RD JULY 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write my final bulletin to you, it is undeniable that when you dedicate so much of your life to a place and its people, it becomes far more than just a job, it becomes a second home. Actually, if I'm being completely honest, Parklands has been like my "other child". And just like any child, it has brought me endless joy, a few grey hairs (expertly covered!), and an overwhelming amount of pride.

Throughout my 29 years here, doing my best for our young people has been at the very heart of everything I have done. My own personal and professional lives essentially grew up together in these corridors. I've gone from Art teacher to Assistant Head, Deputy, and ultimately had the immense honour of becoming Headteacher three years ago. Over nearly three decades, I have been privileged to watch generations of your children grow, thrive, and succeed, and also many of you as past pupils!

While leadership comes with many events and milestones, what truly sits at the heart of Parklands is people, the daily lived experience of our children, and the incredible, dedicated staff who work tirelessly to make it the best it can possibly be.

Look no further than our recent *Learning Challenge Festival* for proof of what makes our school so unique. In all its glorious, chaotic brilliance, we saw pupils creating memories that I know they will still be talking about when they are 40!

Parklands has always been a place where young people are accepted for who they are, where real character, individuality, and potential are celebrated. Whether it's welcoming new pupils taking their very first steps as a "Parklander", or watching our Year 11s arrive at Prom with immense pride, this school is a place where young people succeed because they are truly cared for.

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Headteacher's Message Cont'd....

It is always dangerous to name individuals because every single member of staff, past and present, gives so much heart to this school every day. They all have my heartfelt thanks.

To our pupils, thank you for the laughs, the energy, and the sheer joy you bring to every single day. Those are the moments that stay with you forever.

People have asked me over the last few weeks if I will miss it. What I will miss most is the daily opportunity to make a difference. But as I step away to do something different, I do so with a heart full of gratitude.

In a world that often seems obsessed with fame and status, my hope for all our young people is that they strive to be "rich" in the knowledge that they do things that truly matter. It is a beautiful gift to be the person who steps forward with a hand out to help others, and that is the spirit I know Parklands will always embody.

Thank you, parents and carers, for trusting us with your children, for your partnership, and for your warmth over the years. Leading this wonderful school community has been the absolute honour of my life.

I wish you, your families, and the entire Parklands community every health, happiness, and success for the future.

With my warmest wishes and deepest thanks.

Mrs C Batson

*Important Changes to Free School Meal (FSM)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to make all families aware of important national changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility which will come into effect from September 2026.

From September 2026, all pupils in households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to Free School Meals. The current £7,400 earnings threshold will be removed. This means that many more families will qualify for FSM from the start of the new academic year. Lancashire County Council will recheck all pupils who currently receive FSM before September and will contact families directly if there is any change in eligibility.

End of transitional protections

Transitional protections, which have allowed some pupils to remain eligible since 2018, will also end at the close of the 2025/26 academic year. Please reapply if you believe you are still eligible.

Annual eligibility checks

From 2026 onwards, eligibility will be checked every summer before the start of each academic year.

Two FSM categories from September 2026:

Targeted FSM

This group will continue to generate Pupil Premium (PP) funding for schools. It includes:

- Children in households receiving Universal Credit with earnings below £7,400 per year (after tax, before benefits)
- Children who have been eligible for FSM at any point in the past six years (Ever6)
- Looked-after children, and those who have left care through adoption, a special guardianship order or a child arrangements order
- Children of service families

Pupil Premium funding allows us to provide additional academic support, enrichment opportunities and resources for eligible pupils. This package includes; trip allowances, access to additional funds at breaktime, stationary, uniform and academic resources etc.

Expanded FSM

This new group includes all other households receiving Universal Credit. These pupils will be entitled to FSM, but this group does not generate Pupil Premium funding. Schools will therefore not receive the additional grant that funds wider support such as trip subsidies, equipment assistance or technology loans.

Families supported under the Immigration & Asylum Act

Families receiving support under the Immigration and Asylum Act can continue to apply for FSM. The local authority will assess eligibility in line with national guidance.

How to apply

If you believe your child may be eligible under either FSM category, please apply online at:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=3>

Lancashire County Council has advised that their website is not yet fully updated to reflect the September 2026 changes. For this reason, all Universal Credit households, both Targeted FSM and Expanded FSM, should tick the same box on the application form (in relation to universal credit). The local authority will then assess eligibility correctly under the new framework.

You will need:

- National Insurance number (or National Asylum Support Service number)
- Date of birth
- Full name and address
- Details of benefits received, including Universal Credit information
- Your child's full name, date of birth and current school

Applications are confidential and processed directly by Lancashire County Council. They will confirm eligibility and notify us.

School Record Form (Parklands Internal Process)

To help us prepare for September and ensure your child receives their free school meal from the first day of term, please also complete our internal form via the link below, **once you have submitted your FSM application: [Parklands FSM Confirmation Form](#)**. This allows us to update our records promptly..

Evidence of your eligibility can be handed in at the main school office, or emailed to pupilpremium@parklandsacademy.co.uk. Please see the form for examples of evidence.

Further information

We have also included a link to a leaflet provided by Lancashire County Council, which summarises the changes and explains what families need to do. If you require advice about Free School Meals eligibility or applications, you can contact your local Pupil Access Team.

Further updates will be shared with families as Lancashire County Council releases additional guidance.

Yours sincerely,

Miss S Rhodes

Assistant Headteacher

pupilpremium@parklandsacademy.co.uk

[Click for more information](#)

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Trip Allowances:

From September, students who are eligible for **Free School Meals (FSM)** under the targeted FSM criteria or who qualify for Pupil Premium will receive a **£100** annual trip allowance. This funding is not available for the new, expanded FSM group introduced nationally.

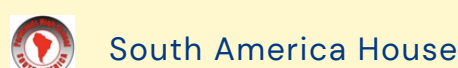
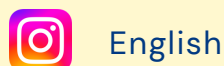
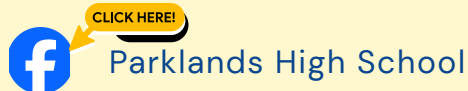
To access this support, a student's Behaviour for Learning and attendance must meet school expectations throughout the year.

Parents and carers are encouraged to use this allowance across a series of trips, rather than allocating the full amount to a single larger expedition, so that students can benefit from a wider range of experiences.

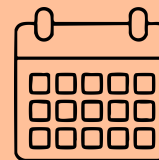
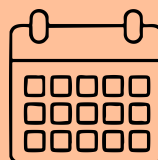
Miss S Rhodes
Assistant Headteacher

School Socials

Don't forget to check our Facebook and Instagram pages to see what's been happening this week...



Key Dates



Friday 24th July

School closes at 1:00 pm

Support Available for Families

With the Household Support Fund food vouchers now coming to an end, we want to reassure families that a wide range of help is still available locally.

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme
Local Food Clubs and Emergency Food Support
Family Support Webpage & E-Booklet
Crisis and Resilience Fund
Additional Local Services

[Click for more info!](#)

SKI TRIP

- 5 full days with ski instruction
- Ski hire
- Boot hire
- All meals provided including breakfast on the outbound and inbound journey
- Full area ski lift pass
- Apres ski programme including bowling, pizza, ice cream & disco
- Trip hoody
- Helmet hire
- Comprehensive winter sports insurance.

Open to years 7-9

The next trip will not go until 2029 so don't miss out!

PLACES AVAILABLE!

13th February 2027
7 days
Total cost: £1590
Deposit: £100



Deposit Payments Via ScoPay
 Email Miss Marr more information.
 gmarr@parklandsacademy.co.uk
 Letters available from the pavilion office.

The bulletin is now available to view [here](#) in Arabic, Kurdish, Russian and Romanian.

العربية
 جديد: اضغط هنا لعرض النشرة باللغة العربية

كوردی
 نوێ: لێره کلیک بکه بۆ بینینی بڵاوکراوهکه به زمانی کوردی

Русский
 Новинка: [Нажмите здесь, чтобы просмотреть бюллетень на русском языке](#)

Română
 Nou: [Faceți clic aici pentru a vizualiza buletinul în limba română](#)



Breakfast Clubs Are Back

Families visiting their local Morrisons Café throughout the summer holidays can enjoy a free 'Kellogg's Breakfast', which includes a bowl of cereal and a portion of fruit. The best part, it's not just for kids, adults get to eat completely free too.



[Click for more information!](#)

Weekly Learning Support Board

Learning Support Board
 Week Commencing
 20th July 2026

Education is a dress rehearsal for a life that is yours to lead
 NORA EPHRON

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Local Offer in Lancashire

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

Jokes of the Week

Stay SAFE By water On roads In the sun

Useful Links

Follow us on Instagram: phs_learningsupport

Parklands Big Vote Winner

We are delighted to announce that the winning political party in this year's Parklands Big Vote is **Learning Affects Futures (LAF)**, led by **Dainton**. The group produced a truly fantastic campaign video and demonstrated impressive teamwork, creativity, and confidence throughout the project.

A huge well done to **Dainton** and the entire **LAF** team for their outstanding effort and for inspiring their peers with their vision for Parklands. He will now take up their honorary seat on the Student Council panel for the rest of their time at Parklands.

Congratulations to all students who took part — the standard of work this year in Aspire was exceptional.



Global Goals Fair Winners



We are thrilled to share that the winning project at this year's Global Goals Fair goes to **Mila, Lilly, Bailey and Gracie**. They truly went above and beyond for their project and as a result, their work stood out for its creativity, depth, and the powerful message it delivered about mental health.

Their project was clear, thoughtful, and communicated with real passion and enthusiasm. It was evident how much care and commitment went into shaping a project that not only informed but inspired everyone who visited their stall.

A huge well done to the winning team for producing such an exceptional piece of work — a project that will be remembered for its impact and its heart.



[Click for latest news!](#)

CAREER News



£3000 raised for Derian House



We are absolutely thrilled and immensely proud to announce that during Learning Challenge Week, our incredible students and staff raised a grand total of £3,000 for Derian House Children's Hospice as part of the Derian Junior Business Challenge!

Our students showed amazing creativity, teamwork and entrepreneurial spirit throughout the week. They set up and ran a fantastic variety of stalls, making and selling delicious milkshakes and candy floss, handmade diamond art gifts and beautiful jewellery, mouthwatering baked goods, scented homemade candles and tasty street food

The excitement didn't stop at the stalls, tickets flew for our huge inflatable assault course and for the epic Staff vs. Year 11 charity football match that had everyone cheering from the sidelines.

A massive thank you to everyone who participated, helped out, bought tickets and donated to such a wonderful cause. We couldn't be prouder of our school community!

General Noticeboard



PLAYERS WANTED!
NEW LONGTON ROVERS JFC
U14's TEAM
 2026/27 SEASON

FOR PLAYERS GOING INTO YEAR 9 THIS SEPTEMBER

PLAYING IN CHAMPIONSHIP
 TRAINING AT LONGTON PLAYING FIELD
 FRIENDLY TEAM, GREAT COACHES & FANTASTIC CLUB ENVIRONMENT
 A CLUB THAT DEVELOPS PLAYERS & BUILDS CONFIDENCE

INTERESTED? CONTACT THE CLUB OR THE TEAM MANAGER DIRECTLY: **07583 845557**

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Bobby Singh, and I'm a coach at New Longton Rovers. Over the years, we've been fortunate to have several players from Parklands High School join our club, and they have been a real credit to both the school and the team.

This summer, we're making a big push to recruit new players for the upcoming season.

As an FA-certified club, we provide a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where young people can develop their football ability, build confidence, keep active, and enjoy being part of a team.

If you know of any Year 8 boys who are looking for a local football team, we would be very grateful if you could share our details with them and their parents.

If possible, we'd also really appreciate it if you could include our recruitment poster in your school newsletter or any parent communications. This would help us reach families who may be looking for a club ahead of the new season.

We train every Thursday evening at Longton Playing Fields, and all prospective players are welcome to come along for a free training session. I've attached our recruitment poster for your consideration.

Thank you very much for your time and support. We really appreciate anything you can do to help.

Kind regards,
 Bobby Singh
 Coach
 New Longton Rovers



INFINI-FEST

FAMILY FUN DAY | DOG SHOW | FACE PAINTING | STALLS | CARNIVAL GAMES | BOUNCY CASTLE | GIANT OUTDOOR GAMES | FOOD | CLOTHES SALE

16.08.2026
 12PM - 4PM
 GOLDEN MEADOW FARM, 179 CHAPEL LANE, PR7 4ND

£1 ENTRY OR £3 FOR A FAMILY OF 4!

©INFINITYCHEERUK

Infinity Cheer

A local cheerleading club based in Leyland. We are proud to have qualified to compete at the Allstar World Championships in 2027, and we are currently fundraising to help our athletes achieve this incredible opportunity.

Many of our athletes, including some of our bid winners, are pupils at your school, or heading to your school in September.

As part of our fundraising efforts, we are hosting our first Infini-Fest, a community summer fair, and we would like you to join us..

The event will take place on Sunday, 16th August, from 12:00 pm to 4:00pm. We are expecting a fantastic community atmosphere! We hope to see you there!



PANTHER GIRLS
GIRLS RUGBY
YEARS 6 TO 9

Are you looking to get involved in rugby, make new friends, and have fun while developing your skills?

COME AND JOIN THE CHORLEY PANTHERS GIRLS TEAM!

TRAINING TIMES:
 • WEDNESDAY EVENINGS: 6:30pm - 7:30pm
 • SATURDAY MORNINGS: 9:30am - 10:30am

LOCATION:
 Panther Park
 Chisnall Lane
 Coppull
 Chorley
 PR7 5EA

INTERESTED IN JOINING OR WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?
CONTACT US:
 play-for-us@chorley-panthers.co.uk

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!
 COME ALONG AND GIVE IT A TRY!



EUXTON VILLA GIRLS

We have girls teams from U8 - U18's

2026/27 Teams looking for players -

U9's - Training Fridays, Saturday games
 U10's - Training Fridays, Sunday games
 U11's/U12's (training Mondays, playing up at U12's Saturday and Sunday)
 U12's - Training Fridays, Sunday games
 U13's (3 teams) - Training Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday, Sunday games
 U14's - Training Fridays, Sunday games
 U16's - Training Friday, Sunday games
 U18's Ladies (pathway to open age) - Training Wednesday, Sunday games

Contract - euxtonvillagirls@outlook.com
 Social Media - Euxton Villa Girls FC
 Text - 07812060920 or 07766118418

Safeguarding Information

Registration is Now Open for Our Summer Online Worry Management Group ✨

We're pleased to announce that registration is now open for our Summer Online Worry Management Group for young people in high school.💬



Tuesday Group Starts: 21.07.26 : Time: 11am – 12pm

Thursday Group Starts: 23.07.26 : Time: 3.00pm – 4.00pm



Where: Online via Microsoft Teams

Duration: 6 weekly sessions (6 weeks)



Available to Young People who attend our allocated schools:

https://compass-uk.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/School-list_Compass-Bloom.pdf

This group offers a safe, supportive space to:

- ✓ Understand worries
- ✓ Learn practical coping strategies
- ✓ Share experiences with peers
- ✓ Join from the comfort of home



What young people say: "The group helped me understand my worries and gave me proper strategies so I felt more in control."



If you'd like to join, share the sign up link with a parent or carer and ask them to register:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/gAltT3Fqf9>



COMPASS BLOOM WORKSHOPS OVER SUMMER



Click for the workshop



Click for the workshop



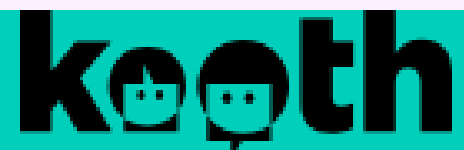
Click for the workshop



Click for the workshop



Click for the workshop



[Kooth Website](https://www.kooth.com/)

Well-Being support now and over Summer.

How **Kooth** supports your child:

- **Free & confidential:** no cost, no referrals, and no waiting lists
- **One-to-one support:** live text chats with qualified practitioners available until 10pm 365 days a year
- **Community & peer support:** moderated forums where young people can share experiences safely
- **Self-help tools:** mood trackers, goal-setting tools, and a library of therapeutic resources

Safeguarding Information Cont'd...



The school participates in pan-Lancashire Operation Encompass to safeguard and support children and young people who have been involved in or witness to a domestic abuse, vulnerable child or missing incident.

Operation Encompass has been created to address such situations that create a safeguarding risk to young people. It is the implementation of key partnership working between the police and schools/colleges. The aim of sharing information with local schools/colleges is to allow 'Key Adults' the opportunity of engaging with the child and to provide access to support that allows them to remain in a safe but secure familiar environment.

Following the report of a domestic abuse, vulnerable child or missing incident, by 9 am on the next school or college day the school's Key Adult will be informed of the child or young person's involvement. This knowledge, given to educational establishment through Operation Encompass, allows the provision of immediate early intervention through silent or overt support dependent upon the needs and wishes of the child/young person.



Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

This is a friendly reminder that bookings are open for Chorley's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme, offering a fantastic range of free activities for eligible children and young people during the school holidays.

Places are being filled fast, so we would encourage families to book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

This year we have an exciting programme delivered by a wide range of providers, with activities available for:

- Children aged 4–11 years
- Young people aged 12–16 years
- SEND-specific sessions and activities

And much more!

Full details of all clubs, activities and providers can be found at: www.chorley.gov.uk/haf

To make a booking, families will need their HAF code to access the booking system. If a family believes they are eligible but has lost or misplaced their code, please encourage them to get in touch and I can arrange for their code to be reissued.

I have attached promotional flyers and would be extremely grateful if you could help us promote the programme far and wide through your communication channels. Please share with:

- Families and parents/carers
- Colleagues and staff teams
- Community groups and organisations
- Professional networks
- E-newsletters, websites and social media platforms

For further information, please ask them to contact: haf.programme@chorley.gov.uk



Safeguarding Information Cont'd...



Riding the Rapids is for parents of children and young people with an autism diagnosis, or a specific learning disability.

This course is delivered for children of a similar age (early years, primary and secondary are delivered separately). This course is for parents who want to find out more about how to support and understand their child's behaviour.

Starting Friday 11/09/2026 (9:30am to 12:00pm).

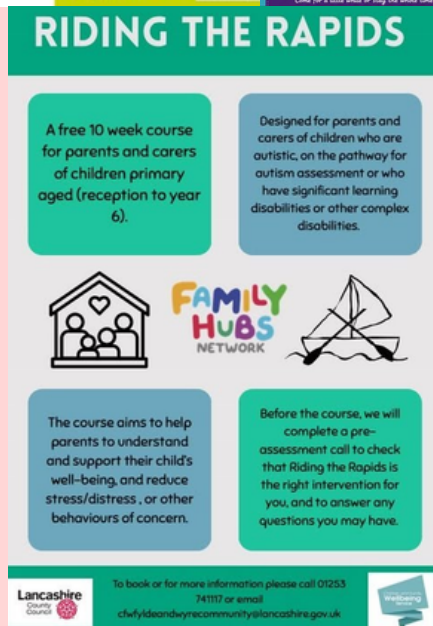
Book via [LCC Events](#)



Nurture Parenting is an evidence-based programme that puts connecting and building trusting relationships first. It promotes emotional health and wellbeing, relationship skills and positive behaviour management strategies for parents and children of any age.

The 4 key elements are; self awareness, appropriate expectations, empathy and positive discipline.

Starting Tuesday 10/09/2026 (1.00pm till 3.00pm).



Solihull Parenting is for parents who want to understand their child's emotional health, wellbeing, and development.

The 3 concepts of containment, reciprocity and behaviour management, facilitate an understanding of the relationship and how to apply this in different contexts.

This course looks at brain development and how children may behave a certain way.

Starting Thursday 10/09/2026 (1:00pm to 3:00pm).

Book via [LCC Events](#)



The Youth Futures Team will be delivering Year 11 Leavers Support Events this August, aimed specifically at young people who:

- Have left Year 11
- At risk of NEET (Not in Education, Training, or Employment)
- Are not working with another professional support service

These events offer targeted, voluntary guidance for young people who are disengaged from school, not attending, or at risk of NEET.

Weekly Attendance Update

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering a positive and successful learning environment at Parklands, we would like to provide you with an update on the overall attendance across the school. Regular attendance is essential for student success, and we want to share important information regarding current trends, key attendance goals and ways we can work together to support all of our students.

We currently have **51** students who have 100% attendance so far this year. If your child is one of these students please congratulate them and continue to encourage their attendance, it is a great achievement.

House	This Week %	This Year %
ANZ	86.7%	92%
ASA	86.5%	93.3%
EUR	87.8%	93.3%
SAM	86.6%	92.4%
AFR	83.5%	92.1%
Total %	85.7%	92.1%

Students are expected to be in the school building at 8:25am, heading to form at 8:30am and be in form by 8:35am. If they are arriving between 8:35am and 9:15am for any reason they need to enter through the pupil entrance and be signed in at the Top Office.



PARKLANDS PRESENTS

ATTENDANCE DOUBLE POINTS

Double points for 100% attendance in the week of.....

College taster days (Y10)

Work experience (Y10)

Sports day (all years)

All points contribute to Reward trips and Prom