



THE RACKHAM
C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
Headteacher: Miss Georgina Turner
Email: office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk
Telephone: 01353 662436



Main Street,
Witchford,
Ely,
Cambridgeshire
CB6 2HQ

Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. *Philippians 4.13*

30th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

With the end of January, it seems we are beginning to see longer periods of daylight and brighter mornings. Spring seems to be on its way.

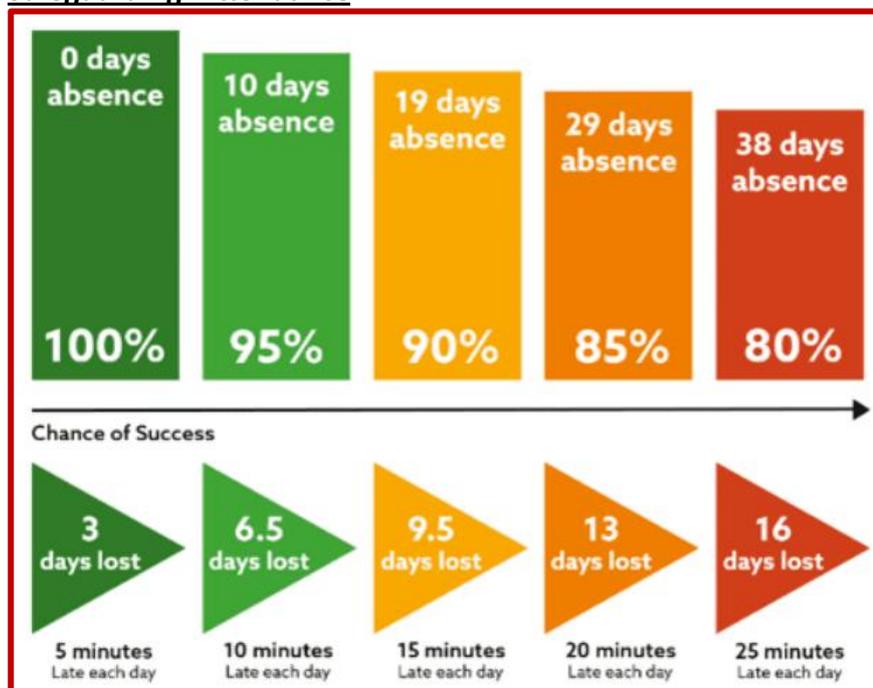
Attendance:

This week's attendance: 94.6%

The Rackham has a policy on Attendance. Please follow this link to read the policy on the school website. [Policy Library | The Rackham C of E \(VC\) Primary School](#)

Thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting our drive for improved attendance. The Government has identified a child's attendance of 96% and above is the key figure to give best chance of academic progress. Please can we remind you that absence must be reported to the office by 9am on each day of absence.

Safeguarding: Attendance



Wellbeing and Mental Health: East Cambridgeshire Child and Family Centre

Opening Times

Ely Child and Family Centre	Littleport Child and Family Centre	Soham Child and Family Centre
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am to 4pm Wednesday 9am to 12pm	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9am to 4pm Wednesday 9am to 12pm Friday 9am to 1pm	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am to 4pm Wednesday 9am to 12pm

Please note Littleport Child and Family Centre will be closed during half term week.

Contact Us

Get In Touch	
Ely Child and Family Centre 01353 612770	Littleport Child and Family Centre 01353 612770
Soham Child and Family Centre 01353 612770	Targeted Support Team East Cambs 01353 612800

Email us: childandfamilycentre.east@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Midwife Clinic - (Nova team):
Ely Child and Family Centre & Littleport Child and Family Centre - By appointment only.
To book your first appointment please self-refer on the Rosie Hospital Website. [You're pregnant/how to self-refer | CUH](#)
To speak to a Midwife or make changes to any appointments, please use MyChart.

Midwife Clinic - (Lilac team):
Soham Child and Family Centre - By appointment only.
To book your first appointment please self-refer on the Rosie Hospital Website. [You're pregnant/how to self-refer | CUH](#)
To speak to a Midwife or make changes to any appointments, please use MyChart.



Scan the QR code to subscribe to our YouTube channel:
Cambridgeshire Child and Family Centres



Scan the QR code to follow us on Instagram
[@childandfamilycentres.east](#)



Scan the QR code to find us on Facebook
[@East Cambs Child and Family Centres](#)

E = Charge B = Booking Required R = Referral



Using the zebra crossing safely: We have received reports from drivers that pedestrians are using the zebra crossing in a dangerous manner. Pedestrians are reported to be walking out to the zebra crossing from other entry points rather than the path at either end of the zebra crossing. We have received reports of a near miss where this has happened. We politely request all pedestrians enter the zebra crossing from the path at either end of the zebra crossing and refrain from entering from other locations where drivers are not expecting.



Parking:

Please ensure cars are parked considerately at drop off and pick up times. In particular, we have had reports that parking on Manor Court Road could prevent emergency vehicles from access. Thank you for your co-operation.

CONTACT US

Contacting staff at The Rackham C of E Primary

School and Pre-School: Where parents and carers wish to contact staff to update or pass on a message, please email office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk or speak

to a member of the Office Team.

Uniform orders:

Uniform items for school and pre-school pupils are now available from Sigma. Primary School: [Clubs & Groups - Sigma Embroidery & Printing](#) Pre-School: [Clubs & Groups - Sigma Embroidery & Printing](#) Orders must be placed by parents and carers and will then be delivered to school and given to the children to bring home.

	<u>Save the date!</u>	<u>FWR events:</u>
 <p>Registered Charity No: 1105505</p>	<p>Wednesday 11th February 2026</p>	<p>Film Night: We are excited to announce our next Film Night! It will take place straight after school on Wednesday 11th February, finishing at 4.00pm for Reception and KS1 and 5pm for KS2. The cost will be £3.00 which includes crisps and a drink. If your child has a special dietary need, please let the office know via office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk .</p> <p>The films being shown are:</p> <p>Reception – The Smeds and The Smoos (U)</p> <p>Years 1 - 2 – Wallace and Gromit – A Close Shave (U)</p> <p>Years 3 – 6 – Children can choose between Dog Man (U) or The Lorax (U) – please select their preferred film when making payment on MCAS.</p> <p>To book a place for your child, please login to your MCAS account where you will find the payment option under Products and Trips.</p> <p>Bookings must be made by 9am on Monday 9th February. This is so we can comply with Safeguarding, Health and Safety and Fire regulations. No bookings will be accepted after this time.</p> <p>We hope the children will enjoy the evening and thank you for your continued support in fundraising for the school.</p> <p>FWR committee</p>
	<p>27th March</p>	<p>Doughnut Day – more information coming soon.</p>



Starting preparation to become school ready: Use this handy checklist below to prepare your child for moving to Reception in September 2026. Pre-School pupils can also work on these things too! Do please contact the office if you would like any further advice or support. Thank you.

 Getting ready for school checklist		
<input type="checkbox"/>		I love helping my parents read stories.
<input type="checkbox"/>		I have fun drawing.
<input type="checkbox"/>		I enjoy playing games like hopscotch.
<input type="checkbox"/>		I like counting my toys and my toes.
<input type="checkbox"/>		I enjoy eating with my family.
<input type="checkbox"/>		I like naming the colours of my favourite things.
<input type="checkbox"/>		I can say 'Please' when I ask for something, and 'Thank you' when I get it.



Pre-School existing injury form: If your child has an existing injury that you are aware of, please complete this form before their Pre-School session:



Clothing: Please would you ensure that all pre-school children have a change of clothes and suitable closed footwear. If children come in wearing wellies, please can they bring a suitable pair of shoes to change into.



Toys from home: Please could we request that no toys from home are brought in as it can cause upset if they are misplaced.



Contact us: If you need to contact the Pre-School, please email or the office. Please do not use Tapestry for communication as Pre-School staff may not see it immediately.



Reception - Craft and Cake sessions

To mark Mother's Day, we would like to invite **one** special person, from each child's family to join us for a 'Craft and Cake' session on Wednesday 11th March from 2pm to 3pm. During this time, we plan to have a class story and some time to join in with some craft activities.

To book your place for this wonderful opportunity, please login to the Products and Trips page of your MCAS account. Bookings will close on Friday 27th February 2026.

Unfortunately, we will be unable to accommodate siblings as we do not have the space within our classrooms to do this safely.



Young Artists' Summer Show: This spring The Rackham is, once again, participating in an exciting opportunity for budding young artists.

We have registered our school for The Royal Academy Young Artists Summer Exhibition.

This is the 8th year of the exhibition, which takes place at The Royal Academy of Art in London, and it is the third time that our school has decided to submit entries.

The Young Artists' Summer Show is a wonderful opportunity for UK-based artists and schools to engage creatively in the making and sharing of a piece of artwork that truly expresses their own voice. There is no theme and artists aged 4-19 can submit a wide range of works which may include drawing, painting, printing, photography, sculpture, textile, fashion, animation, video, or a surprise for The Academy.

The artworks are judged by a panel of artists and art professionals with selected works displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Please watch the video that you will find within the link below, as it will give you an idea of some of the art works that were submitted in 2025. You may even recognise someone in the video!

[Young Artists' Summer Show | Royal Academy](#)

Attached to this email is guidance for submissions.

For guidance on how to photograph your art work, please see the FAQ section here:

[Young Artists' Summer Show | Royal Academy](#)

If you would like art work to be submitted, please complete the attached permission form when you send the photographed and real art work to school.

If your child would like to produce a piece of art to submit to the exhibition, please do the following:

1. Create the artwork
2. Photograph the artwork, using the guidelines as above
3. Email the image to school along with your child's **name**, the art **medium** used to create the art and a **short description** of the art work. This must include a **title** and the **size** of the work.
4. Send to school a completed permission form.
5. Keep the original art work safe. If your child's work is selected for the exhibition we will need to send it to the Royal Academy. We will also want to display the art works in school, to celebrate the children's creativity, even if no work is selected for the exhibition.
6. Send all of the above between now and **Friday 27th February** at the latest.

We hope that lots of children from our school will be inspired to submit their work and look forward with great excitement to seeing their submissions! If you have any questions please contact school.

Activities and Events:



FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT

CALLING ALL U10 PLAYERS!

WE ARE CURRENTLY RECRUITING TALENTED YRS PLAYERS TO JOIN OUR WITCHFORD CENTRE

Please contact guy.habbin@canaries.co.uk for further information

Norwich City Football Development to let you know that we are currently seeking talented **Year 5 boys** to join our **Development Centre at Witchford Village College.**



BOOST YOUR CHILD'S SWIMMING THIS HOLIDAY

AGES 4-16 YEARS

Weekday holiday courses are the perfect power-up for regular swimmers or a great taster to Better Swim School swimming lessons.

Speak to a member of staff or scan the QR code to find out more.

BETTER



Children are welcome from age 4 (at school) to 12

February Holiday Club

Join us this February half term for a week full of fun, games, crafts and adventures! Our Holiday Club offers action-packed days designed to keep children happy, active and inspired.

- ✓ Games & Sports
- ✓ Arts & Crafts
- ✓ Creative Baking
- ✓ Forest School

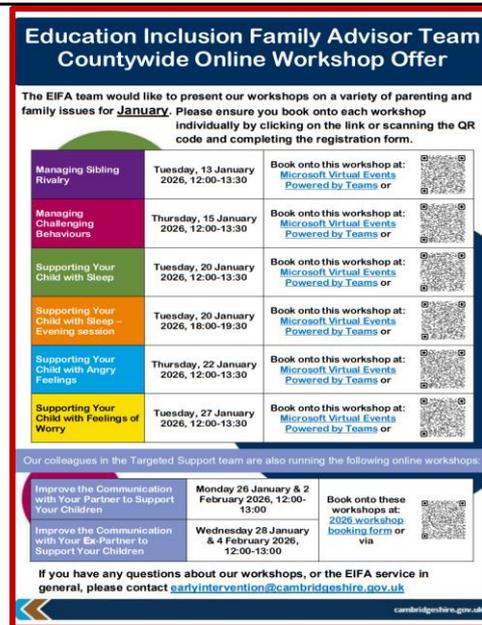
Monday 16th - Friday 20th February 2026

8:00 AM - 5:45 PM £35
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM £27

Spring Meadow Infant School, High Barns, Ely, CB7 4RB

BOOK NOW

Scan the QR code for bookings or email info@activeplayeducation.co.uk



Education Inclusion Family Advisor Team Countywide Online Workshop Offer

The EIFA team would like to present our workshops on a variety of parenting and family issues for **January**. Please ensure you book onto each workshop individually by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code and completing the registration form.

Managing Sibling Rivalry	Tuesday, 13 January 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Managing Challenging Behaviours	Thursday, 15 January 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Supporting Your Child with Sleep	Tuesday, 20 January 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Supporting Your Child with Sleep - Evening session	Tuesday, 20 January 2026, 18:00-19:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Supporting Your Child with Angry Feelings	Thursday, 22 January 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry	Tuesday, 27 January 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or

Our colleagues in the Targeted Support team are also running the following online workshops:

Improve the Communication with Your Partner to Support Your Children	Monday 26 January & 2 February 2026, 12:00-13:00	Book onto these workshops at: 2026 workshop booking form or via
Improve the Communication with Your Ex-Partner to Support Your Children	Wednesday 28 January & 4 February 2026, 12:00-13:00	

If you have any questions about our workshops, or the EIFA service in general, please contact earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

cambridgeshire.gov.uk



WADSY PERFORMING ARTS

NEW CLASSES STARTING JAN

MONDAYS 4:30 - 5:45

AGES 6-12

ARKENSTALL CENTRE HADDENHAM

Book at: Wadsyouth.com/workshops

EIFA Workshops

To book, please see the above EIFA workshops poster.

- Supporting your Child with Feelings of Anger – 02/02/2026 @ 18:00–19:30
- Supporting your Child with Feelings of Worry – 05/02/2026 @ 18:00–19:30
- Family Wellbeing -10/02/2026 @ 12:00-13:30
Cc = evening workshops



Dance & Acro-gymnastics with The Lane Academy for Reception to Year 4 at The Rackham Primary: We are excited to be able to offer spaces to new members at our Dance and Acro-gymnastics club. The club runs every Monday from 4.30 - 5.45pm and children take part in dance as well as gymnastics, where they will learn and build confidence in new skills. We are also excited to be offering ISTD dance exams to the children attending and these will take place in March.

If you would like to book a place for next term, please use this link: [Dance & Acro-Gymnastics @ Rackham Primary School \(4 - 9yrs\) at Witchford Rackham Primary School, Witchford | Lane Academy | Powered by ClassForKids](#)

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

Dates for your diary:

2 nd February	
11 th February	FWR Film Night – booking now open. Booking closes on Monday 9 th February at 9am
13 th February	Last day of term
Half term	
23 rd February	
4 th March	Parent’s Evening 3.30pm - 7pm – booking opens 13 th February
5 th March	Parent’s Evening 3.30pm - 5.30pm – booking opens 13 th February
6 th March	World Book Day at The Rackham
9 th March	Children’s Mental Health week
11 th March	Reception Craft and Cake session – 2pm – 3pm – booking now open via MCAS
11 th March	Year 1 Phonics screening - online parent information evening – booking required nearer the time
18 th March	Year 6 SAT’s - online parent information evening – booking required nearer the time
20 th March	Comic Relief – more information coming soon
26 th March	Year 2 Parent meal – booking required nearer the time
27 th March	Doughnut Day – more information coming soon
27 th March	Last day of term
Easter holiday	