



St Aidan's

Church of England Primary Academy



'I came that they may have life and live it to the full' John 10.10

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Harrison

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Hargreaves

Newsletter 5

Thursday 22nd October 2026

A message from Mrs Harrison

Thank you to everyone who attended parents' evening; it was brilliant to work together in supporting your children's learning, and we truly appreciate your ongoing efforts in promoting good attendance across the school. We look forward to welcoming everyone back when school reopens on **Monday 2nd November**. A gentle reminder that our **free breakfast club** is open to all pupils every morning from 8:10am.

Wishing all our families a wonderful and relaxing half-term break. If you choose to trick-or-treat over Halloween, please ensure you stay safe and take extra care while out and about.

As we reflect on the autumn season, we are reminded of Galatians 6:9: *"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not give up."*

Enjoy the break from the school runs, Mrs Harrison

Dates for your diary

Monday 26th October- Friday 30th October Half Term

W/C 2nd November- Start of Afterschool clubs

Monday 2nd November- School Re-opens

Wednesday 11th November- Remembrance service in church Led by Y6



Friday 13th November- Children in need day

W/C 16th November- Anti Bullying week

Friday 4th December- Snowball Disco

Monday 7th December- School Panto trip

Wednesday 9th December- Infants Nativity

Thursday 10th December- Christmas Jumper day/Christmas Dinner day

Wednesday 16th December- Christmas Craft Afternoon

Thursday 17th December- Christmas Parties AM/PM

Friday 18th December- Christmas Carols in church 9:30am&Selection box raffle

Friday 18th December- School closes 1:15pm for Half term

Tuesday 5th January- School Reopens

Allergy Awareness

Following the introduction of the new 'Benedict's Law' for schools, we are strengthening our allergy safety measures to protect children who are at risk of severe allergic reactions.

We kindly ask that you remain highly allergy aware and strictly avoid sending any nuts, peanut butter, or nut-based products in your child's lunchboxes or for breaktime snacks. Your vigilance and cooperation are absolutely vital in helping us keep everyone safe at school. Our updated policy can be found on our school website.

Thank you.

<https://staidansblackburn.co.uk/parents/allergy-aware-school>



Christmas Pantomime 2026 - Aladdin

We are excited for our upcoming trip to see the Aladdin Pantomime at the Blackburn Empire Theatre on Monday 7th December 2026.

Cost: £7.00 per pupil

Payment Method: SchoolMoney app

Payment Options: Pay in full or spread the cost into weekly/monthly instalments

Deadline: Friday 27th November 2026



A huge thank you to those who have already paid. Please ensure your balance is settled by Friday 27th November. To secure our group booking, we need all balances paid by this date. If too many payments are outstanding, we may unfortunately have to cancel the trip—something we really want to avoid!

Thank you for your support in making this festive tradition happen for the children!

Y6 Bike ability

Year 6 Bike ability will take place on Monday 2nd November and Monday 9th November, 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm in school. If your child has a bike or helmet at home, they will need to bring them into school on the day.

Poppy sale

Poppies will be on sale in school w/c Monday 2nd November; a cash donation will be required if your child would like to purchase one.



Half Term Activities

October Half Term Activities (0-8 years)

NO BOOKING Needed

Come along to your Children's Centre or Family Hub to experience an array of Universal Groups and Supportive Services.
Please call 01254 585000 or scan the code below for more details.

Monday 26th October	Tuesday 27th October	Wednesday 28th October	Thursday 29th October	Friday 30th October
09:30am - 11:30am Growing Together with Home Start Darwen Family Hub	09:30am - 12:30pm Drop-in Rock Pool Experience (with Aqua Explora) Little Harwood Family Hub	09:30am - 10:30am Autumn Fun Shadsworth Family Hub	09:30am - 10:30am Autumn Fun Hancock Street Children's Centre	09:30am - 10:30am Lets Play @ The Hub The Hub @ Shadsworth, Rothesay Road
1:00pm - 2:00pm Nourish and Nurture (Infant Feeding and Breastfeeding Support) Wensley Fold Children's Centre	10:00am - 11:00am Autumn Fun Darwen Family Hub	1:00pm - 2:00pm Nourish and Nurture (Infant Feeding and Breastfeeding Support) Shadsworth Family Hub	09:30am - 12:30pm Drop-in Rock Pool Experience (with Aqua Explora) Shadsworth Family Hub	10:00am - 11:00am Pumpkin Play Livesey Family Hub
1:00pm - 2:00pm Pumpkin Play Highercroft Children's Centre	10:00am - 11:00am & 1:00pm - 2:00pm Sounds Fun - Music Hancock Street Children's Centre	1:00pm - 3:00pm Growing Together with Home Start Livesey Family Hub	12:30pm - 1:30pm Nourish and Nurture (Infant Feeding and Breastfeeding Support) Little Harwood Family Hub	10:00am - 11:00am Nourish and Nurture (Infant Feeding and Breastfeeding Support) Darwen Family Hub
Ask us about Toileting Support at any of our groups...	1:00pm - 2:00pm Nourish and Nurture (Infant Feeding and Breastfeeding Support) Livesey Family Hub	1:00pm - 4:00pm Re:refresh Active Autumn Corporation Park	1:00pm - 2:00pm Autumn Fun Livesey Family Hub	1:00pm - 2:00pm Autumn Fun Little Harwood Family Hub
 HELLO Louie	1:00pm - 4:00pm Re:refresh Active Autumn Queen's Park	 re:refresh Scan me to find out more	1:30pm - 2:30pm Peep-Stay and Play Darwen Library	1:00pm - 2:00pm Autumn Fun Highercroft Children's Centre

All Activities FREE



Family Hub



Darwen | Little Harwood | Livesey | Shadsworth



Scan me





Secondary places are now open for the upcoming academic year. Please note that the application deadline for secondary school places is Saturday, October 31, 2026, while the deadline for primary school applications is Friday, January 15, 2027. Please refer to the posters around the school for further details, and do not hesitate to contact the school office if you require any assistance or support with your application.

<https://staidansblackburn.co.uk/key-information/admissions>

www.blackburn.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSION 2027

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

APPLY TODAY



FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Email: Admissions@blackburn.gov.uk
- Call: 01254 688608 (Option 1)

Deadline for submitting an on time application is 15 January 2027

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSION 2027

APPLICATIONS OPEN!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE
www.blackburn.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions

APPLY NOW!



Deadline for submitting an on time application is 31 October 2026

Secondary School Open Events
School Admissions 2027/28

Please contact the individual schools direct for further information.

School	When	Contact Details
BLACKBURN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL	Thursday 17th September 2026 4.00pm - 7.00pm	Headingley Road, Blackburn Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.bbsc.ac.uk
DAWNEY ADEWAGE COMMUNITY ACADEMY	Wednesday 30th September 2026 9.00am - 10pm	Sudell Road, Darwen Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.dcc.ac.uk
DAWNEY ADEWAGE HIGH SCHOOL	Thursday 18th September 2026 9.00am - 10.00pm	Blackburn Road, Darwen Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.dawneyadewage.ac.uk
DEARLY & ST JOHN'S RC HIGH SCHOOL, HOLLAND ACADEMY	Wednesday 23rd September 2026 9.00am - 10.00pm	North Road, Blackburn Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.dcc.ac.uk
ELLSGATE HIGH SCHOOL	Thursday 17th September 2026 9.00am - 10.00pm Saturday 19th September 2026 9.00am - 10.00pm	Ellsgate Road, Blackburn Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.ellsagate.ac.uk
ELLEN ELLIS & GRAMMAR SCHOOL	Whole School Open Morning Saturday 2nd October 2026 9.00am - 12.00pm	West Park Road, Blackburn Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.ellenellis.ac.uk
ST BIRKS RC HIGH SCHOOL	Thursday 1st October 2026 9.00am - 10.00pm	Green Lane, Blackburn Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.stbirks.ac.uk
ST WILFRED CE ACADEMY	Wednesday 23rd September 2026 9.00am - 10.00pm	St Wilfred's Street, Blackburn Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.stwilfred.ac.uk
THAMES VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL	Thursday 18th September 2026 9.00am - 10.00pm	Summer Street, Blackburn Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.thamesvalley.ac.uk
THAMES VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL	Thursday 1st October 2026 9.00am - 10.00pm	Frederic New Road, Blackburn Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.thamesvalley.ac.uk
WILFRED PARK ACADEMY	Wednesday 30th September 2026 9.00am - 10.00pm	Green Lane, Blackburn Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.wilfredpark.ac.uk
DAWNEY ADEWAGE COMMUNITY ACADEMY	Thursday 17th September 2026 9.00am - 10.00pm	19 Prince Street, Darwen Tel: 01254 545700 Webster: www.dcc.ac.uk

Bookings can be made via the school website: www.blackburn.gov.uk

Community CPR Morning



Learning for Kim: Helping our community save lives. ❤️



Following the loss of our neighbour, Kim, we want to turn our shared grief into a legacy of safety and confidence. We are hosting a free community CPR morning at St Aidan's to ensure that if an emergency happens, we are all ready to step in.

Using the British Heart Foundation's RevivR tool, you can learn life-saving skills in just 30 minutes

- Date:** Saturday 7th November 2026
- 2 Sessions:** 1st Session: 10:15am - 30 mins
2nd Session: 11:00am - 30 mins
Pick a session

- Cost:** FREE
- Requirements:** Adults/Colleagues
(Not suitable for primary children)
- Equipment:** Please bring a smartphone/tablet and a cushion to practise on.

It's not certified, but you will feel more confident, be better prepared and could help save a life.



Supported by a local paramedic

To book, call 01254 53148 or visit the school office.

Help us make our neighbourhood safer ❤️

Attendance at St Aidan's

Please familiarise yourselves with our school attendance procedures.

At St Aidan's school attendance is very important to us, we expect every child to be an ATTENDANCE HERO;

H – Here

E – Everyday

R – Ready

O – On time

We celebrate our amazing school attendance weekly where there are awards to win.

Please support us with our school attendance by ensuring your child attends daily and on time.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Every Minute Counts. Skills for Parents & Carers.

The School Day

08:40 Gates Open

08:50 School Starts / Gates Closed
(Late Mark Q) via Office

Late Policy
If your child arrives to school past 09:30 am they will receive an Unauthorised Absence mark (U Code) which affects their school attendance percentage.

Late arrival affects your child's learning and disrupts the class start.

Reporting Absence

Child Unwell? Contact us daily before 8.30am

01254 53148
LAKESHORE SCHOOLS

Relinquishing Policy of us and you from you are must contact us for supporting mark to be made well

Attendance Targets

School Target: **90%**

Individual Absence: **< 9%**

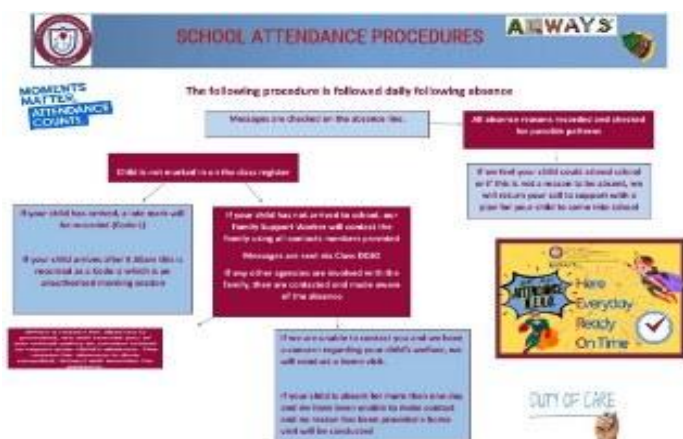
Term's Absence: **< 9%**

Appointments

U Appointments
Please book all appointments outside of our hours. If unavailable, please provide evidence (e.g., cancelled) to us before 4.00pm on.

Support

Need Help?
We're about getting your child to school. If speak to our Family Support Worker, Nadia.



Getting your child to school really matters. Did you know...

If in a school year, your child is late every day by...	Your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

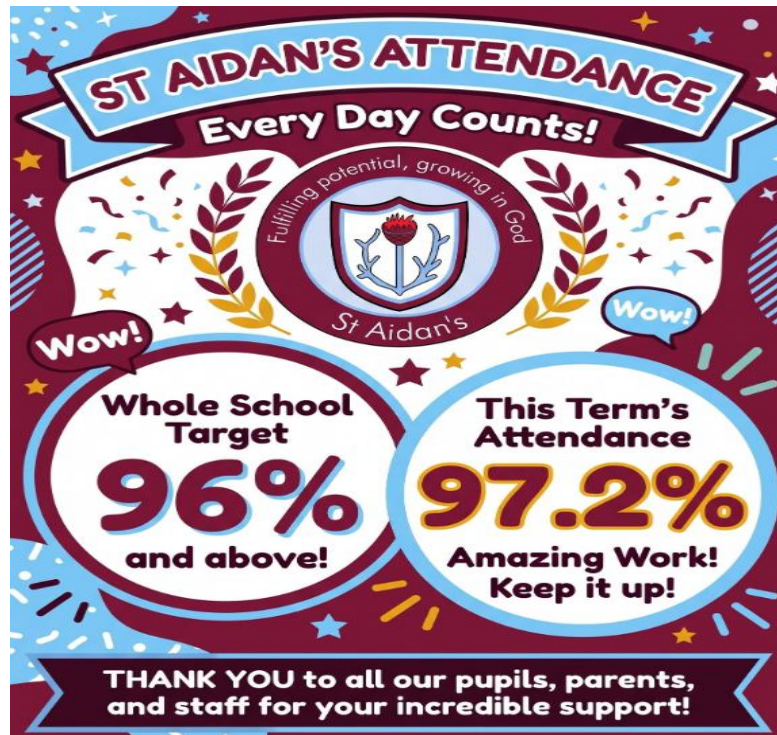
You should not take your child on holiday during term time. Please encourage punctuality to maintain school attendance.

Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity

Be an Attendance H.E.R.O

HERE EVERYDAY. READY ON TIME

Attendance



As we approach the end of the term, we want to take a moment to celebrate our school's incredible attendance. We know that getting everyone ready and out the door in the mornings can be tricky, and we truly appreciate your ongoing support and commitment to ensuring your children are in school, ready to learn.

Please note that this week's attendance figures are calculated a day short due to tomorrow's INSET day. However, we are thrilled to report that our whole-school attendance for the week still stands at an impressive 96.7%. A very special shout-out goes to Year 5, who achieved a flawless 100% attendance this week!

Looking at the term as a whole, attendance has been absolutely excellent across the board. We are incredibly proud to share that every single year group has exceeded our school target. Well done to all the children and families for this phenomenal achievement.

This Term's Attendance Breakdown:

Reception: 96.5%

Year 1: 98.5%

Year 2: 98.1%

Year 3: 97.3%

Year 4: 96.2%

Year 5: 97.5%

Year 6: 96.4%

Thank you once again for your fantastic support this term, and we hope you have a wonderful October Half Term and we will be back to welcome all of the children back to school on Monday 2nd November at 8.40am

St Aidan's Stars

Well done to this week's Stars of the week, VIPs and Oracy stars! These children have been noticed for their amazing Values, oracy skills and ability to Shine.



ST AIDAN'S PRIMARY ACADEMY - Weekly Pupil Achievements

YEAR GROUP	VIPs	ORACY STAR	STAR OF THE WEEK
Rec	Elsie	Mahnoor	Lexi
Y1	Dumtolisa	Adam	Shakir
Y2	Athena	Russalina	Aila-Mae
Y3	Eitonas	Mossa	Grace
Y4	Milad	Fatima	Olivia
Y5	Asma	Rokeebat	Demilade
Y6	Precious	Beatrix	Darcee

St Aidan's Primary Academy - Celebrating Success

Tel: 01254 53148 Email: staoffice@cidari.co.uk