

Visit the class pages on the  
school website to find out  
more

[www.st-matthews.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.st-matthews.bolton.sch.uk)

# St. Matthew's CofE Primary School



"I am with you always" Matthews 28:20



LOVE



RESPECT



CREATIVITY



FRIENDSHIP

This Term's Value is:

**'Perseverance'**

I can do all things through him who strengthens me

Philippians 4.13

## A Note from the Headteacher

St Matthew's has been busy with lots of learning and many exciting events over the last two weeks. Enjoy reading what we have been up to.

Please remember that children ARE NOT allowed to wear leggings, jogging bottoms or jeans as part of their school uniform. Children should be in school trousers or a skirt and school shoes should be black.

Thank you for all your kind donations we managed to raise a fantastic £309.81 to help the families and children in the Ukraine.

**Miss Ritchie**  
**Headteacher**

## Dates For Your Diary

**Don't forget:**

**16th March**—British Values  
Day—wear red, white or  
blue

**18th March**—Red Nose  
Day - wear something  
funky

**Easter Holidays**—Friday  
1st April school closes at  
**1.00pm** and reopens on  
Wednesday 20th April

**Please remember:**

Parents please be considerate to  
our neighbours when parking near  
the school, please do not park on  
Nottingham Drive.  
Please park a little further away  
and walk your child to the school.  
Thank you

The afterschool club timetable is  
now on the school website  
[https://www.st-  
matthews.bolton.sch.uk/](https://www.st-matthews.bolton.sch.uk/)



## **Important reminders**

The timings to the school day. All classrooms will be open at the start of the day from 8:45am. Every pupil **MUST** be in school ready to learn by 9:00am. If they arrive after this time they will get a late mark.

### **Uniform**

#### **Girls**

skirts/pinafore dresses (grey/black), trousers (grey/black)  
sweaters/sweatshirts/fleece/cardigans (navy blue)  
blouses/shirts/polo-necked shirts (white)  
socks/tights (white/grey/black)  
footwear – black shoes/trainers (all black including laces, no obvious logos)

#### **Boys**

trousers (grey/black)  
sweaters/sweatshirts/fleece (navy blue)  
shirt/polo-necked shirts (white)  
socks (white/grey/black)  
footwear – black shoes/trainers (all black including laces, no obvious logos)

Children should come dressed to school in school uniform everyday.

### **PE Kit for both boys and girls is as follows:**

White polo shirt or T-shirt  
Dark (navy blue, black, grey) jogging bottoms, leggings or shorts  
Dark (navy blue, black, grey) sweatshirt/ fleece  
Black Trainers or pumps

Please check on your child's class page to see when their P.E. days are.

## St Matthew's Prayer

Dear God,

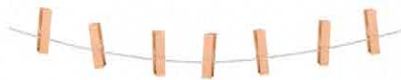
Thank you that we all have dreams about the future. Remind us of all that we have achieved up to this moment in our lives. Help us to work hard at sowing seeds for the future.

Amen.



### Ethos Team Challenge

Use your washing line to peg up your ideas on how you can persevere. We would love to see what you create, send a picture of this to the school office!



### Reflection Time

*Can doing something 'bad' ever be the right thing to do?*



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

## Attendance Information

(Monday 31st January — Friday 11th February 2022)

Our school attendance for 2022 / 2023 target is 96%

The last two weeks whole school attendance was **94.1%**

Rec E— 93.1%
Mrs Elliott
Rec S— 92.0%
Miss Smith
Y1D— 92.2%
Mrs Davidson
Y1O—90.9%
Miss O'Hagan
Y2B— 96.1%
Miss Bateman
Y2W— 92.9%
Mrs Shaw
Y3J— 91.9%
Mrs Johnson
Y3P— 97.6%
Mrs Phillips
Y4F— 94.6%
Miss Foster
Y4M— 92.9%
Miss Manly
Y5Mc— 95.3%
Mrs McIlhagga
Y5R— 96.6%
Mrs Rotherham
Y6Cl— 95.4%
Mrs Clarkson
Y6Cu— 96.0%
Mr Currid



## Headteachers Award Winners

	11/02/2022	25/02/2022	04/03/2022	11/03/2022
Y1O	Aniso	Caiden-James	Hammad	Matilda
Y1D	Justin	Mayar	Anaya	Ayesha
Y2S	Abdul	Jessica	Ali	Lorena
Y2B	Krishiv	Theodore	Uwais	Mehr

Well done everyone!

## Headteachers Award Winners

	11/02/2022	25/02/2022	04/03/2022	11/03/2022
3J	Shifa	Mohamed	Harun	Dinis
3P	Daniyal	Cynthia	Ayan	Sham
4M	Melrose	Tyreece	Maiwand	Alyamama
4F	Aisha P	Holly	Ahmed	Nimo
Y5R	Hannah	Musandake	Isma	Khalid
Y5Mc			Asmaa	Imama
Y6CI	Emilia	Sumeya	Saihaan	Kehinde
Y6Cu	Safiyya	Maisey	Taiye	Maryam

Well done everyone!

# Our Signalong Journey



## What is Signalong?

**Signalong** is a key word sign-supported communication system based on British sign language. It uses speech, sign, body language, facial expression and tone of voice to reference the link between sign and word. It is designed to support spoken language, so the signs are used with speech, in spoken word order.

## Our Signalong Journey

At St Matthew's, we have some children who use signing to help them understand and communicate with others. As part of our aim for a whole school Total Communication Approach, we have all begun to learn core signing vocabulary. We are really excited about using Signalong throughout school to ensure everyone feels included, valued and understood.

## Signalong at Home

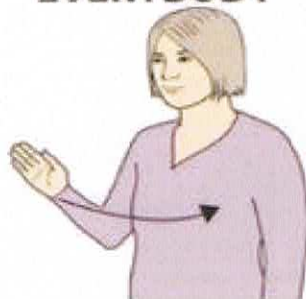
We have created Signalong video clips to support children's use of Signalong at home. You can find these on the school website. Have fun learning the signs and using them at home with your child.

## The Signalong Anthem

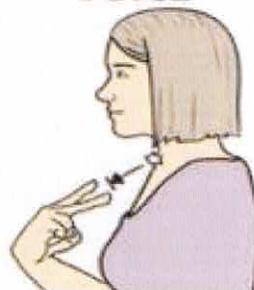
Our next challenge is to learn the Signalong Anthem. Our aim is that with Signalong and a Total Communication Approach, everybody has a voice. This is a line in the song!

## **'EVERYBODY HAS A VOICE'**

### **EVERYBODY**



### **VOICE**





## Reception

The Owl Class have had a brilliant afternoon visiting Bolton Library and Aquarium. The children spent time in the library, choosing books to read independently and to one another. They then voted for which stories they wanted to hear read to them. The children split into smaller groups and listened to their chosen stories.

We ended the afternoon by visiting the aquarium and looking at a variety of sea creatures and fish from around the world

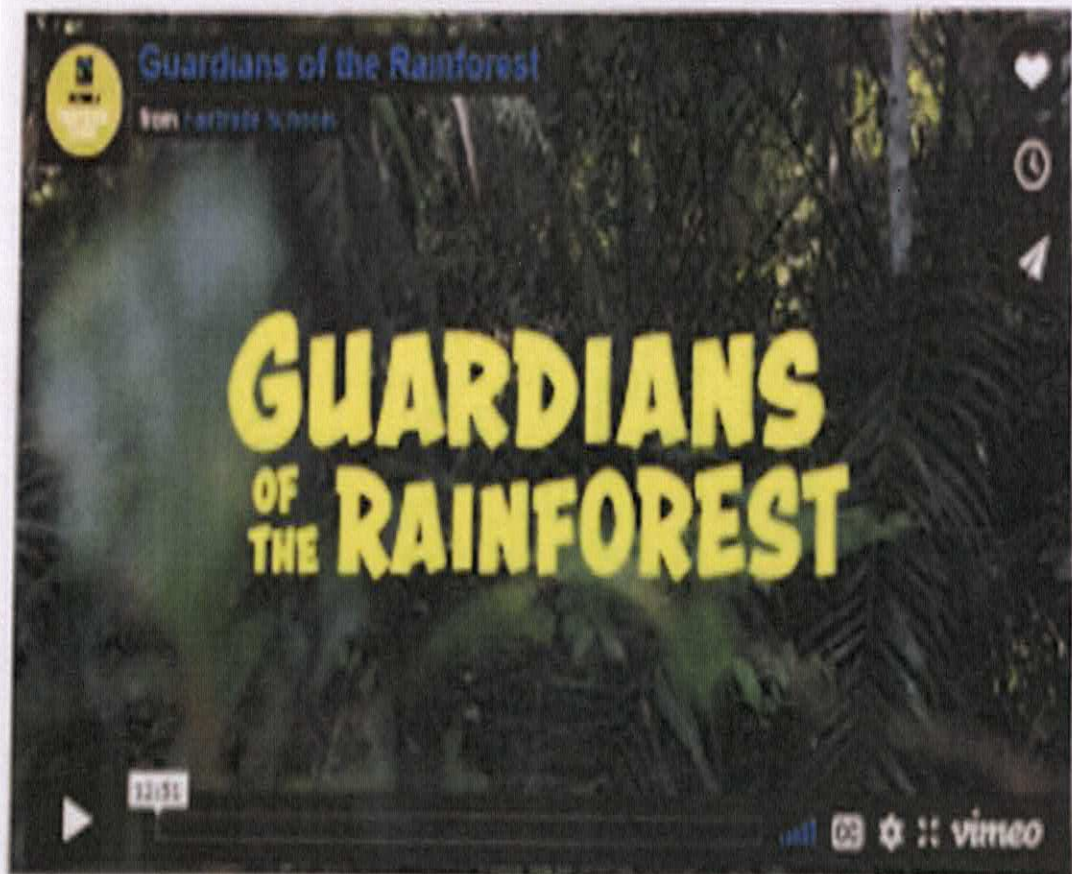




## Y3 Fair Trade Day

24/2/22

Fair Trade Day



We talked about why rainforests are important.

We watched this video about how a family of cocoa farmers get paid a fair price for the beans they produce. They take care not to damage the forest.

Next, we designed a wrapper for a Fair Trade chocolate bar, made from the cocoa beans produced by the farmers.



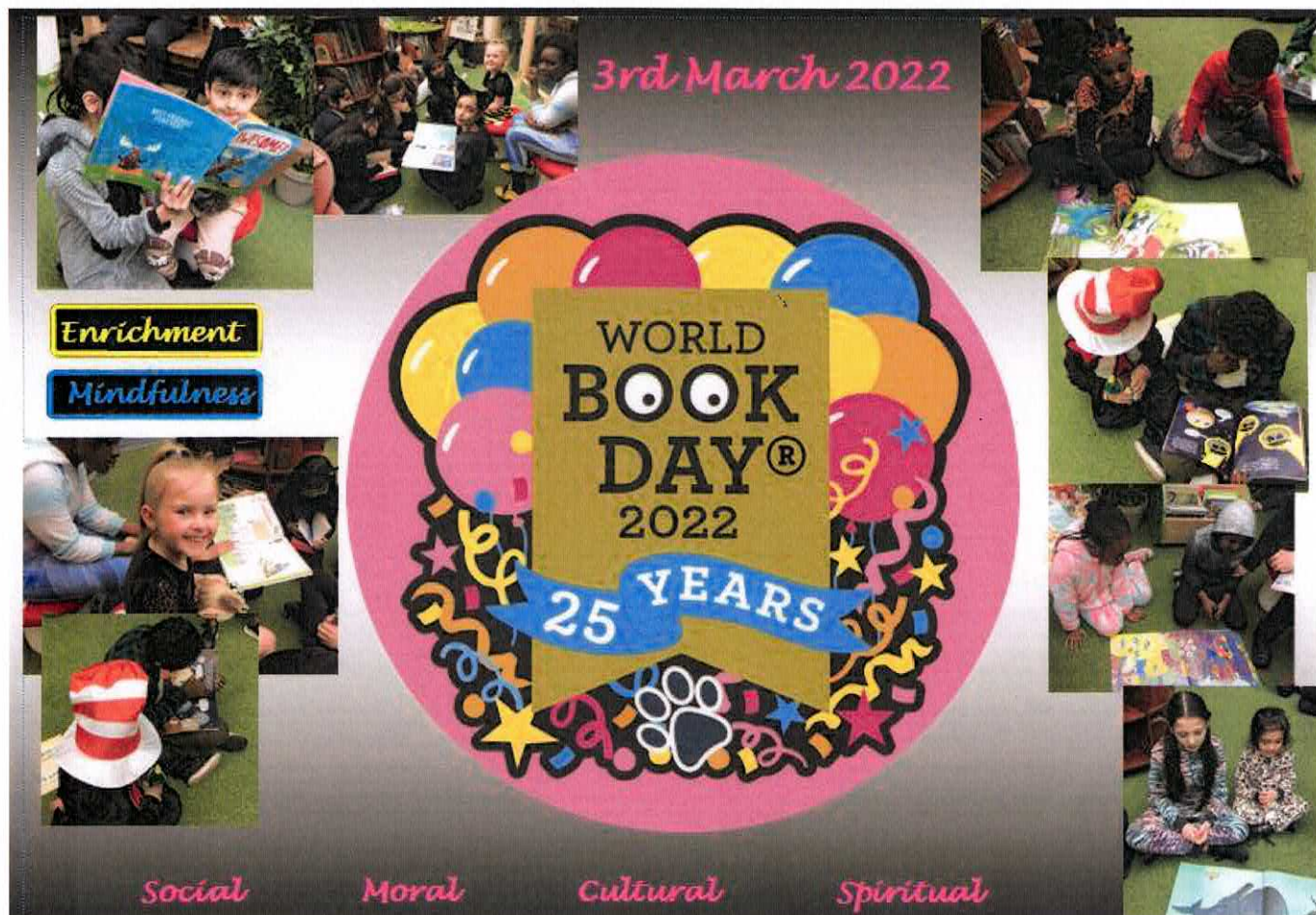


### Y3

In Y3, we have been handling money. We have had so much fun.







3P looking amazing for World Book Day



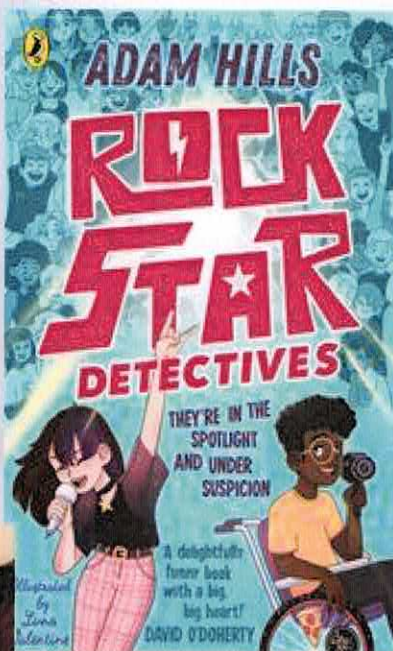
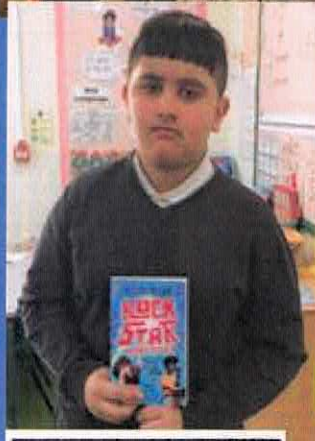




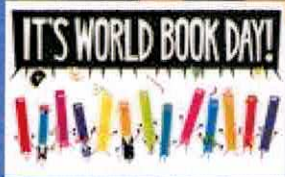
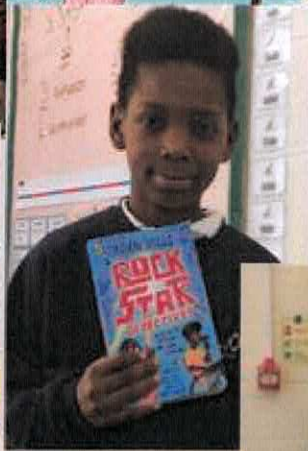


On Wednesday 2nd March, years 4 and 5 were honoured to attend an author zoom meeting with Adam Hills. He told us all about how and why he wanted to write a children's book, where his ideas came from and whether there will be any more in the series. Adam read us half of the opening chapter, took questions and made us all laugh.

Following the meeting, a lady from The Bolton Library Service, told everyone on the meeting that St Matthew's were joint competition winners! 15 of our children were given a copy of Adam's first book: Rock Star Detectives.



Adam Christopher Hills MBE  
Born: Australia, 10th July 1970  
Author  
Comedian  
Radio and TV presenter



### Enrichment

- Social
- Moral
- Cultural
- Spiritual



## Midnight Shelters

This week in Commando Joe's, we communicated within our team to construct a sturdy shelter in the pitch black!

Lewis





## Netball

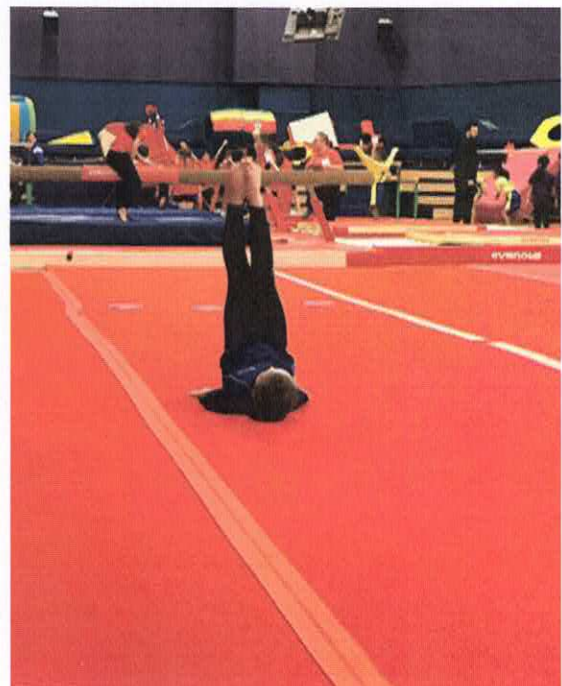
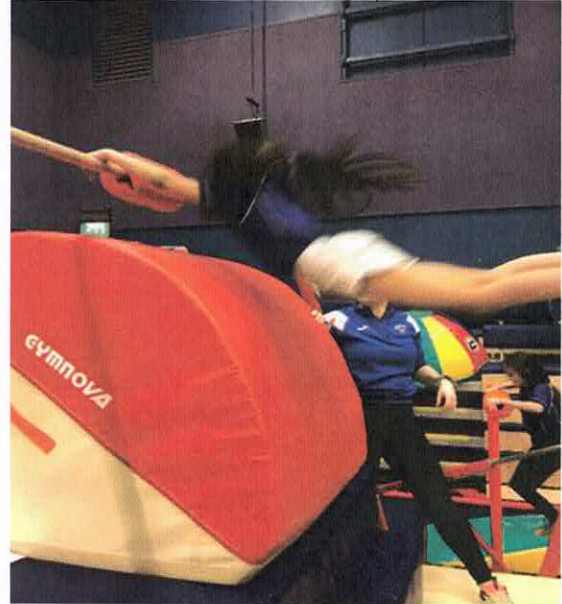
Our Y3/4 netball team performed very well at their netball festival at St Joseph's High School. Looking very smart in their kits, the children played against other teams from across Bolton in some very competitive matches. Everyone received a certificate for taking part and I was very proud of the positive attitude and super sportsmanship they showed throughout the festival. Well done girls!





## Gymnastics

The Y3/4 gymnastics team had a great afternoon at Bolton arena. They performed their routines in front of lots of other children from different schools and the judges but held their nerve and remembered all their moves. They also enjoyed having a taster session on all the Olympic gym equipment; it was all very exciting. Well done!





A message from Mrs Sharples, our Pastoral Manager

### **Parents- Looking after yourself**

Being a parent can be challenging in everyday situations. Now, more than ever, taking care of your mental health is important. Staying at home more or having to work during a difficult situation can put different pressures on everyone. If you're struggling, it's okay to reach out for support from friends, families, school and organisations that are here to help.

Changes to our mental health can sometimes affect children and their well-being. They may pick up on your anxiety or low mood.

This doesn't mean you should hide your feelings.

You can try to explain them using phrases like, "It's ok to get big feelings, everyone gets big feelings but it's still the grown up's job to look after the children."

When things are different to what we're used to and everyone is going through a big change, it's important to give children reassurance and support. Looking after your own mental health is vital to their well-being, so don't be afraid of doing something for yourself to take care of your own well-being, and reach out if you need help. Staff in St Matthew's are here should you need any support or signposting to other services. Don't be afraid to ask for help; we're all in the same boat.

If you would like a confidential chat or signposting to other support services, please call the school office and ask to speak to Mrs Sharples.



## NUT Free School

We children in school with a nut allergy which means that all staff and parents must be vigilant about ingredients we use in school and items put into lunch boxes. No nuts or snacks containing nuts should be put into packed lunches.

Peanut allergy is the second most common food allergy in children and this is increasing. It now occurs in 1 in 50 children.

As we now have a pupil in school who suffers from a severe nut allergy please could I take this opportunity to explain to everyone that our school has now become a "Nut Free School. " If our pupil comes into contact with a nut product, they can suffer life threatening consequences. It can be easily initiated from a simple handshake or touching of a pupil's table who may have had some nuts in their food. Therefore children **must not** bring nuts or nut products as snacks into school at any time.

We ask that you do not provide your child with any products containing nuts in their lunch box: Some examples:

- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Nutella
- Peanut butter
- Cakes made with nuts
- Muesli bars
- Baklava
- Any nuts

School will be making regular checks on the children's lunches to ensure these rules are being followed.

Whilst we know some children like to bring in cakes/chocolates for their classmates to celebrate their birthday we ask that they do not bring in anything that contains nuts, if they do then unfortunately they will not be handed out and will be sent home unopened, which could lead to lots of disappointment.

We have a rule not to use nuts in any of our food prepared on site at our school. Our suppliers provide us with nut-free products, however, we cannot guarantee freedom from nut traces.

Please help us in providing a nut free school and assisting those parents who have a child who may have a life threatening reaction by children **not** bringing nuts or nut products as snacks into school at any time.

Many thanks for your support.





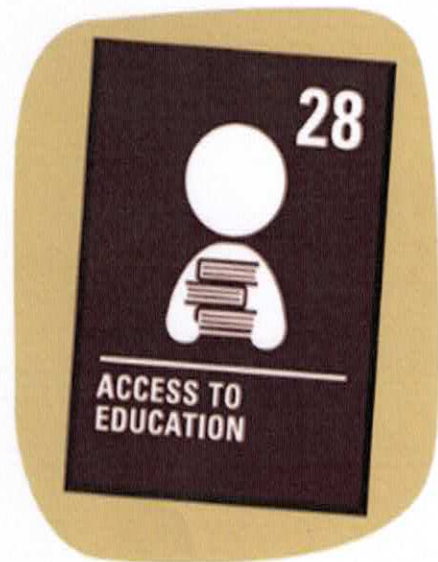
**How might your life be different if you weren't able to go to school?**



## **UN Rights of a Child**




**Every child has the right to an education.**





# ITHRIVE PARENT PEER SUPPORT

- Share experiences with other parents
- Find out about specific mental health conditions
- Be supported to find out what services are available
- Have a one to one chat
- Explore how to best support your child
- Take time out to focus on your own well being
- Learn new skills

 **Breaking Barriers NW**

**Support for  
Parents/Carers  
whose children  
are  
experiencing  
difficulties with  
their mental  
health**

As a parent/carer it can be difficult to know how to help your child and can impact on your own well being when your child is experiencing mental health difficulties. We can help you feel less isolated and support you in a way that works for you.

To access information and support complete the following form:  
<https://bolton-together.org.uk/parent-peer-support-programme-referral-form/>  
or you can contact directly:

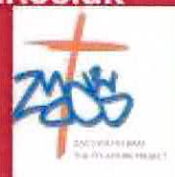
**Raise The Youth Foundation**  
[parent@raisetheyouth.co.uk](mailto:parent@raisetheyouth.co.uk)

Telephone 01204431946

**Breaking Barriers**  
[breakbarriers3@gmail.com](mailto:breakbarriers3@gmail.com)

**ZACS Youth Bar**

[Allison@Zacsyouthbar.co.uk](mailto:Allison@Zacsyouthbar.co.uk)





## ChatHealth Messaging Service

### Text your School nurse/Health Visitor

During these unsettling times, as a parent of child aged between 0/19 years old you may be worried about your child's health and wellbeing and be unsure about how to get the help you need.

Our specialist nurses are still here to help - you can text them for confidential advice and support on a wide range of issues.

**Parent/carers of child(ren) aged 0-19 can send a text to:**

**07507331751**

We can help with all kinds of things like:

- Behaviour
- Continence
- Emotional health
- Self-harm
- Bullying
- Minor accidents and illnesses

Your ChatHealth messaging service is run by The Children's Integrated Health and Wellbeing Team, Bolton Foundation Trust and is available Monday to Friday 8am until 8pm

We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate bounce-back to confirm we received your text. Texts will not be seen outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact your GP, NHS 111 or dial 999 if it is an emergency.





# Free School Meals

Even if your child is currently receiving Universal Free School meals, because they are in either Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, if you think that you might be entitled to standard free school meals, because you meet the criteria below it is very important that you still apply for them.

You can get further help on how to apply at the One Stop Shop in Bolton Town Hall.

---

**What are free school meals?** They are school dinners for children between the ages of 4 and 16 who attend full time school (but not private schools). They may also be awarded to some children outside this age range who attend full time school or nursery.

**Do I qualify?** To qualify you or your partner must be getting one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Universal Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit only (but no award of Working Tax Credit) and have an annual income, as assessed by the HM Revenues and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190.

**What evidence is required & how do I apply?** You need to provide an up to date document showing that you are getting one of the above benefits. You do not need to make a separate claim if you are already getting or have applied for Housing Benefit / Council Tax Support. We will use the information and evidence you have already provided to confirm your entitlement,

If you would like to make a claim this can be done by;

- Telephoning 01204 331590 or
- Visit our website [www.bolton.gov.uk](http://www.bolton.gov.uk) (search for free school meals)

In addition from **September 2014** children who are attending full time at any Sixth form college (not private) may also be eligible.

---



# FREE CAKES FOR KIDS BOLTON



.....

**A community service that  
provides free birthday cakes  
for children who might not  
otherwise receive one.**

## **FREE, FRIENDLY & CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE**

Get in touch if you know a child who  
may benefit, or if you'd like to join  
us as a volunteer baker.

**freecakesforkidsbolton@hotmail.com**  
**@freecakesbolton**  
**facebook.com/freecakesforkidsbolton**