



office@uptonjun.dorset.sch.uk



office@uptoninf.dorset.sch.uk

The Upton Schools

Belonging  **Growth**  **Excellence**

Newsletter

26th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

The Importance of School Attendance

Regular school attendance is essential for every child's learning, wellbeing, and future success. Each day in school offers valuable opportunities to build knowledge, develop friendships, and grow in confidence. When children miss school, even occasionally, it can disrupt their progress and make it harder to stay connected with their peers and teachers. We understand that illness and exceptional circumstances may arise, and we are here to support families during those times. To help improve attendance, we encourage parents to:

- ❖ Establish a consistent morning routine to reduce stress before school.
- ❖ Schedule medical appointments outside of school hours whenever possible.
- ❖ Communicate with the school early if your child is struggling emotionally or physically.
- ❖ Celebrate small attendance milestones to motivate your child.
- ❖ Ensure your child gets enough sleep and has a healthy breakfast to start the day well.

Together, we can work to ensure every child feels supported and ready to attend school regularly.

We recently did some analysis of our year six SATS results and there was a clear reduction in the amount of children attaining the expected standard in reading, writing and maths whose attendance was below 95%.

Below is an easy guide to attendance at our schools.

Upton Infants

We recognise that good attendance (above 96%) is key to good pupil outcomes. The links between regular attendance, reaching potential attainment and future life opportunities are well researched. For this reason, the school will encourage good attendance and be robust in monitoring attendance and take action when attendance falls below the expected level. Good attendance impacts significantly on progress, learning, friendship groups and the child's overall happiness at school.

Easy as

1

There are 190 school days in a year; this leaves 175 days to spend on family time and holidays.

2

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure that their child(ren) attend school every day and on time.

3

The school opens at: 8.40 ; registration is from 8.50 . Please arrive as close to 8.40 as possible to maximise learning opportunities for your child.



Attendance Matters

Every student Every Day

We're here to help!

We understand that there are many reasons why children may be absent or late for school. Please speak to staff about ways that we can support you with this.



Guide to attendance

Upton Juniors

1

There are 190 school days in a year; this leaves 175 days to spend on family time and holidays.

2

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure that their child(ren) attend school every day and on time.

3

The school opens at: 8:30am ; registration is from 8:45am . Please arrive as close to 8:40am as possible to maximise learning opportunities for your child.



Attendance Matters

Every student Every Day

We're here to help!

We understand that there are many reasons why children may be absent or late for school. Please speak to staff about ways that we can support you with this.

Equates to number school days off each year

100%	Perfection
98%	Impressive
97%	Good
96%	On Target
95%	Slight Concern
93%	Concerns
90%	Very Concerned
85%	Serious Concerns

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	almost 1.5 years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	over 2.5 years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	almost 8 years

School Vision

As the schools are Federating, we have reflected on our vision and what we would like to achieve for our children.

Belonging, Growth and Excellence

- ❖ Belonging-We want all children to feel valued, known and understood.
- ❖ Growth-We want our children to develop personally, academically and socially.
- ❖ Excellence-We want to strive for excellent standards-academic and personal development.

As we continue to develop and align the schools with our vision of Belonging, Growth and Excellence , this will inform every decision we make. As I am sure you can see The VIP initiative that we have launched recently has been a part of the ‘Belonging’ part of our Vision.

School Dates

We have recently set key dates for the year for both school and these will be available on the school websites shortly.

School Clubs-External Providers

The vast majority of our extra-curricular clubs (not after school childcare club) are run by external providers so if they are cancelled they will contact you directly. If this then prompts a change in the children’s end of day routine then please contact the school office so we are aware. This way we can work together to keep the children safe.

Cuddly Toys/Items into school

We are seeing a rise of cuddly toys (especially Labubu toys) and other items being brought into school. Unless this is agreed with your child’s class teacher, please can you monitor what your child is bringing in so it stops. This stops items getting lost, damaged and prevents distractions from teaching and learning.

Save the Date

On Tuesday 11th November 4.30-5.30 we are running a safeguarding workshop on County Lines for parents of children in years 5 and 6. This is a response to this issue becoming an increasing issue in Poole and Bournemouth. We know of families within our community who have experienced the absolute horror of their children becoming involved. The children will be having an informative and age-appropriate workshop to raise their awareness. These workshops will be run by Escapeline who are a charity who work to inform children and parents about the risks. More information will be coming out soon.

Uniform

We have updated our uniform policy and the key information for parents is;

- ❖ Fleece with school logo
- ❖ Jumper with school logo
- ❖ White polo shirt
- ❖ Grey or Black trousers/shorts/skirts/skorts
- ❖ Summer dress
- ❖ Black shoes/trainers

PE Kit

- ❖ PE t-shirt with school logo or plain red, blue or yellow t-shirt
- ❖ Plain black/navy jogging bottoms/shorts/leggings
- ❖ Plain black/navy sweatshirt/hoody
- ❖ Black trainers

General Appearance

Children can wear a watch as long as it does not enable children to access the internet or take photographs, i.e. some Smartwatches. Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name to avoid them being lost. Please visit the school office if you need to locate lost property. As the weather is starting to turn colder, all children should wear a coat to school.

Pupils should wear clean uniform and have long hair tied back or braided. Shoes should be all black including the soles and in good condition so that pupils are safe and comfortable. Children should not wear jewellery to school, the only exception is small, plain stud earrings which children will need to be able to remove for P.E.

Communication with Parents

Please remember that we are still in the process of building strong, trusting relationships with your children. Our teachers are working incredibly hard every day, driven by a deep commitment to doing what's best for each child. We ask that you treat our staff with courtesy and respect, just as we strive to do the same for you. While we may not always get everything right, we welcome open and honest conversations—so if something isn't working, please come and talk to us. Together, we can create the best possible environment for your children to thrive.

Have a great weekend.

Duncan Churchill
Executive Head Teacher
Upton Infant and Junior School

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ORDER, PINEWOOD ROAD, UPTON

DORSET COUNCIL has made an Order under Section 14 [1] of the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 as amended. The Order is needed in order to comply with health and safety regulations which require the provision of safe working areas and to minimise the likelihood of danger to highway users. It will come into operation between 08:00 and 18:00 on 1st October 2025 and remain in force for 18 months however it is anticipated that the works will be completed by 7th October 2025. The road will be open outside of these times.

This Order will enable Dorset Council to carry out carriageway maintenance and resurfacing works.

The effect of this Order is as follows:

- (i) To impose a temporary road closure on; Pinewood Road, Upton as indicated by signs on site.
- (ii) To impose a temporary clearway and parking suspension as indicated by signs on site to prevent waiting or parking on the highway along Pinewood Road, Upton.

For further information about the work being undertaken and access arrangements, call Dorset Highways Operations on 01305 228100. To discuss this Order, contact Dorset Council on 01305 221020 or use our website: www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roadworks/enquiries. You can also find this information online: dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roadworks-events or read the council's [guide to roadworks](#) for general information and advice.

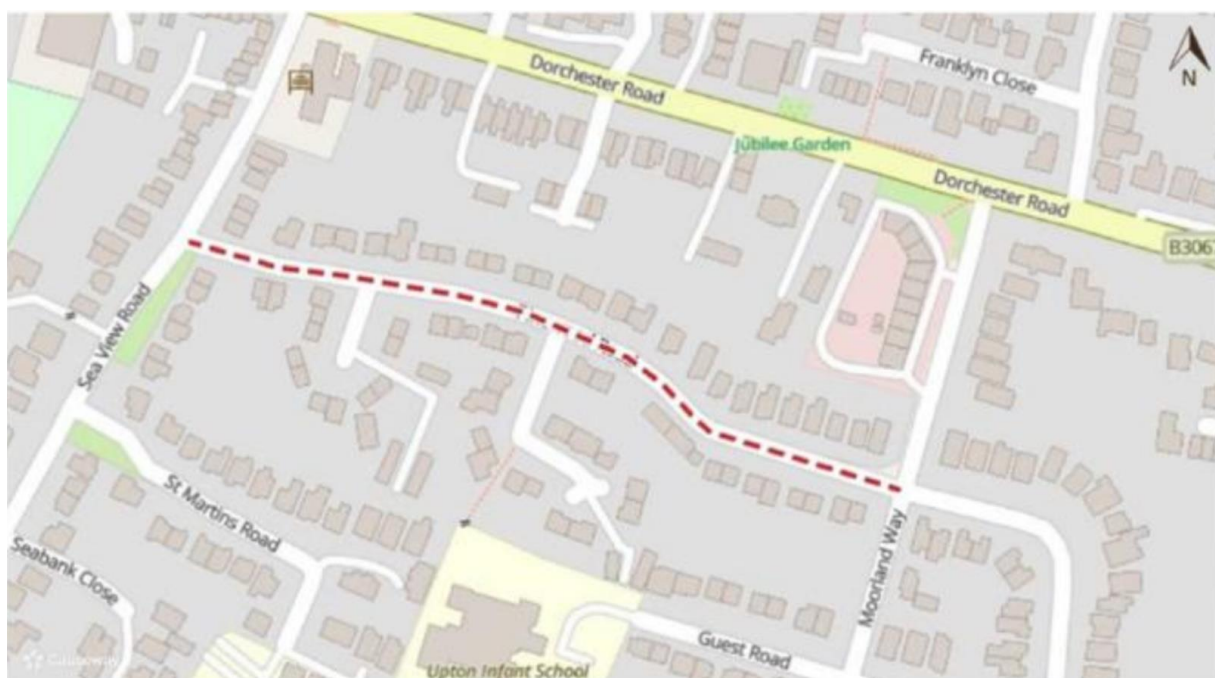
12th September 2025

Road Closure – Pinewood Road, Upton

To enable us to carry out maintenance work, we plan to close **Pinewood Road, Upton**. We hope to start this work on **1/10/25** and finish on/by **7/10/25**. To enable us to safely carry out this work, we need to close the road to through traffic.

The closure will be in place between **08:00** and **18:00**. The road will be reopened at **night and at weekends**.

During the closure periods there will be no on street parking available. Parking restrictions will be imposed to prevent waiting or parking on the roads stated above. Any vehicle waiting in contravention of any restriction imposed by this Notice may be removed under the provisions of the Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations 1986. If a vehicle has been towed the owner will need to contact our towing contractors Bride Valley on 01305 889421.



Upton Junior School Announcements

Diary Dates



- ❖ Friday 10th October – INSET DAY
- ❖ Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th October – Year 6 East Dorset Museum Trip
- ❖ Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th October – Year 4 Ancient Tech Trip
- ❖ Tuesday 21st October – Year 6 Lytchett Minister Show- Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
- ❖ Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd October – Year 5 Bird Trip
- ❖ Friday 24th October – Last day of school
- ❖ Monday 27th – Friday 31st October – Half Term
- ❖ Monday 3rd November – Children return to school
- ❖ Tuesday 4th November – Flu Immunisations
- ❖ Thursday 6th November – Year 6 SATS information Evening – 4.30 – 5.30pm
- ❖ Monday 10th November – INSET DAY

PE Days

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Monday				
Tuesday		PE		PE
Wednesday	PE		PE	
Thursday		PE		PE
Friday	PE		PE	

Upton Infant School Announcements

Diary Dates



- ❖ Friday 3rd October – Fraser Portraits Individual photos
- ❖ Friday 10th October – Inset Day

PE Days

	Honeybees	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Monday				
Tuesday		PE		
Wednesday			PE	
Thursday			PE	PE
Friday	PE			PE



Artz+ Sportz+

Holiday programme for children aged
5-17 years who require additional support

October 2025 Half Term Fun



Enjoy swim and sensory
sessions, forest school fun,
drumming, crafts and spooky
season stories - plus LaserTag
for TEENZ - this October!



Photo credit: Jayne Jackson

Details of all our latest holiday activities on:
dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/sport-leisure/artz-sportz

Sign up to our mailing list:
leisure@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

or follow us on [facebook](#)



HALLOWEEN THEMED FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

**INDOORS AT
LYTCHETT
MATRAVERS**
Tuesday 28th
October

with Total Sports
**OUTSIDE AT MERLEY
FIRST SCHOOL**
Wednesday 29th October

**OUTSIDE AT
ABW
(Blandford)**
Thursday
30th October

**MATCHES ALL DAY WITH AMERICAN PENALTIES,
TEAM RACES, SEMI FINALS AND FINAL!**



Halloween Gift for Everyone!

9am – 3pm Only £25 a day

KEYS HALLOWEEN PARTY

**FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER AT LYTCHETT MATRAVERS
PRIMARY SCHOOL 9AM – 3PM ONLY £25**

**DAY INCLUDES: FANCY DRESS COMPETITION,
PUMPKIN CARVING, ARTS AND CRAFTS,
HALLOWEEN THEMED GAMES AND SPORTS**

**THE CLUB WILL TAKE PLACE INDOORS,
PLEASE ARRIVE IN YOUR HALLOWEEN COSTUME**

**CHILDREN MUST
WEAR TRAINERS
BRING A CHANGE
OF CLOTHES AND
PACKED LUNCH
NO NUTS OR
CHOCOLATE PLEASE!**



07795258274 or email Totalsportsdorset@gmail.com to book a space

Facebook: KevinSmithTotalSports



September Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Understanding Addictive Behaviour	15 Sep 10am
Supporting A Child With ADHD	15 Sep 7pm
Improving Family Communication	16 Sep 10am
Autism Improving Communication	16 Sep 7pm
Facing Defiance	22 Sep 10am
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	22 Sep 7pm
Understanding Anger	23 Sep 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	23 Sep 7pm
FREE Facing Defiance	25 Sep 7-8pm
Introduction To OCD	29 Sep 10am
What Is ACT?	29 Sep 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	30 Sep 10am
Anxiety Explained	30 Sep 7pm
Understanding The Teenage Brain	6 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	6 Oct 7pm