

Dear Parents/Carers

We demonstrate our Values of *Trust, Respect, Honesty, Kindness, Friendship and Generosity* at Prees C.E. Primary School and Nursery in all that we strive to achieve each day.

*** School Admissions Dates ***

Applications for Reception School Places.

Children born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 can start primary school from September 2025.

The deadline for submitting an on time application is Wednesday 15th January 2025.

To apply please visit: <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

click on: Apply to start or transfer school

then click on: Starting infant or primary school

Monday 13th January	PE - Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6 First Aid Training for Year 5 and Year 6
Tuesday 14th January	PE - Nursery, Reception and Year 1
Wednesday 15th January	PE - Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 Stay, Play and Chat 9am - 10.30am
Thursday 16th January	Swimming Year 3 and Year 4 PE - Year 1 and Year 2 Outdoor Learning Nursery and Reception Class
Friday 17th January	PE - Reception and Year 4 Outdoor Learning Year 1 and Year 2

*Please can children come to school in their PE kit on PE days and bring a spare pair of socks to change into as the grass can be wet. Can children come to school in Outdoor Learning clothes (a long sleeved top, long trousers, wellies and a waterproof coat) on Outdoor Learning days.
Thank you.*

At Prees C.E. Primary School, we continually focus on the importance of attendance and punctuality to ensure that your child has the best possible start in life. Attendance has a direct link to attainment; there is clear evidence that poor attendance has a very negative impact on children's learning and progress at school. If a child is not in school regularly, they are not fully accessing the curriculum and learning opportunities available to them.

Children are required to attend school for 190 days each year.

There are 175 days for holidays and other activities.

Attending school every day equates to 100% attendance.

We believe that 'Every Minute Counts!' When a child arrives late at school, they miss teacher instructions and lesson time; and their learning begins to suffer. Children also feel embarrassed at having to enter the classroom late. This can seriously disadvantage children and disrupt the learning of others. Please help your child to be punctual, school starts at 8.50a.m. Thank you.

If you are concerned about someone's safety

In an emergency dial 999, but for other calls to the police please ring 101. To report a safeguarding concern by phone ring our **First Point of Contact team** on 0345 678 9044 Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm, and Friday 9am to 4pm. If you have urgent adult safeguarding concerns outside of these hours, please phone the **Emergency Social Work Duty Team** on 0345 678 9040.

Attendance

There is currently a Government drive to improve attendance in all schools. Our school is no exception. Measures that are currently in place are:

1. The holiday code for attendance has been removed and there is an expectation that headteachers will not authorise holiday requests and any unauthorised requests will be fined.
2. The procedure for the Education Welfare Officer becoming involved with children's attendance has become a much shorter process.

We understand that children do have illnesses but wanted to explain that the Education Welfare Officer linked to our school is monitoring attendance much more closely.

Child Absence

Please telephone school (01948 840209) by 9.00 am if your child is unwell and will not be attending that day. If leaving a message, can you please provide the exact reason why your child is absent. If we have not heard from you by 9.30am we will telephone you. If we have not heard from you by lunchtime about your child's absence then we will need to report the fact that we are unable to contact you.

We shall also be contacting parents of Nursery children who do not attend, for whatever reason, on days that we are expecting them. This is a health and wellbeing safeguarding check.

MESSAGING

Most communications are sent by email via sQuid. Please make sure that we have the most up to date contact information for you. Please let us know of any changes to your key details.

As a matter of routine, any injury above the neck means that a text is sent home as well as the 'bump note'. All other minor accidents will be recorded and a note sent home with your child. If anything is considered more serious than a minor injury we will always telephone you. Thank you.

Free School Meals

Your child may be entitled to free school meals if you are in receipt of certain benefits.

Children in Nursery to Year 6 may be eligible

Please visit the site below to check if you are eligible to apply

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

**** School Transport ****

Your child may be eligible for school transport if they are in Reception Class to Year 6 and fulfil certain criteria. Applications can be submitted online at:

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/school-transport/available-support/>

Scroll down and click on Primary.

Water Bottles

Please can children bring a water bottle, labelled with their name to school each day. If your child is bringing juice to drink with their lunch, can they also bring a bottle with water in, so that your child can remain hydrated throughout the day.

Coat, hat, gloves and wellies

Can we please ask that during the cold weather your child brings a coat, hat, gloves and wellies (if they do not already have a pair in school) to school each day. We like to take the children out at playtimes whenever the weather allows.

Facebook and Twitter

Our school has a Facebook account - Prees CE Primary School and Nursery.

We also have a twitter account @preesschool. The account is private, but if you would like to follow our account then please request this and as long as we are sure who you are then your request will be accepted.

We use the accounts to share some of the amazing things that the children undertake in school.



A fundraising bingo event has been organised for our school on the 10th February 2025 at Prees Sports Club, 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm. For the event we provide the bingo prizes, in the past these have been bottles of wine, boxes of chocolates, smellies etc. If anyone is able to donate a prize for the event, then they will be very gratefully received. Your support as ever is very much appreciated.

Reading Books and Reading Records

Can your child please bring their reading book and reading record to school each day so that we can record when they are reading in school. As ever, we really appreciate your support in your child's reading development. We understand that it can be difficult to hear your child read every day, but if you could try to build in some time during the course of the week to hear your child read as often as possible or to talk with them about their reading, that would be really beneficial. Please record every time you hear your child read. Thank you.

Important message

'Due to a recent change in policy, sQuid will now be penalising school for the dinner money arrears in each child's dinner money purse. Consequently, ALL dinners must be paid in advance or on the day they are taken.

From Monday 25th November, children will not be able to order a school meal if they are more than one meal in arrears.

If your child is currently in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, please can you also check your child's account as those ordering toast will be charged 10 p per day.

Please can all parents check their sQuid catering purse as a matter of urgency and clear any arrears and consider putting 'auto top up' in place. Auto top up will automatically top up your child's catering purse if the credit falls below a preset amount.

We appreciate your help with this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office, if you have any queries.

The SEND Local Offer

Lots of information and support for children and young people with SEND and their families, including:

- Education
- Health and wellbeing
- Family support
- Social care
- Preparing for adulthood
- Early help
- Things to do
- Education, health and care plan (EHCP)
- Travel and transport
- Financial support

local.offer@shropshire.gov.uk 0345 678 9063
www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/



If you need help accessing the Local Offer please speak to your school or local library.



Support for parent and carers of children with SEND

Shropshire's Local Offer

Having access to good quality information to help you understand the world of SEND is important when making decisions about your child's life.

This is where websites such as the [Shropshire's SEND Local Offer](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/) can help you.

Cost of Living Support

Increases in the cost of food, fuel and utilities will continue to affect most households across Shropshire this year. If you find yourself worried about money or you are struggling right now, you are not alone. But don't wait to get help. Shropshire Council and many support organisations are seeing rises in the number of people seeking help, and as winter approaches you may see more delays in getting responses.

The good news is that there's help available.

The website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help/ was created in partnership with trusted community organisations to help you find the help you need, whether it's to get through a short-term crisis or to find more long-term support.

Shropshire Larder - a resource for people in Shropshire

The Shropshire Larder is a community information resource, bringing together the support available in Shropshire for people on low incomes.

Take a look at their website for further information on the following:

- How to access emergency food
- Where to access low cost or free food in Shropshire
- Advice on eating well on a budget
- Where to get local help with money issues

<https://www.shropshirelarder.org.uk/>

