

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.



A fundraising bingo event has been organised for our school on Monday 10th February 2025 at Prees Sports and Social 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.

Monday 20th January

PE - Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6

Tuesday 21st January

PE - Nursery, Reception and Year 1

Wednesday 22nd January

PE - Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6

Stay, Play and Chat 9am - 10.30am

Thursday 23rd January

Swimming Year 3 and Year 4

PE - Year 1 and Year 2

Outdoor Learning Nursery and Reception Class

Friday 24th 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.

First Aid skills for Year 5 and Year 6

The children benefitted from learning important First Aid skills on Monday. They had the opportunity to learn about assessing scene safety, what to do if they find someone unresponsive, calling 999, the recovery position and performing CPR!

We are In safe hands!

Attendance

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 children to be punctual, school begins at 8.50a.m.

Thank you.

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 9.30 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>

Thank you.

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.

Breakfast Club and Wrap Around Club

We have a daily Breakfast Club (during term time) from 8am. Breakfast is supplied and the children are taken to join their classes at 8.40am. The cost for the daily session is £4 payable via sQuid. If you are able, we ask that you book in advance but the club is also available on an ad hoc basis to suit your needs.

Wrap Around Club (during term time) runs from 3.10pm—6pm daily. The cost is £4 per hourly session, payable via sQuid. A snack can be provided if your child is staying after 5.10pm for an additional cost of £1, you need to let us know in advance if you would like this please. Again, if you are able, we ask you to book in advance but the club is also available on an ad hoc basis to suit your needs.

Both clubs are for children aged 3 years and above. Vouchers can be used to pay for Breakfast and/or Wrap Around Club. Thank you.

Facebook and Twitter

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

We also have a twitter account @preeschool. 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.

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.

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** 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 is 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/>



Find out more about Autism support in Shropshire

Autism Awareness event for all ages

Wem

Thursday 23rd January

10am - 12.30pm

Wem Library, High St, Wem, SY4 5AA

We will be available to offer information, advice & guidance for adults & parent carers of children & young people - at any stage of diagnosis.

Come & join us for an informal chat.
We look forward to seeing you!

The event will be hosted by Autism West Midlands & the Shropshire Adult Autism Hub

If you have any questions, please email:
Pip.Long@Shropshire.gov.uk



Would you know what to do if your child was injured or had a medical emergency?
The British Red Cross have created a fantastic free baby and child first aid app to help you keep your little ones safe. It is designed to support parents, grandparents and caregivers to learn 17 first aid skills to help in a first aid emergency.

You can also find tips on how to prepare for emergencies both at home or while out and about.

Click here to find out more <https://orlo.uk/M5PMZ>



Fortnite Battle Royale

Fortnite Battle Royale is rated PEGI 12 due to moderate violence, meaning it is not suitable for children under the age of 12.

What is Fortnite?

There are different versions of Fortnite, including Fortnite Battle Royale, which is free to play (although it contains in-app purchases). In Battle Royale, up to one hundred players compete against each other until one winner remains.

What do I need to be aware of?

Chatting and inappropriate language: Fortnite includes voice and text chat, which may mean your child encounters strangers and may hear inappropriate language. Ensure your child knows how to report/block any players that make them feel uncomfortable.

In app purchases: Players can purchase V-Bucks so make sure you restrict purchases and do not store your card details.

Parental Controls

Fortnite provides several parental controls in your child's Epic account to help you create a safer environment for your child. The controls allow you to:

- disable voice chat
- filter language
- manage which experiences your child can access based on their age
- set a PIN to add friends
- set a PIN for purchases
- set time limits
- set appropriate privacy settings.

Also, remember to set up age-appropriate parental controls on the device your child is playing on.

Reporting/Blocking Features

As always, ensure your child knows how to use the reporting and blocking features and that they know they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

Further information

You can find out more here:

<https://safety.epicgames.com/en-US/parental-controls>

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/fortnite>

Social Media Influencers

What is an Influencer?

An influencer is somebody on a social media platform such as YouTube and Instagram, who have a high number of followers. Influencers share their opinions/ideas and may be paid to advertise/promote products through their account.

What should I be concerned about?

Whilst there are some great influencers, there are some that choose to share content that is for example, misogynistic, racist or misleading. These opinions can be expressed or interpreted as fact, so it is important to talk to your child and encourage them to fact check and critically analyse what they see and hear online.

What we see on social media

What we see is influenced by algorithms, which predict what type of content we are most likely to interact with. Whilst there are benefits of algorithms, it can mean that once we start looking at certain content, our social media feed can become more aligned with that opinion, creating an echo chamber and therefore we do not see a balanced picture. Find out more here: <https://www.childnet.com/blog/algorithms/>

What can I do to help my child?

Talk to your child about social media and who they follow. If there is anybody that you are unsure of, then check their feed and discuss with your child if you find anything worrying.

Further information

<https://swgfl.org.uk/topics/social-media/>