

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.



We hope you and your family enjoyed a very happy Christmas.

We wish you all a wonderful 2026 and look forward to seeing you again on Monday 5th January 2026.



PREES SCHOOL NEWS

Monday 5th January	Spring Term begins—children return to school PE - Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5
Tuesday 6th January	PE - Nursery, Reception, Year 2 and Year 4
Wednesday 7th January	PE - Year 1, Year 3 and Year 6 Play, Stay and Chat in the hall 9am - 10.30am
Thursday 8th January	PE - Year 1, Year 2 and Year 5
Friday 9th January	PE - Reception and Year 6

Can children please come to school in their PE kit on the days they have PE. Can they please bring an extra pair of socks as their feet can get wet if on the field. Thank you

We are aware that it has been in the local news that Market Drayton swimming baths are reopening next week but we haven't had any information yet about school sessions restarting—as soon as we hear anything, we will let you know.

*** School Admissions Dates ***

Applications for Reception School Places

Children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 can start primary school from September 2026

The deadline for submitting an on time application is Wednesday 15th January 2026

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

If you have any queries with your application please contact the school office.

Fundraising

Thank you so very much to everyone for supporting various fundraising events hosted by school and the Friends of Prees School before Christmas.

Your support is very much appreciated.

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 the [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.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 6th January	Eye tests for children in reception
Wednesday 7th January	Stay, Play and Chat
Tuesday 13th January	SATs Club begins for children in Year 6
Wednesday 14th January	Stay, Play and Chat
Thursday 22nd January	Year 6 parents SATs workshops
Wednesday 21st January	Stay, Play and Chat

Stay, Play and Chat

Prees C.E. Primary School & Nursery

Every Wednesday (starting 7th January 2026) 9.00am - 10.30am (during term time)

Children from 0-5 years welcome with parents, carers, grandparents and friends. We look forward to you joining us on a Wednesday in our school hall.



**** 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.

Any queries please contact the school office.

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.

Toast

Toast is available to the children at playtime at a cost of 10p per day, this is payable via ParentPay. Children in Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will need to pay for toast if they order it.

**** Please let us know if you do not want your child to have toast on a daily basis as some of our children may not understand and be ordering without you knowing. ****

Children are welcome to bring healthy snacks into school such as raw vegetables, fruit etc. to eat at playtime. Children in Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 have free fruit on a daily basis.

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 they can stay hydrated throughout the day.



Thank you.

Homework on Seesaw

Your child's homework is accessed via our online Seesaw program. Spellings and homework are set on Seesaw each week. If your child is just starting at our school they will bring login details home during their first week. Any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Coat, hat, gloves and wellies

Can we please ask that during the cold weather your child brings a coat, hat and gloves to school each day. If your child does not already have a pair of wellies in school (labelled with their name please) can we ask that you send a pair in that can be left in school. We like to take the children out at playtimes whenever the weather allows. Thank you.



Parking around the Cenotaph

A reminder there is no parking around the Cenotaph at drop off and collection times please. Thank you.

Would you like to read our Online Safety newsletter in a different language?

You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/january-2026-primary/>

School Uniform

We will be working closely with families to ensure our uniform code is adhered to by everyone.

Our school uniform is as follows:

Grey trousers/shorts or skirt/pinafore

White polo shirt / blouse or shirt

Navy blue jumper or cardigan (**with or without the school logo on it**)*

Black shoes for boys and girls (no sandals or trainers)

Light blue and white checked dress

**** Plain stud earrings and /or a watch can be worn, no other jewellery please. ****

For PE:

Navy blue shorts/skort or navy/black jogging bottoms (no logos/slogans/writing on)

Plain red, blue or yellow round neck T-shirt (**with or without the school logo on it**)

Plain navy/black sweatshirt or track suit top (no logos/slogans/writing on)

Trainers for all children

Spare socks

Please note school jumpers/cardigans and PE t-shirts do not need to have the school logo on them

**** Your child will need to remove or cover their earrings for swimming lessons and either remove them or put tape over them for PE please. ****

Can we please ask that you do not send your child in different coloured jogging bottoms and sweat-shirt/track suit top other than navy or black and that they do not have any writing, slogans, logos etc on them. If you do not have a plain navy or black sweatshirt, we are more than happy for your child to wear their navy school jumper/cardigan on top of their yellow, red or blue t-shirt for PE.

If your child should forget to come dressed in their PE kit we do have kits in school that your child can borrow to allow them to take part in the PE lesson. Thank you for your support.

MESSAGING

Most communications are sent by email or text via ParentPay. Please make sure that you have registered via the details sent home to ensure you receive notifications, letters and news.

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 ring you.

Child Absence

Please telephone school (01948 840209) by 9.00am 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 9.15am, we will telephone you and follow-up with a text message.

If we have still not heard from you by 10.30am we will telephone and text again as this becomes a safeguarding concern.

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.

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. Thank you for listening to your child read at home, it is making a big difference. 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. We expect attendance rates to be 96% and above.

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. Thank you.

Playing games online

Does your child play games online? We have outlined some risks that you should consider:



Chatting to strangers / risk of inappropriate language

Some games will allow communication via text chat, direct messages or chatting. Some games do offer the ability to switch communication off and/or the option to restrict bad language, so make sure settings appropriate to your child are applied. If your child is playing online with strangers, then you need to be aware that there is a risk of grooming. Some games do allow you to restrict communication to 'friends only,' however you would need to monitor that their online friends are real life friends. It can be difficult to moderate online chat so ensure your child knows how to block and report other players.

Cyberbullying

It can be very easy online for children to behave in a way that they would not if they were face to face. Talk to your child about how they speak to others online and encourage them to talk to people online with respect. Other forms of cyberbullying whilst playing games could be excluding others, criticising the ability of other players and ganging up on others.

In app purchases

Many games include the option to purchase additional items/ subscriptions so ensure you do not have payment cards saved or set up restrictions/ a password to approve purchases.

What can I do?

Set up parental controls - as well as setting up appropriate parental controls through the game's settings, ensure you have set them up on the console/device your child is playing on.

Check age ratings - before buying the game, check that your child is old enough to play it. All games will either have a PEGI rating or be rated by the App Store/Google Play.

Chat to your child regularly about the risks above so that they are aware of what can happen online and remind them to always talk to you or a trusted adult if they have any concerns

Further information

CEOP provides further guidance and support regarding this topic:

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>

Family Smart Start

Family Smart Start is a free toolkit designed to help you and your child navigate the milestone of getting their first phone. The toolkit provides support on how to set up their new phone, how to talk to your child about digital safety and a template family agreement. Find out more here:

<https://familysmartstart.com/>

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 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.

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/>



Parenting Helpline

Parenthood can be extremely rewarding and enjoyable. It can also be demanding, frustrating and exhausting. Shropshire Council's Parenting Team is here to support parents and carers to raise healthy, well-rounded children in a loving and stable environment.

Do you have any questions around child development and parenting?

Why not call our Parenting Helpline where one of our trained Parenting Practitioners will be ready to listen? Call 01743 250950 - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 12.30pm.

If you would like to find out about other services the Parenting Team offers please email: Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk

all about family

www.allabout-family.co.uk/national-magazine

A digital newsletter with lots of information to share with your children.

Shropshire family Information Service

Info, advice and support, for families in Shropshire

Find us on:



Shropshire Council

Worrying About Money

Worrying about Money? Please use the link below to find guidance and advice regarding money worries that may be affecting you and your family:

<https://www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/shropshire>

Leaflets are also available from: <https://www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/cash-first-leaflets>