

09 Jan 2026

Newsletter No. 16

Tel: 01384 818545 info@ashwood.dudley.sch.uk

Article 28 Every child has the right to an education

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back and a Happy New Year all! We hope you had an enjoyable Christmas break. On behalf of the staff can I thank you for all the cards, presents and good wishes you sent in, it is very much appreciated.

Arbor

Parents and Guardians will be notified when new in-app messages are received if push notifications have been enabled when installing the mobile app. Emails may be sent to your junk folder, please check your In-App settings.

September Starters

If you have a child born between **01/9/2021** and **31/8/2022** an application form for Reception September 2026 needs to be completed by 15th January 2026. Please follow this link;

www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/learning-and-school/school-information/school-admissions/primary-reception-intake/

Privacy Notice Please take a moment to read our [Privacy Notice](#).

Facebook Do remember to take a look at the School's [Facebook](#) page.

Mr Butler and Mr Perkes

Dinner Dates

Next week, the following staff will be in the lunch hall:

Mr Dimmock—Monday
Mrs Bunn — Tuesday
Miss Edwards — Wednesday

It would be wonderful to see as many children as possible joining the teachers in enjoying a school dinner. We hope this helps make lunchtime a highlight of the day!

Dates for the Diary

Mon 16th to Fri 20 Feb 2026

Half Term

Friday 27th March 2026

End of term

Monday 13th April 2026

Children return to School

Thursday 7th May 2026

Voting Day—Closed to Children

Friday 8th May 2026

INSET Day—Closed to Children

W/C Monday 11th May 2026

Year 6 SATs

Mon 25th to Fri 29th May 2026

Half Term

Mon 1st to Fri 5th June 2026

Health Week inc Sports Days

Mon 8th to Wed 10th June 2026

Y6 Residential Trip

Thursday 16th July 2026

Y6 Leavers Party

Friday 17th July 2026

Y6 Leavers Assembly

End of term

Monday 20th July 2026

INSET Day—Closed to Children

Please note INSET days are provisional and are subject to change

Praise Assembly

Children who gained badges and certificates deserve our special congratulations: **17/12/2025**

Key Stage One

RR Foxes - Arlo
1CB Moles -
1/2JB Squirrels - Albert
2W Badgers -

Key Stage Two

3/4D Chestnut -
3/4R Oak -
4H Elder - Suma
5/6D Beech -
5/6E Holly -
6BB Rowan -

Menu*

WC **12.01.26** (Week 1)

Monday

Breaded Chicken Grill
Chicken Nuggets (H)
Enchiladas (V)
Potato Wedges
Lemon & Orange Drizzle Cake

Tuesday

Beef Bolognese
Beef Burger (H)
Vegetarian Sausage Roll (V)
Pasta or Potato Crunchies
Australian Crunch

Wednesday

Roast Gammon
Roast Chicken (H)
Cheese & Potato Pie (V)
Gravy & Stuffing
Mashed & Roast Potatoes
Cornflake Cake

Thursday

Pizza Party (V option available)
Fish Option
Chips
Fruity Friday

Friday

Big Bite Special Hot Dogs (V option)
Baked Beans
Chips
Ice Cream

All dinners must be booked through School Money the day before they are needed. Please contact the school office if you are having any issues.

* Subject to change

Early Years



Children have returned to school brilliantly this week and it's been lovely to hear all about their Christmas holidays!

We have had done some lovely learning this week thinking of new years resolutions and playing in the snow on our school field!

A very warm welcome to our new nursery starters this week.



Tree Tots Toddler Group

We're really sorry that our toddler group isn't able to run right now. We know how much the children (and grown-ups!) enjoy coming together, and we're continuing to look for solutions. Thank you for your patience and understanding—we truly hope to be back up and running, and we can't wait to see you then.

KS1 News



This week we have been happy to welcome the children back into school after a lovely break. We have started our non chronological reports on snails and have also began working on some place value in Maths. We have also been excited to start our new topic in Design Technology which is



making our own Fairground wheel. We will be learning all about axels and wheels to design and create our own working Ferris wheels!

RBDC News



What a fabulous week we have had in the RBDC after two weeks off school!

In Acorns this week, we have been looking at the story Dear Zoo. We picked out each animal and matched it to the character within the story. We really enjoyed pretending to be animals.

This week, Conkers Class have been exploring their new English book 'Click, Clack Moo!' We have been exploring the use of a typewriter and even had chance at using one ourselves. We were shocked at how difficult it was to type!

Star of the Week this week is Kobie, for settling back into school and having a fantastic attitude towards his learning. Miss Thompson is super proud of Kobie! Well done.

This week's signed story called 'Dear Zoo'. Please share with your child.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WfDS7zk1vjo>

Sign of the week: **Animal**



KS2 News



Happy New Year and welcome back—it has been lovely to see everyone again. Our children have settled back into their school routines well and have already begun some exciting new units of work.

This term, Years 3 and 4 will be learning about different settlements in Geography, while Years 5 and 6 will be exploring how we use our seas.

As the cold weather continues, please ensure your child comes to school with a warm coat, hat, scarf, and gloves so we can continue to enjoy our outdoor environment, and remember to label all items clearly.



PE

Years 3/4 - Mon (bring your kit) and Thurs (come to school wearing your kit)

Years 5/6 - Fri (bring your kit) and Wed (come to school wearing your kit)

When the children come to school in their PE kit they must wear their yellow PE top, green shorts / **black joggers** and their green Ashwood Park jumper or cardigan. Hoodies and gilets are **not** permitted.

Maths Problem

TT Rockstars



1. Maisy 3/4R
2. Freya 4H
3. Harrison 3/4R

Well done!

Thank you to those children who have been practising their times tables on TT Rockstars. Please log in regularly to play.

Good Luck to every-one for next time!

Puzzle time

Anagrams

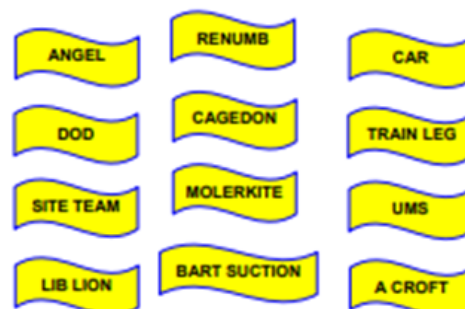


Mathematical anagrams.

An anagram is a word or phrase made up of the letters of another word.

These are all made up from maths words.

Can you work them out?



Healthy Families: Growing Up



Join our parent group

Healthy, thriving children and families



HENRY's free **Healthy Families Growing Up** programme is for parents and carers of primary-school age children – it will help you develop a healthier, happier lifestyle that the whole family can enjoy.

The programme covers these 5 themes across 8 sessions and provides everything you need to help your children flourish.

- Feeling more confident as a parent
- Physical activity for the whole family
- What children and the whole family eats
- Family lifestyle habits
- Enjoying life as a family

Get in touch to sign up now!

"This was the best thing I could possibly have done to help me be a better mum"



Programme details

For parents or carers with children aged 5 – 12 years

Day/time: Wednesday, 09.30 – 11.30

First session: 28 January 2026

Last session: 25 March 2026

Length: 8 sessions

Optional session on 14 January to learn more about the course and meet the facilitators.

Venue: Brierley Hill Family Hub, 18 Parkes Street, DY5 3DY

How to book a place

Visit www.dudleyparents.co.uk or scan the QR Code and click on the HENRY tile to book your place



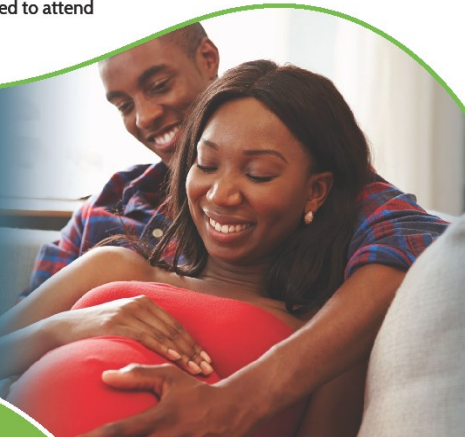
Preparation for Parenthood



Are you pregnant?

A FREE 6-session programme helping you prepare for the arrival of your baby. Partners, friends or family are encouraged to attend alongside expectant mothers.

- Practical, evidence-based information to support you as you prepare to become a parent
- A great opportunity to meet other expectant parents and build friendships within your community
- Join the thousands of families across the country who have benefitted from a HENRY programme



Session 1

Becoming a parent

Session 2

A healthy pregnancy

Session 3

Bonding

Session 4

Caring

Session 5

Giving birth

Session 6

Life after birth

"Exceeded my expectations!"
Expectant parent



Day/time: Mondays, 12.30pm – 2.30pm

First session: 9 February 2026

Last session: 23 March 2026

Length: 6 weeks

Optional session on 2 February to learn more about the course and meet the facilitators.

Venue: The Source Youth Centre, Barnett Lane, DY8 5PY



Visit www.dudleyparents.co.uk or scan the QR Code and click on the HENRY tile to book your place.

A great start in life Do you have a child under 5?

Would you like to:

- feel more confident as a parent?
- reduce mealtime stress?
- enjoy being active as a family more often?
- encourage your child away from screens and TV?
- see your child eat more fruit and vegetables?
- gain ideas to help with family routines?

"I will be recommending this course to everyone. Thank you for this life changing opportunity."

Free Healthy Families Right from the Start programmes

Programme 1: **Day/time:** Tuesday, 09.45 – 11.45

Start date: 20 January 2026, **End date:** 24 March 2026

Length: 9 sessions, **Venue:** Lye Family Hub, Lye By-pass, DY9 8HT

Programme 2: **Day/time:** Thursday, 09.45 – 11.45

Start date: 22 January 2026, **End date:** 26 March 2026

Length: 9 sessions, **Venue:** Stourbridge Family Hub, Forge Road, DY8 1XF

Visit

www.dudleyparents.co.uk or scan the QR Code and click on the HENRY tile to book your place.



Starting Solids Free local workshops



Introducing solid foods is the start of a whole new chapter for you and your baby

Come along!



Introducing solid foods at 6 months

Come to a Starting Solids workshop to help you get your baby off to a great start. The workshop will help you decide:

- When your baby is ready to try solid food
- What foods to start with
- When your baby is hungry and when they've had enough
- How to make mealtimes an enjoyable experience for both of you

Workshops are taking place throughout January, February, March 2026

Visit www.dudleyparents.co.uk or scan the QR code and click on the HENRY tile to book your place





Children's Speech and Language Service (Dudley)

Advice for parents and carers can be found at:

<https://www.blackcountryhealthcare.nhs.uk/our-services/childrens-speech-and-language-therapy-service-dudley>

Dudley's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Bulletin

The Dudley Special Educational Needs and Disabilities e-bulletin's aim is to keep parent carers, education settings and stakeholders informed about Dudley's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Improvement Programme as well as news and events.

As a system we are working hard to improve our SEND offer across the borough. A lot is happening and we are gathering pace to better support our children, young people and families with SEND.

Our latest bulletin provides:

- updates of our improvement journey including our progress of our Delivering Better Value Programme in SEND
- SEND news from the Dudley Parent Carer Forum, Health, the council and partners
- details of useful events for parent carers and practitioners
- SEND Education Settings News which includes information about free SEND training Resources.

Sign up now [SEND Improvement Programme - September 2024 \(govdelivery.com\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/send-improvement-programme-september-2024) to receive this e-bulletin direct to your email inbox

Health Choices

Dudley Public Health and Wellbeing is part of Dudley Council. We support and enable residents, families and communities to make positive lifestyle changes and improve your health and wellbeing.

There is lots we can do as individuals to stay healthy and well in Dudley borough. This website is a one-stop place for up-to-date public health information and news, from pregnancy and early life to healthy ageing.

<https://healthydudley.co.uk/>

Healthy Lunchboxes

The Healthy Lunchbox Resource is available to support children & families to make healthy, yummy and tooth friendly food choices for their children's lunchbox.

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

DudleyParents

There is a one stop shop for parents in the Dudley Borough offering support and information. You can gain free access to guidance and support over a range of topics for parents including First 1001 Days as a Parent, DadPad, Five to Thrive, Solihull Approach, Triple P, Parents in Conflict, The Henry Approach.

www.dudleyparents.co.uk/home

Dudley's Local Offer is a new one stop shop website for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents and carers.

The website contains a wealth of up to date information on areas which include education, training and work, health, leisure and fun, care and moving into adulthood. The website aims to help young people and parents to make individual, informed, positive decisions and choices



The Dudley family hub network is a one-stop shop, offering advice and support for families in Dudley with children aged 0-19 (25 if the child has special educational needs and/or disabilities). It includes an online offer and five local family hubs.

The network includes key Start for Life services. These cover the period from conception to age two. Core Start for Life services such as midwifery, health visiting and early years support are included.

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/early-years-and-childcare/dudley-family-hub-network/>

SEN Soft Play Sessions

Dudley leisure centres offer soft play sessions for children with SEN:

At Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre, there is a SEN soft play session **every Wednesday from 5.00pm - 6.00pm**

At Halesowen, there is a SEN soft play session **every Monday from 4.30pm - 6.00pm**.

Both sessions are suitable for children under 11 years of age with disabilities, special educational needs, ASD and their siblings.

New Sensory Room at Coseley Family Hub
Parents and carers can now book time in a NEW sensory room at the local family hub in Coseley. The FREE space is bookable for between 30min to an hour and gives the chance for children of all ages to explore a range of sensory activities with their parents/carers.

The sessions are self-led but staff will be on hand to support or answer any questions. To book call the hub on 01384 813096.

[Soft play | DB Leisure](#)

Parent Carer Forum Update:



Dudley Parent carer Forum welcome registrations for membership from parent/carers and also offer associate memberships to wider family members or practitioners working within Dudley. Joining up means you will be kept up to date on all the latest news, information and events doing on in Dudley. Parents/Carers will also receive a FREE gift when they sign up!

[Sign Up Here](#)

Integrated Early Years Service Parent Support Group



This group offers support to parents and carers of children with a range of additional needs. It provides a supportive environment to engage with your child, and also to gain practical advice for everyday routines.

[See More Details Here](#)

Autism



Autism Central is a website for parents. It aims to ***"signpost you to information on a wide range of topics around autism and support that is available from Autism Central, our partner organisations and other trusted sources"***

<https://www.autismcentral.org.uk/resources>

SEN Help

Kids are a charity who create life-changing opportunities by providing a wide range of support to families. They run playscheme days at their centre alongside community days for signed up families. Parent/carers wishing to refer or register with Kids for care planned services can do so by requesting a referral form via the enquiries email: enquiries.orchard@kids.org.uk or via telephone: 01384 897489.

Sassy Sensory surprises are launching 'Wellbeing Walks', they will take place in a different location each month.

Contact toni@sassysensorysurprises.co.uk for further details. Information can be found on their website regarding their recently launched sensory lending library.

Happier Minds

Whether you are a young person, a parent/carers or a professional working with young people we hope this site will be helpful to you and those you care about.

<https://happierminds.org.uk/>

Dudley's Disability register

Dudley Council have **revamped its Disability Register** to better support children and young people with disabilities and their families. The register is a **voluntary and confidential list** that helps the council plan and deliver better services, tailored to local needs. It's quick and easy to register! **Benefits include** families who register can request a **free day pass** for entry to **Dudley Zoo** when attending with their child, receive updates about local services, events, and consultations, help shape services and your registration helps Dudley Council understand the needs of families and improve support.

Visit the [Dudley Disability Register page](#) to complete the online form. **For help completing the form or to request your Dudley Zoo pass, contact the Children with Disabilities Team: 0300 555 0050 (press option 1) or email: businesssupportcdt@dudley.gov.uk**
[We love Carers](#) provide support for carers and their families all year round. Information, advice, signposting, advocacy, help with form filling and much more. Weekly play sessions and holiday play sessions for children with disabilities and additional needs are available. **Their Autumn and Winter timetable can be found [here](#).** Contact them via email hello@welovecarers.org or telephone **01384 396626** for further information on any of the above.

[Kids](#) are a charity who create life-changing opportunities by providing a wide range of support to families. They run playscheme days at their centre alongside community days for signed up families. Parent/carers wishing to refer or register with Kids for care planned services can do so by requesting a referral form via the enquiries email: enquiries.orchard@kids.org.uk or via telephone: **01384 897489**.

[Deaf Children's Society](#) run a **Youth club for children aged 10 to 18 years**, held monthly at Queens Cross Network for information or this or on any events they run, email dudleydeafchildrenssociety@yahoo.com for information.

[Dudley leisure centres](#) are all-inclusive, encouraging everyone to access as many sessions as possible. Our centres offer quiet and disability sessions for children and adults. Accessible facilities are available throughout each of the leisure centres, family fun disability swimming sessions run throughout the holidays, details below:

Halesowen LC: Saturday's from 2.15pm to 3.30pm

Crystal LC: Friday's 2pm – 4pm

Duncan Edwards LC: Wednesday 2.45pm to 4.30pm or Saturday's 1.15pm to 2.15pm

SEN sessions can be accessed at [Planet Play](#) suitable for children under 11 years of age with disabilities, special educational needs, ASD and their siblings. Sessions take place during the holidays at Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre every Wednesday 5pm to 6pm and at Halesowen Leisure Centre, every Monday 4.30pm to 6pm.

Activezone run disability sports for children, young adults and siblings. (sessions takes place for children aged 5 to 8yrs or 9 to 18yrs) Children can take part in various sports, see the below web pages for dates available at each leisure centre:

[Crystal Leisure Centre](#)

[Duncan Edwards](#)

[Lifted Spirits](#) provide a safe space for families of children with disabilities and SEN, they meet *term time only* every Tuesday 9.30am to 11am.

Unheard Voices are a SEND carers support group run by parents to help other parents and carers. They meet up term time on **Fridays 10.30am to 12pm** at Jubilee Hall, Ladies Walk, Sedgley. DY3 3UA or Thursday evenings (term time) at Humbugs café in Sedgley 6pm to 7.30pm. Email unheardvoices13@yahoo.com for further information.

[Hoult's House](#) based in the Rye Market Stourbridge run SEND Sessions on Monday and Tuesdays from 2.245pm to 4.15pm, low level sound and limited numbers.

Dudley SENDIASS Workshops

For parents/carers of children with SEND and young person with SEND up to 25 years old seeking further information about SEND support and processes in education.

Academic Year 2025 – 2026	SEPTEMBER	NOVEMBER	JANUARY	MARCH	APRIL	JUNE
All workshops 10am – 11.30am on Teams						
Understanding how to access SEN support within settings	8 th	21 st	22 nd	4 th	21 st	22 nd
Understanding the EHC Needs Assessment request process	9 th	17 th	23 rd	5 th	22 nd	23 rd
How to check a draft plan	10 th	18 th	19 th	6 th	23 rd	24 th
Preparation and process for annual review	11 th	19 th	20 th	2 nd	24 th	25 th
Preparation for key transitions	12 th	20 th	21 st	3 rd	20 th	26 th



To book on to a workshop email dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk

[Dudley SENDIASS Website](#)

Dudley SENDIASS Service offers information, advice and support on all matters relating to SEN and disabilities including health and social care to parents and carers of children with SEND and Young People with SEND up to 25 years old.

Helping Children Get the Best Start in Life

Free Programmes & Workshops

HENRY supports families to **build healthier habits and routines** that support children's physical and emotional wellbeing, right from the start and as they grow.

A range of **free, friendly and practical** sessions are **available to parents and carers** in Dudley with children aged 0-12, as well as those expecting a baby.



WANT MORE
INFORMATION?

or visit www.dudleyparents.co.uk



Body safety matters

Helping your child understand boundaries and personal safety

Keeping children safe starts with conversation

Talking about body safety can feel uncomfortable – but it's one of the most powerful ways to protect children. Children who understand their bodies, boundaries and rights are more confident and better equipped to speak up if something feels wrong.

You don't need a big formal talk – short, everyday chats work best.

Here are some simple conversation starters you can use:

- "Do you know what parts of your body are private?"
- "If someone made you feel uncomfortable, who would you tell?"
- "Has anyone ever asked you to keep a secret that made you feel funny or unsure?"
- "You're allowed to say 'no' to hugs or kisses, even to family – how do you feel about that?"
- "What would you do if someone touched you in a way you didn't like?"

Use natural moments (e.g. bath time, getting dressed, bedtime stories, a walk in the park) to bring up the topic gently. Keep your tone calm and reassuring. The goal is to help children feel safe, heard and empowered.

Reassure them: "You can always talk to me about anything – I'll always listen and help."

Don't forget the online world

Even at primary age, many children play games or watch content online. It's important they know that body safety rules apply online too.

- Teach them never to share photos of their body, especially private parts.
- Make sure they know: if anyone asks them to do something that feels odd, secret or confusing online, they should tell you straight away.
- Talk about how some people online might pretend to be children when they're not.
- Use privacy settings and supervise young children during screen time.
- Remind them: "If something online makes you feel uncomfortable or unsure, it's never your fault. Just come and tell me."

How you can support at home

- 1) Use everyday moments to talk about safety.
- 2) Read books together on body safety.
- 3) Practice naming trusted adults they can go to if worried.
- 4) Reassure them: they will never be in trouble for telling the truth.

WHAT CHILDREN NEED TO KNOW

 THEIR BODY BELONGS TO THEM Children should know that they are the boss of their own body. No one – not a peer, adult, friend or family member – has the right to touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable.	 PRIVATE PARTS ARE PRIVATE Teach them the correct names for private body parts (e.g. penis, vagina, bottom). This helps remove shame and confusion – and makes it easier to report any concerns clearly.	 THE 'NO, GO, TELL' RULE If someone makes them feel unsafe or breaks a body boundary: Say "NO!" GO to a safe place TELL a trusted adult.	 SAFE AND UNSAFE TOUCH Help your child understand: <u>Safe touch</u> : hugs, holding hands if they want to <u>Unsafe touch</u> : touches that hurt, feel scary, confusing, or are kept secret.
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**We help with anxiety,
depression, or stress**

NHS
Dudley
Talking Therapies

FREE

confidential, and tailored for you

Our experts have helped lots of people in
Dudley become happier and healthier



For anyone aged 16 or over registered with a Dudley GP

Support available via...



In-person



Phone



Video



Online



Workshop



Call 0800 953 0404 or self-refer by visiting
www.blackcountryhealthcare.nhs.uk/talking-therapies

**SCAN
ME**

Free School Meals

If you receive any of the following support payments your child may be entitled to Free School Meals

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit Run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

If you currently receive free school meals but have now moved into the area, you will need to complete a new Free School Meals Application form

If you wish to apply for Free School Meals, please go to

www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals

If you need further information, you can contact the Free School Meals Team by:



Telephone -01384 814988



Email – freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk



Visiting – Dudley Council Plus, Castle Street, Dudley
between 8.30am and 5pm Monday to Friday, 9am and 12 noon Saturday

YOGABRIDGES
PRESENTS

BRITISH WHEEL OF YOGA CERTIFIED

SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS OF ABILITY



EVERY THURSDAY | START AT 7.30PM

Ashwood Park Primary School, Bells Lane, Wordsley, Stourbridge, DY8 5DJ

£9 / CLASS OR 10% DISCOUNT FOR FULL TERM

FOR BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL JAN:

07764 404975 | janetcooper@blueyonder.co.uk | www.facebook.com/yogawithjan