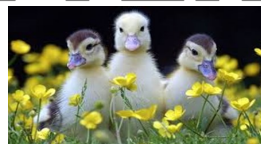


13 February 2026
Newsletter No. 21
Tel: 01384 818545 info@ashwood.dudley.sch.uk



Article 28 Every child has the right to an education

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We break for half term on Friday 13th February and the children will return on Monday 23rd February. We hope you have a nice half term. Thank you for all your ongoing support, it is really appreciated by us all.

World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March and we are asking for the children to dress up as their favourite book characters.



Ashwood Park uniform and PE Kit is available from Totally Uniform in Kingswinford. They have notified us of some recent price increases for some items. Please check their website for current prices.

If your child is absent from School please phone the School Office before 9 am.

We have a vacancy on the Governing Board for a Parent rep. If you would be interested, please contact the Office for an information pack.

Nut Allergy

We have a child in School with a severe nut allergy, please do not send any food that contains nuts into School.



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.

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
Miss Hartle—Thursday
Miss Benson—Thursday

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

Thursday 5th March 2026

World Book Day

Come to School dressed as your favourite character from a book

Tuesday 10th March 2026

Parenting Workshop:

Understanding Children's Behaviour

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: **11/02/2026**

RR Foxes - Peyton
1CB Moles - Eden-Rose
1/2JB Squirrels - Enyd
2W Badgers - Summer

3/4D Chestnut - Darla-Rose
3/4R Oak - Levi
4H Elder - Cody
5/6D Beech - Ellie-Mae
5/6E Holly - Luke
6BB Rowan - Alfie

Menu* WC 23.02.26 (Week 3)

Monday

Katsu Chicken Steak
Chicken Nuggets (H)
Quorn Ball Sub (V)
Fish Option
Rice or Diced Potatoes
Blueberry Pudding

Tuesday

Chicken Taco
French Bread Pizza (V)
Fish Option
Potato Wedges
Cookie Selection

Wednesday

Roast Beef
Roast Chicken (H)
Veggie Sausage (V)
Gravy & Stuffing (V)
Fish Option
Mashed & Roast Potato
Vanilla Iced Sponge

Thursday

Meatballs in Tomato Sauce
Katsu Quorn Dippers (V)
Fish Option
Diced Potatoes or Pasta
Chocolate & Pear Cake

Friday

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

All dinners must be booked through Arbour the day before they are needed. Please contact the school office if you are having any issues.
* Subject to change

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS



EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

LATENESS = LOST LEARNING
(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost!

BE AT THE
CLASSROOM
ON TIME
AND READY
TO LEARN!

Early Years



Early Years said goodbye to Mrs Monkton this week. She is leaving to commit more time to a family business and although we support her fully we will miss her very much! We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you for her care dedication and hard work and we wish her every success for the future. Have a lovely half term everyone.



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 writing our own instructions about how to blow the perfect cloud. The children used all of the features they had learnt about and applied them to their writing. We have also been deciding where we would rather live- a hot or cold country? We have compared the UK to Kenya to help us to make our choice.

The children also enjoyed the glitter and glow disco and had a lovely boogie!

We hope you all have a lovely half term and will look forward to welcoming you back after the holiday.



RBDC



What a busy, fun-packed week we have had in the RBDC!

Acorns have been looking at where we live and how we can stay safe. We have had a big focus of trying to be independent at home. In science, we have been exploring different life cycles focusing on butterflies and frogs.

In Conkers we have had some very special visitors. Fire Fighters. They came into school to explain what we need to do if we see a fire. We discussed how fire alarms work and why they are important. We learnt how to use 999 BSL and why it is important.

PUDS Yr1/2 — This week have continued discussing the roles people who support us do and why everyone's job is different. .

PUDS Yr3/4 - This week we have been looking at communication without spoken language.

PUDS Yr5/6 - This week we have been looking at the differences between one-handed and two-handed sign language.

This week's signed video is 'BSL 999'. Please share with your child.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KjhtH2cEXCo>

Sign of the week: **Fire**



KS2 News



This week, our Year 4 children were visited by firefighters from West Midlands Fire Service, who delivered the engaging SPARKS workshop on fire, road and water safety. During the session, pupils learned what happens when you call 999, how to reduce risks, and what to do in an emergency. They practised key safety messages such as *stop, drop and roll* for fire safety, wearing seatbelts and not distracting the driver for road safety, and how to float in a star shape and know when to avoid water. A big thank you to the WM Fire Service team for supporting our children and helping them develop these vital life skills.



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.

Ashwood Park uniform and PE Kit is available from **Totally Uniform** in Kingswinford.

Parenting Workshop: Understanding Children's Behaviour

Brierley Hill Family Hub will be running a fantastic workshop at School to support parents and carers in understanding the reasons behind children's behaviour and how to respond positively at home.

Date: Tuesday 10th March

Time: 09:15-11:15

Location: Key Stage 2 Hall

This is a great opportunity to gain practical strategies, ask questions, and build confidence in supporting your child's emotional and behavioural development.

Please sign up by **Wednesday 4th March** using the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/FSqS3xcX9e>

Maths Problem:



Can You Solve This Puzzle?

$$\text{Heart} + \text{Heart} + \text{Heart} = 60$$

$$\text{Heart} + \text{Heart} + \text{Heart} = 30$$

$$\text{Heart} + \text{Heart} + \text{Heart} = 15$$

$$\text{Heart} + \text{Heart} - \text{Heart} = ?$$

TT Rockstars



1. William 3/4R
2. Ella 4H
3. Freddie 3/4D

Well done!

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

DfE Update:

The Food Standards Agency asks parents and caregivers to check their infant formula as Danone recalls certain batches of Aptamil and Cow & Gate branded infant formula

Details of the recall

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is asking parents, early years settings and other caregivers to check their infant formula against specific batches of Aptamil and Cow & Gate products listed in the Product Recall Information Notice published on Friday 6 February 2026.

As you might have seen in media coverage and on social media, Danone's recall has been issued due to potential cereulide contamination, which can cause illness including vomiting and stomach cramps. The issue only affects the batches listed in the [recall notice](#), in addition to the product included in Danone's [earlier recall on 23 January 2026](#).

The FSA's advice to parents and carers is that if they have any of the affected products, stop using them and switch to an alternative formula. If formula was prescribed, they should speak to a pharmacist or doctor before changing. If they have recently fed the formula to their baby and are concerned about symptoms, they should contact their GP or call NHS 111.

Additional recalls

This follows recent [recalls from Nestlé of SMA infant formula](#) products due to the same contamination issue.

The FSA have published the following:

[Product Recall Information Notice](#) detailing the further recalled batches of Danone infant formula product

our [infant formula recalls page](#) providing a full list of recalled products and the latest advice

[news story asking parents and caregivers to check their infant formula products](#)



February Half-Term {COMPUTING & ACTIVITY} // HOLIDAY CLUB //



SCAN TO BOOK



WHERE THE FUN IS HAPPENING

Wombourne Civic Centre
Gravel Hill
Wombourne
WV5 9HA



Hagley Scout Hall
Hall Lane
Hagley
DY9 9LD



ACTIVITIES

- Coding
- Game Making
- Animation
- Design
- Crafts
- Sports
- Robotics
- Minecraft!



DATES

Mon 16th February
to
Fri 20th February

TIME

9am
to
3pm

PRICE

From £33

Book before Feb for Early Bird Rate!
Book the whole week and save 20%!
Sibling's enjoy a 10% saving!

Get your child active and teach them valuable digital skills
at our unique Holiday Club! From Minecraft coding
to multi-sports, this club has something for every child.

jamcoding.com/holiday-clubs-black-country-and-north-worcestershire

WHAT TO EXPECT

The Jam Coding February Half-Term Club is packed with fun, creativity, and hands-on learning - perfect for curious young minds this school holiday! **Suitable for ages 6 - 11 years.**

With an exciting mix of coding and computing, alongside creative activities and active, offline fun, children will enjoy a week full of digital adventures, problem-solving, and skill-building - all in a safe, supportive environment.

NOT JUST ABOUT TECH - IT'S ABOUT FUN TOO!

Each day, children will enjoy games, sports, movement, and physical activities, helping them stay active, energised, and engaged throughout the week.

Don't miss out - book your child's place today! Spaces fill quickly, and whether your child is a future coder, a creative thinker, or simply ready for a fun and active half term, Jam Coding has something for everyone.

SCAN TO BOOK



"My son attended Jam Coding sessions during the school holidays. The staff running them made him feel welcome and settled. He genuinely loved the sessions and was absolutely buzzing each day when I collected him. The staff definitely further ignited a passion for coding/robotics and the sessions were so well put together!"

**J. RAHMAN,
PARENT**



ESTABLISHED
IN 2014



EQUIPMENT
PROVIDED



PRIZES
AWARDED



INSURED &
DBS CHECKED

Enquiries: blackcountryjam@jamcoding.co.uk

Dragon Tales Forest School

Email: maddie@dtforestschool.com

Facebook: Dragon Tales Forest School

Bells Mill Fishery, Prestwood Dr, Stourbridge DY7 5QT



Bells Mill Fishery Forest School Open Weekend

Come visit us for our Open Weekend and see what you can get up to in your new Forest School venue- inclusive to all children and even adults.

Bells Mill Fishery Forest School is hidden away in spectacular countryside overlooking beautiful fishing pools and right next to the tow path.

There is a cafe serving delicious food on site, as well as accessible toilets.

Whether you are interested in; toddler sessions, Childminder Sessions, Home Education Groups, Saturday Morning Family Forest School, Birthday Parties, Scouts and Guides badge days, sessions for fostered and adopted families- along with Forest School for Teens and Craft Sessions

Saturday 21st March 9.00 - 11.45

Sunday 22nd March 9.00 - 11.45

FREE

Discount codes available for those who attend the open weekend

Saturday morning-

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/forest-school-open-weekend-saturday-morning-tickets-1981744435955?aff=oddtcreator>

Sunday morning-

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/forest-school-open-weekend-sunday-morning-tickets-1981747117977?aff=oddtcreator>



Black Country Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Join us for...

GAME & CHILL

Join the Reflexions team for a fun day where children, young people and families can enjoy their favourite board games together – a chance to make friends, connect and share laughs in a relaxed, supportive space.

Parents to accompany children under 13
years old



Wednesday 18th February



12:00 - 3:00



**Here4Youth 1 Castle Street
Dudley DY1 1LA**



For additional information or brief sign up form to register your attendance, please email bchft.reflexions@nhs.net or feel free to pop in!

Weetabix



GIRLS' FOOTBALL TRAINING SESSIONS!

AGES 5-11 YEARS

@ ENVILLE PAVILION, DRIVE, DY7 5HB

2PM TIL 3PM WEEKLY

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY FOR FUN GIRLS' FOOTBALL FOOTBALL TRAINING SESSIONS FOR AGES 5-11! **ALL ABILTIES WELCOME!**



FOR MORE INFO EMAIL:
Envillewildcats@outlook.com

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.



FIA'S BUDDIES

Family ♥ Inclusion ♥ Acceptance

Supporting every child's Down
Syndrome journey and
celebrating their siblings!

FIA's Buddies was inspired by a beautiful family that at time of unknown, there was lack of readily available information and when there was information it was difficult to find a clear answer

A little background- this idea blossomed when one of Tash and Dan's beautiful daughters was diagnosed with Down syndrome and additional health related conditions. As family and friends we support Tash, Dan and their girls as much as we were able to but clearly saw that the information and support was not very forthcoming and/or difficult to find.

The names FIA represents the names of 3 beautiful girls, but also Family, Inclusion and Acceptance.

FIA's Buddies aims to support children experiencing the effects of Down Syndrome and their siblings age from birth to 18 within the United Kingdom.

The funds raised by FIA's Buddies is to bring a long-lasting difference to the lives of children with Down syndrome by the provision of resources for education, signposting to information and resources to support wellbeing and improve quality of life. By doing this encourage children to achieve their potential.

We have set up this go fund me to help kick start our community project of becoming a registered charity, in order to do this we must have an raised £5,000.

www.fiasbuddies.co.uk



For our latest events and
activities follow us on Facebook

Support us via GoFundMe



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



Dudley
Metropolitan Borough Council


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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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www.blackcountryhealthcare.nhs.uk/talking-therapies

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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

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