

Kingsclere CE Primary School Newsletter

July 2026 - Edition 12



Dear Parents and Carers,

July 2026 News

As we reach the final day of term, I want to offer a heartfelt thank you for everything you have done to support your child(ren) and our school community this year. The partnership between staff, families and pupils is at the heart of Kingsclere CE Primary School, and your encouragement and collaboration make such a difference every day. I would also like to express my deep appreciation to our incredibly hard working staff team. It has been such a joy to watch the children grow socially, emotionally and academically this year and to celebrate so many positive achievements for each and every child.

We are delighted to share that our recent SIAMS inspection awarded us the highest judgement - Judgement 1. The inspector visited classrooms, spoke with children, staff, governors (including our foundation governors) and a number of parents. The full SIAMS report is attached, and we are incredibly proud of this recognition of the excellent work happening across the school.

Our Year 6 pupils shone in their fantastic performance of Shakespeare Rocks, and we are so proud of their confidence, teamwork and talent. We wish them all the very best for their Leavers' Service on Wednesday and as they move on to their new secondary schools.

We are delighted to share that Kingsclere has been awarded the Silver School Games Mark. This award recognises our strong commitment to sport, physical activity and inclusive opportunities for all pupils, and reflects the hard work of our young leaders, staff and children.

We will be saying goodbye to Mr Hart who is heading to America for a period of travel before pursuing his PhD. We thank Mr Hart sincerely for all his hard work, commitment and support during his time with us and we wish him every success in his next steps. In September, we are delighted to welcome Mrs Jo Powers and Miss Jessica Clements, who will be joining us as a job share. They will be stepping into the role previously held by Mr Hart, bringing great energy and care to the children and our school community. With their combined experience and enthusiasm, we are confident they will make a really positive contribution from September.

We wish all our families a wonderful summer break and look forward to welcoming the children back to their new classrooms – and welcoming our new Year R children and families – on Wednesday 2nd September 2026 at 08:45. Have a wonderful summer!

Kind regards,
Jo Messenger
Headteacher





to all our volunteers who support at Kingsclere CE Primary School

A huge thank you also goes to all our volunteers who have helped at Kingsclere CE Primary School throughout the academic year – those who support on trips, help with swimming lessons, read with children, tidy the library, met with the SIAMS inspector, practised times tables to name but a few and of course our brilliant PTA and Governors. Your time, energy and kindness make such a difference, and we are truly grateful.

Most recently, our Friends of Kingsclere CE Primary School organised the wonderful KingsFest Campout, complete with live music, a BBQ and a range of activities, including swimming, that were enjoyed by all. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who performed and supported the event, and extend particular thanks to Danny Barton for his leadership and organisation. Thanks to the hard work of the FKS team, and your generous support, an amazing £2,100 was raised. This fantastic total will go directly towards enhancing our outdoor activity equipment, helping us to provide active, engaging play opportunities for all our children. Just last Friday, our FKS team also organised school Discos and our Year 6 Disco and Oscar's evening, which the children seemed to immensely enjoy. Thank you, FKS - your commitment makes a real difference to our school community!



Well Done Kingsclere!

We are so proud to have achieved our Silver School Games Mark Award recognising the schools strong commitment to high-quality sport, physical activity and competitive opportunities for all pupils. Kingsclere CE Primary School, has demonstrated sustained engagement in sports across 2025 - 2026. The award is part of a Government-led initiative facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward participation, competition, workforce development and inclusive club provision. We are delighted to have been recognised for our success and the certificate confirms that the school has achieved Silver for our commitment, engagement in sports. It highlights the dedication of pupils, young leaders and staff who contribute to a thriving sporting culture, marking a significant achievement for the whole school community.



A special thank you to Ms Sam Dray-Ford, whose hard work has played a key role in securing this award for the school. Although Ms Dray-Ford has only been with us during Summer Term 2, she has worked incredibly diligently to collate our evidence from across the academic year and highlight Kingsclere's commitment to sports. We are also really pleased with the fresh ideas and improvements Ms Dray-Ford has also contributed to our sports provision since joining us. Thank you Ms Dray-Ford!

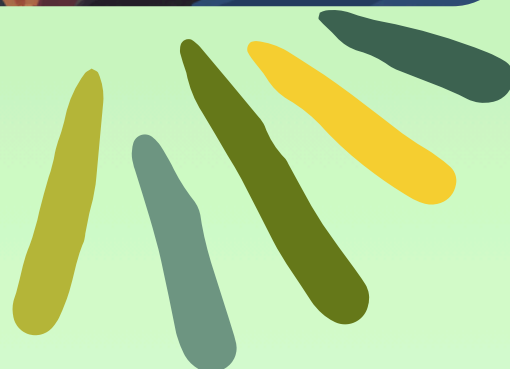


Calling all parents and carers – please join us for **Meet the Teacher!**

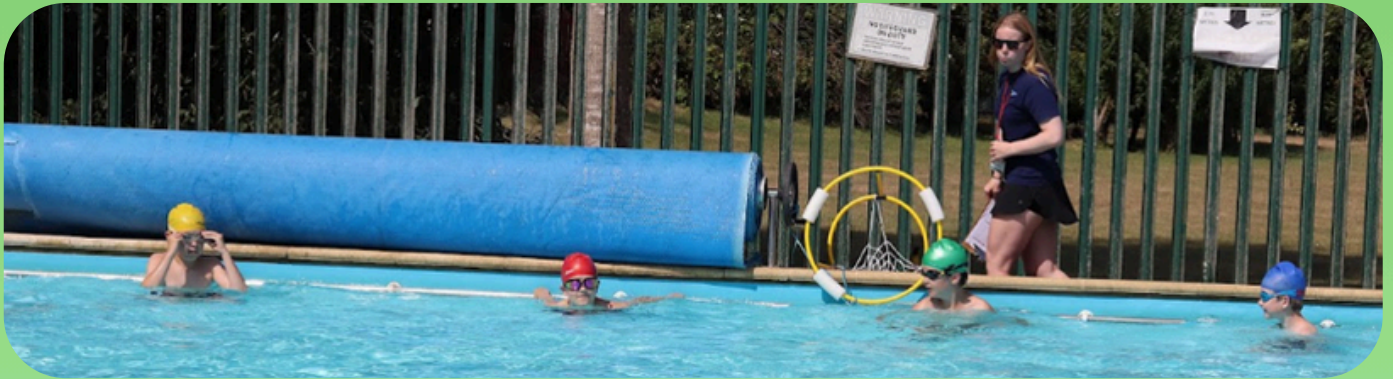
Dates	Times	Attending
Tuesday 15th September	Year 1 and Year 2 at 17:00 – 18:00	Mrs Bowden, Miss Randall, Mrs Stephenson, Mrs Khawaja and Mrs Messenger
Thursday 17th September	Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 at 17:00 – 18:00	Mrs Taylor, Mrs Voke, Mrs Verney, Miss Williamson, Mrs Bentall, Mrs Khawaja and Mrs Messenger
Tuesday 22nd September	Year R at 15:30 – 16:00	Mrs Bowden, Mrs Khawaja and Mrs Messenger

We will be holding three year group specific 'Meet the Teacher' presentations for parents and carers in the school hall. The dates and times are listed in the table above and we look forward to welcoming you.

During these presentations, staff will share key information about routines, learning and expectations for the year ahead. These sessions are designed for adults, but if you are unable to arrange childcare, your child may attend with a quiet activity and will need to sit with you calmly throughout the session. Thank you.



Swimming Gala



It has been wonderful to see the children taking part in their swimming lessons this half term and to watch how much they have enjoyed them. They have made great progress with both water safety and swimming techniques and it has been lovely to see their confidence grow each week.

It was also fantastic to see our Key Stage 2 children take part so brilliantly at the Swimming Gala competing in water polo and races with enthusiasm and excellent sportsmanship.

A huge thank you to Lizzy and our teaching team for their work in teaching swimming and ensuring children are safe during every lesson, as well as to our volunteers whose support makes these opportunities possible.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We encourage all children to wear their school uniform with pride. Uniform helps create a sense of belonging, identity and shared values across our school. Variations for cultural or religious reasons can be discussed with the Headteacher.

We politely ask that children's knee-length skirts, pinafore dresses, tailored trousers or tailored shorts are grey, not black.

Logo jumpers and cardigans can be purchased from Skoolkit, although we are happy for children to wear no logo items if preferred of the correct colour which can be bought from supermarkets or high-street shops. We also have a thriving pre-loved uniform shop run by the Friends of Kingsclere School (PTA). Please contact the school office if you would like second-hand uniform for a small donation. Outgrown uniform can also be donated.

Please ensure all belongings are clearly named so that mislaid items can be returned. Thank you for your support.

Item	Colour
Knee-length skirt, pinafore dress, tailored trousers or tailored shorts	Grey
Round neck sweatshirt or cardigan	Bottle green
Polo shirt	White
Socks when worn with dress or skirt, Sock when worn with trousers or shorts	White Grey or black
Year 6 – Collared shirt, School tie, Cardigan or V neck jumper	White, Green & Yellow Bottle Green
Kingsclere CE Primary School book bag or small bag (we do not have room to store large bags or back packs).	

WINTER
UNIFORM

Item	Colour
Summer dress or jumpsuit dress	Green & white stripes or checks
Tailored Shorts	Grey
Polo shirt	White
Round neck sweatshirt or cardigan	Bottle green
Socks, long or short	White
Year 6 – Collared shirt School tie, Cardigan or V neck jumper	White, Green & Yellow Bottle Green
Kingsclere CE Primary School book bag or small bag (we do not have room to store large bags or back packs).	

SUMMER
UNIFORM

School Uniform details can be found here on our school website:
<https://kingsclereprimary.com/parents/our-uniform/>

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

We had a brilliant Times Tables Rock Stars Day in school this week, and it was wonderful to see the children fully embracing the fun. Times Tables Rock Stars is the app we use to help children build confidence and fluency in their multiplication facts, and the day was a great way to celebrate their hard work.

The children arrived dressed as rock stars, bringing lots of colour and excitement. Behind the fun is an important message: secure times tables knowledge is one of the strongest foundations for success in maths. Research shows that quick, accurate recall supports problem-solving and strengthens understanding across the whole curriculum.

We are also incredibly proud to share that Kingsclere CE Primary School achieved its highest ever average score in the national Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) for Year 4 pupils, with an average score of 22 out of 25. This average score was above both national and local averages.

Times Tables Rock Stars Day was a reminder of how valuable regular practice can be. Even a few minutes over the summer each day will help children's maths development.

Thank you to all families for supporting your child(ren) with their learning.



TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS MULTIPLICATION SQUARE													
x	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48	
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72	
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84	
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96	
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108	
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132	
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144	

5 Reasons Why Times Tables Matter

- 1) They help children feel confident in maths.
- 2) They make problem-solving much easier.
- 3) They support learning in many other maths topics.
- 4) They speed up mental maths and everyday calculations.
- 5) They give children a strong foundation for future learning.

GROUNDS DAY!

Our Grounds Day was a wonderful celebration of outdoor learning. Throughout the morning, children worked in mixed year-group teams on a range of challenges across the school grounds, including science investigations, art activities and teamwork tasks. It was particularly lovely to see older and younger pupils supporting one another and enjoying learning together. The day ended with an outdoor singing session, which created a fantastic atmosphere, even without the campfire due to the hot weather! Grounds Day was a brilliant opportunity for children to explore, collaborate and make the most of our beautiful outdoor spaces.



ATTENDANCE

Good attendance is one of the strongest factors in helping children make good progress. Last year, our whole-school attendance was 92%, which is below the national average of 94%. This year, we will continue to work closely with families to improve attendance so that every child can benefit fully from their learning.

Please follow NHS guidance on when a child should stay off school. This link is useful to know if your child can attend school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> We encourage children to attend every day when they are well enough.

Thank you for your support in helping us give every child the best possible chance to thrive in both their learning and pastoral development, supported by good attendance.



Please do not take your child(ren) on holidays during term time. When children miss school, they miss important early learning, routines and social interaction with their peers, all of which play a key role in their progress and development.

Regular attendance helps your child feel confident, settled and fully involved in their learning. Thank you for supporting us with this.

SCHOOL
SUCCESS
STARTS WITH
ATTENDANCE



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Kingsclere Church of England Primary School

Vision

At Kingsclere CE Primary School, our vision is for every child to be a confident, thoughtful individual with a love of learning. Rooted in John 10:10, we are committed to enabling all pupils and adults to thrive spiritually, socially, and academically within a nurturing, inclusive community. Our strapline, 'Hand in hand we learn, we grow, we soar', inspired by Isaiah 40:31, guides how we support one another and flourish together. Our values - Love, Courage, and Respect - shape our ethos, relationships, and decision-making, and are explored through Bible stories and embedded across school life.

Kingsclere Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish. It has the following notable strengths.

Notable Strengths

- The biblically rooted vision and values are embedded and underpin school life. Leaders and governors monitor and evaluate the impact of the vision effectively, and consequently, they ensure that pupils and adults thrive.
- The curriculum is shaped by the vision and associated values. Consequently, it is inclusive, engaging and adapted to meet pupils' needs effectively. Strong local, national and global partnerships enhance the curriculum further. This is because a depth of perspectives and understanding is brought to learning.
- Collective worship is a strength as it is inclusive and impactful. Times of reflection and opportunities to respond foster spiritual development and enrichment. The strong partnerships with the local churches and the diocese further enhance the provision.
- As a result of the vision, pupils and adults' wellbeing and mental health is prioritised. Leaders take time to ensure that members of the community are well known and understood. This enables them to flexibly meet their needs.
- Due to positive relationships created through the vision, pupils develop a sense of responsibility and justice. They demonstrate love, courage and respect and become advocates for others.

Development Points

- Strengthen the religious education (RE) curriculum to offer a greater depth of challenge and rigour to the curriculum. This is to promote opportunities for higher levels of knowledge and understanding in the subject.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

Leaders and governors are determined to ensure that pupils and adults 'live life to the full' (John 10:10) at Kingsclere. The vision was created and is owned by the whole community. Great care is taken to ensure that the school's diverse range of pupils and adults are enabled to flourish. The associated values of love, courage and respect shape relationships, policy and expectations. Selected Bible stories are well known and frequently revisited to enable pupils to understand the values in different contexts. Consequently, they demonstrate these during daily life. Rigorous monitoring and evaluation of the impact of the vision ensure that leaders continue to develop the school's Christian distinctiveness. This is further strengthened by the partnership with the diocese who offer training, advice and networks for leaders. Additionally, the vision drives inclusive practice at Kingsclere, enabling pupils from a range of backgrounds to thrive academically and personally.

Vision and Curriculum

The curriculum is shaped by the vision and associated values. Consequently, when pupils learn subject content, they also develop their understanding of love, courage and respect. They also explore a broad range of Christian values such as service, compassion and gratitude. The curriculum provides a wealth of opportunities for pupils, as leaders recognise some have limited experiences. Through the Kingsclere's partnership with Kyankowe in Uganda, pupils acquire an understanding of Christianity as a global faith. This also provides them with real world experience and develops their understanding of justice, compassion and service. Spirituality is nurtured within the curriculum through appreciation of self, others and the world around them. Spiritual moments are focused on by teachers, to further foster pupil's spirituality. Opportunities for personal contemplation are integrated into lessons, within worship and also at reflection spaces around the school. As a result of the vision, the curriculum is inclusive and adapted to meet the various needs of learners. When needed, pupils have access to additional support to ensure that they are able to thrive in lessons. Curriculum enrichment and the wider curricular offer is extensive ensuring that they are able thrive holistically.

Worship and Spirituality

Collective worship is impactful as it nurtures spiritual flourishing through the study of the biblically rooted values. Pupils experience these during services which are faithful to the Anglican tradition. Worship is accessible and welcoming for the diverse range of pupils and adults in the school. Through opportunities for reflection, invitations to prayer and joyful singing, members of the community have their spirituality fostered. These special times provide them with the chance to reflect on teachings in the Bible and on their relationship with God. The partnership with the local parish church enhances pupils' experience. Clergy and volunteers from the parish visit Kingsclere frequently to foster and aid their spiritual development. Christian festivals and other school services are regularly celebrated in church. These strengthen pupils' understanding of Anglican worship and the Christian year. They also build strong links between the school, home, the local community and church.

Vision and School Culture

The vision inspires leaders to prioritise wellbeing and mental health. Staff build effective relationships with pupils and their families and develop a deep understanding of their needs. Consequently, Kingsclere is able to offer adapted provision when required. The parish also contributes effectively to this. Volunteers provide year-long mentoring for selected pupils to strengthen wellbeing. In addition, they have access to a range of services to support their wellbeing and mental health. Specialists provide enhanced therapeutic provision for those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Leaders have implemented effective school-wide programmes to equip pupils with strategies for managing their emotions successfully. They support one another's wellbeing through a buddy system. The school's approach to managing behaviour is inclusive and



restorative. This promotes a positive, supportive ethos and an affirming, life-enriching culture. Leaders and governors also ensure that staff are listened to and supported when they face difficult times. This includes rigorously seeking external support when required.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

The vision and values of love, courage and respect create a culture of positive relationships. Pupils learn about human rights and recognise their responsibility to others. The curriculum is designed to ensure that they learn about justice and advocacy for others. For example, pupils met a local member of parliament for a debate about reintroducing wolves into the local environment. Role models are examined, and pupils learn how to respond to discrimination. Stewardship for God's creation is also made a priority. The concepts of justice and responsibility are also developed during collective worship. Pupils consider national and international issues and develop empathy and social responsibility. Bible stories are used to help develop their understanding further. The partnership with Kyankowe also provides opportunities for pupils to serve others. For example, they raised money to provide a Christmas dinner for their friends overseas. Pupils take on leadership roles to serve others. For example, they operate the laptop in assembly or volunteer to litter pick during the day or within the after-school club. Elected pupils serve on the school council and contribute their views to improve aspects of life at Kingsclere.

Religious Education

Leaders ensure that RE is a priority at Kingsclere. They are well equipped to lead the subject and have access to effective support from the diocese. There is an appropriate balance of Christianity with other major world faiths and non-religious worldviews. Leaders ensure that pupils recognise the diversity of practice within these. There is an appropriate balance of theology, philosophy and human sciences. The curriculum is adapted to the school context, with a two-year rolling programme. This results in pupils revisiting concepts regularly which helps retention of knowledge. The curriculum does not offer opportunities for sufficient depth of challenge for the full range of abilities. It ensures that diversity of practice and beliefs within faiths and non-religious worldviews is developed. However, the impact of Christianity units of work is less effective. This is because core concepts of Christianity, such as salvation are not explicit enough within curriculum planning.

Informa/on

Address	Ash Grove, Kingsclere, Berkshire RG20 5RE		
Date	24 June 2026	URN	116295
Type of school	Voluntary controlled	No. of pupils	206
Diocese	Portsmouth		
Headteacher	Jo Messenger		
Chair of Governors	Claire Harris & Ian Bowes		
Inspector	Claire Platt		

Water Bottles and Healthy Snacks

Please remember to send your child into school with a water bottle containing water.

A polite reminder that snacks and lunch box items need to be healthy please. The link below is useful to help parents with lunchbox ideas: <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

Thank you for your support.

New School Lunch Menu from September

Edwards and Ward will be introducing a new school lunch menu from 1 September 2026.

Parents and carers can view the new menu on the Reach More Parents app or on our school website: View the lunch menu here please:

<https://kingsclereprimary.com/parents/our-lunch-menu/>

Due to increasing food, staffing and operational costs, the price of a paid school meal in KS2 will increase by 15p, bringing the cost to £3.15 per meal from September.

If your child is moving from Year 2 to Year 3 in September and is not eligible for Free School Meals, school lunches will be charged at £3.15 per meal.

If your child has a food allergy or special dietary requirement, please ensure you have completed the relevant information on the Edwards and Ward website: <https://edwardsandward.co.uk/special-diets/>

Reminder: School meals should be paid for in advance or on the day your child takes a meal. Thank you for your continued support.



Date	Event	Additional information
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of the Summer Term before the Summer holiday begins on 23rd July. Year 6 Leavers' Service at St Mary's Church - 9.30am. All parents and carers are invited to join in to cheer off Year 6 in the playground at 3pm.	
Wednesday 2nd September	First day of the new academic year. Please ensure your child is at school for 08:45 - thank you.	All year group families. Year R stay until 12:30 until 9th September
Wednesday 9th September	Year R first full day	
Tuesday 15th September	Year 1 and Year 2 at 17:00 - 18:00	Mrs Bowden, Miss Randall, Mrs Stephenson, Mrs Khawaja and Mrs Messenger
Thursday 17th September	Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 at 17:00 – 18:00	Mrs Taylor, Mrs Voke, Mrs Verney, Miss Williamson, Mrs Bentall, Mrs Khawaja and Mrs Messenger
Tuesday 22nd September	Year R at 15:30 – 16:00	Mrs Bowden, Mrs Khawaja and Mrs Messenger
	Year 2 Cheam Football Festival – 12 places available for the afternoon session. Places will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.	Children to wear school PE kit.
Wednesday 23rd September	Book Fair 3.15 to 3.45 for all families and children	In the school hall
Monday 28 September	School Individual Photographs	
Tuesday 13th October	Parents Evening 15:45 - 18:30	
Thursday 15th October	Parents Evening 15:45 - 18:30	
Tuesday 1st September Thursday 22nd October Friday 23rd October Monday 4th January 2027 Monday 28th June 2027	INSET Days in the new academic year 2026 - 2027	

School Terms And Holidays 2026– 2027

Determined programme of school term and holiday dates for county and controlled schools for the academic year 2026/27

SEPTEMBER 2026							OCTOBER 2026							NOVEMBER 2026						
M		7	14	21	28		M		5	12	19	26		M		2*	9	16	23	30
T	1*	8	15	22	29		T		6	13	20	27		T		3	10	17	24	
W	2	9	16	23	30		W		7	14	21	28		W		4	11	18	25	
T	3	10	17	24			T	1	8	15	22	29		T		5	12	19	26	
F	4	11	18	25			F	2	9	16	23#	30		F		6	13	20	27	
S	5	12	19	26			S	3	10	17	24	31		S		7	14	21	28	
S	6	13	20	27			S	4	11	18	25			S	1	8	15	22	29	
DECEMBER 2026							JANUARY 2027							FEBRUARY 2027						
M		7	14	21	28		M		4*	11	18	25		M		1	8	15	22*	
T	1	8	15	22	29		T		5	12	19	26		T		2	9	16	23	
W	2	9	16	23	30		W		6	13	20	27		W		3	10	17	24	
T	3	10	17	24	31		T		7	14	21	28		T		4	11	18	25	
F	4	11	18#	25			F	1	8	15	22	29		F		5	12#	19	26	
S	5	12	19	26			S	2	9	16	23	30		S		6	13	20	27	
S	6	13	20	27			S	3	10	17	24	31		S		7	14	21	28	
MARCH 2027							APRIL 2027							MAY 2027						
M	1	8	15	22	29		M		5	12*	19	26		M		3	10	17	24	31
T	2	9	16	23	30		T		6	13	20	27		T		4	11	18	25	
W	3	10	17	24	31		W		7	14	21	28		W		5	12	19	26	
T	4	11	18	25#			T	1	8	15	22	29		T		6	13	20	27	
F	5	12	19	26			F	2	9	16	23	30		F		7	14	21	28#	
S	6	13	20	27			S	3	10	17	24			S	1	8	15	22	29	
S	7	14	21	28			S	4	11	18	25			S	2	9	16	23	30	
JUNE 2027							JULY 2027							AUGUST 2027						
M		7*	14	21	28		M		5	12	19	26		M		2	9	16	23	30
T	1	8	15	22	29		T		6	13	20	27		T		3	10	17	24	31
W	2	9	16	23	30		W		7	14	21#	28		W		4	11	18	25	
T	3	10	17	24			T	1	8	15	22	29		T		5	12	19	26	
F	4	11	18	25			F	2	9	16	23	30		F		6	13	20	27	
S	5	12	19	26			S	3	10	17	24	31		S		7	14	21	28	
S	6	13	20	27			S	4	11	18	25			S	1	8	15	22	29	

School Terms And Holidays 2026– 2027

Determined programme of school term and holiday dates for county and controlled schools for the academic year 2026/27

Bank and Public Holidays 2026/2027

Christmas Day	25 December 2026	Easter Monday	29 March 2027
Boxing Day	26 December 2026	May Day Holiday	3 May 2027 31
New Year's Day Holiday	1 January 2027	Spring Bank Holiday	May 2027 30
Good Friday	26 March 2027	Summer Bank Holiday	August 2027

* First day after break



School Holidays



Bank Holidays and National Holidays

Last day before break

Autumn Term 2026 starts on Tuesday 1 September 2026 and ends on Friday 18 December 2026
(Half term from Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October 2026)

Spring Term 2027 starts on Monday 4 January 2027 and ends on Thursday 25 March 2027
(Half term from Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February 2027)

Summer Term 2027 starts on Monday 12 April 2027 and ends on Wednesday 21 July 2027
(Half term from Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June 2027)

Term	Start date	EndDate
Autumn 2026	1 September 2026	18 December 2026
	Half term 26 October- 30 October 2026	
Spring 2027	4 January 2027	25 March 2027
	Half term 15 February - 19 February 2027	
Summer 2027	12 April 2027	21 July 2027
	Half term 31 May – 4 June 2027	