



# Lacewood Link

End of Spring 2 – April 2026



It has been a very busy half term again, with some amazing learning and activities taking place across the school. Children have enjoyed a wide range of opportunities, including a visit from a Sikh guest who helped deepen pupils' understanding of different faiths and cultures, as well as Compass Be sessions supporting wellbeing. Many pupils from Y5 also took part in Bikeability, developing their cycling skills and road safety awareness. We celebrated World Book Day with lots of enthusiasm across the school, and our Careers Day provided a great opportunity for children to think about future aspirations. Our boys' and girls' football teams have proudly represented the school at local events. Other highlights included an engaging Egyptian workshop, a fantastic Rocksteady concert showcasing musical talent, and lots of fun for Red Nose Day. Alongside all of this, pupils have been working hard during their Spring assessments and enjoying a range of Easter activities to round off another exciting and productive half term.



# Important Reminders

## School Arrival and Collection

Please ensure children are kept under your supervision during arrival and collection times. This is due to health and safety regulations. Children should not ride bikes or scooters in the playground.

## Dojo Points

Dojo points are awarded on a daily basis. Every child has the opportunity to earn at least 5 points everyday.



Daily 5	
Arriving at school on time	1
Wearing correct uniform	1
Positive Playtime	1
Positive Lunchtime	1
Positive Classroom	1
Bonus Points	
Bringing PE kit	1
Completing Homework	1
Completing Homework Projects	5
Outstanding Effort all day	3



## School Uniform

Please remember to come to school in the correct Lacewood uniform everyday. **Leggings are only allowed for PE.** If children arrive wearing incorrect uniform, spares will be provided, and these will need returning to school the following day. Please label all uniform.

Details of the school uniform can be found on our school website.

[Uniform | Lacewood Primary School](#)

Uniform can be ordered through Vortex or Pinders.



# Spotlight On Safeguarding

Here at Lacewood Primary School, we take the safety of our children and staff very seriously. We recognise it is all of our responsibility, in accordance with 'Safeguarding and Child Protection', to ensure that Lacewood is a secure and safe learning place for our children.

## Safeguarding Leads



Miss K Akeroyd – DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead)



Mrs K Anson – DDSL (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)



Mrs C Searle – DDSL (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)



Mrs A Jackson – DDSL (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)

This half term we have strengthened our safeguarding team. This is part of our school commitment to ensuring our safeguarding systems are of the highest standard.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

**Barnsley Safeguarding: 01226 772423**

**Emergency Out of Hours: 01226 787789**

[Barnsley Safeguarding Webpage](#)

**Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO):  
01226 772341**

**NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000**

[NSPCC Webpage](#)

[Keeping children safe online NSPCC](#)

## **THE MAIN CATEGORIES OF CHILD ABUSE ARE...**

### **PHYSICAL ABUSE**

The non-accidental physical injury of a child. The inadvertent result of physical punishment or physically aggressive treatment of a child.

### **SEXUAL ABUSE**

Any act of sexual nature upon or with a child for the sexual gratification of the perpetrator or a third party, including anyone who allowed or encouraged it.

### **EMOTIONAL ABUSE**

Chronic attitudes or acts which interfere with the psychological and social development of a child. When a parent or caregiver harms a child's mental and social development or causes severe emotional harm.

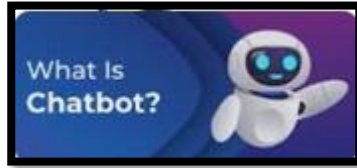
### **NEGLECT**

Child-rearing practices which are essentially inadequate or dangerous. The failure to act on behalf of the child: not providing the care, supervision, affection, and support needed for a child's health, safety, and well-being.



# Spotlight On Safeguarding

## This half terms focus: AI Chatbots and Roblox



Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbots – such as ChatGPT, Google Gemini and others are becoming more common in everyday life. Children may encounter them at school, in games or even through websites and apps. While these tools can be useful and fun, it's important for parents to understand how they work, the potential risks and how to keep children safe.

AI chatbots are computer programmes that can hold a conversation with a person.

They can:

- answer questions (e.g. helping with homework or explaining a tricky topic).
- spark creativity (e.g. helping write a poem, story or quiz).
- support hobbies and interests (e.g. generating recipe ideas, sports facts or coding tips).
- provide entertainment (e.g. riddles, jokes or role-play style games).

Used wisely, chatbots can be a helpful tool for learning and fun.



**KEY MESSAGE: AI CHATBOTS CAN BE A USEFUL TOOL, BUT THEY ARE NOT A REPLACEMENT FOR SAFE, SUPPORTIVE HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS. WITH GUIDANCE, SUPERVISION AND OPEN CONVERSATIONS, PARENTS CAN HELP CHILDREN EXPLORE THIS TECHNOLOGY IN A SAFE AND BALANCED WAY.**

**When conversations can become concerning**  
Although conversations may start out innocent, there are risks to be aware of:

- **Unpredictable responses:** chatbots sometimes give inaccurate, confusing or inappropriate information.
- **Role-play risks:** a child may ask the chatbot to pretend to be a friend, character or even a parent figure. This can blur the line between fantasy and reality.
- **Sensitive topics:** children may explore personal worries with a chatbot and the answers they receive might not always be supportive, accurate or safe.
- **Over-reliance:** a child might start turning to a chatbot for advice instead of trusted adults.



# Spotlight On Safeguarding



**WHAT IS ROBLOX?**

- A GAMING PLATFORM – MILLIONS OF USER-MADE GAMES ('EXPERIENCES') TO EXPLORE, FROM OBSTACLE COURSES TO ROLE-PLAY ADVENTURES.**
- A SOCIAL SPACE – PLAYERS CAN CHAT, MAKE FRIENDS AND JOIN GROUPS, MAKING IT AS MUCH ABOUT SOCIALISING AS GAMING.**
- A CREATIVE TOOL – CHILDREN CAN DESIGN THEIR OWN GAMES AND CHARACTERS, SOMETIMES LEARNING CODING ALONG THE WAY.**

**WHY CHILDREN LOVE IT:**

- ROBLOX SPARKS IMAGINATION, TEAMWORK, AND PROBLEM-SOLVING.**
- CHILDREN ENJOY PLAYING WITH FRIENDS, CREATING UNIQUE GAMES OR CHARACTERS, AND BEING PART OF A HUGE ONLINE COMMUNITY.**
- BUT BECAUSE IT CAN BE OPEN AND SOCIAL, RISKS INCLUDE STRANGERS CONTACTING CHILDREN, AGE INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT, AND THE GAMES BEING SO IMMERSIVE THAT SWITCHING OFF CAN BE HARD.**

**How parents can support their child playing Roblox**

**Play together**  
Sit with your child, explore Roblox together and ask them to show you their favourite games.

**Set parental controls**  
Use Roblox's safety settings to limit chat, control who can message or join games and manage spending.

**Talk about online friends**  
Remind them that online identities can be misleading. Encourage them to protect personal information and avoid shifting conversations to other apps.

**Agree limits**  
Set clear boundaries for screen time and in-game spending. Encourage breaks and a balance of activities.

**Open conversations**  
Let your child know they can always talk to you if someone or something makes them uncomfortable.

The risks parents should know about online grooming: Strangers can use the chat facility to befriend children with harmful intentions, often starting with friendly messages, gifts or in-game help before encouraging private chats elsewhere. Inappropriate content: despite moderation, some games may include violence, scary themes or sexualised material. Over-absorption: Roblox is designed to keep players hooked, which can impact sleep, schoolwork and family time. In-game purchases: using 'Robox,' children may feel pressured to spend on costumes, upgrades or items, leading to overspending.



## Lacewood Primary School Behaviour Policy – Parent Summary

### Our Golden Rules

- Take care of ourselves
- Take care of each other
- Take care of the things around us

### What We Expect From Pupils

- Be kind and respectful
- Try their best in learning
- Listen to adults
- Move safely around school
- Look after school equipment
- Wear the correct uniform
- Make safe choices online and in school

### Positive Behaviour

- Praise from adults
- Dojo points
- Learning Buddy awards
- Postcards home
- Headteacher Gold Leaf award
- Attendance awards
- Pen licence
- Opportunities to represent the school



### When Behaviour Needs Support

- Step 1 – Reminder from an adult
- Step 2 – Up to 15 minutes loss of playtime
- Step 3 – Senior leader support, parents contacted, behaviour plan or loss of privileges
- In rare cases a short-term exclusion



# Spotlight On Behaviour

## ♥ Supporting Children's Wellbeing

- We use the Thrive approach to help children feel calm and safe
- Children are supported to talk about feelings and learn ways to manage emotions
- Our Wellbeing Practitioner Mrs Jackson provides additional support

## 📱 Mobile Phones

- Only Year 5 and Year 6 pupils who walk home independently may bring phones
- Phones are handed to the teacher for safe storage
- They are not used during the school day
- They are not taken on school trips

## 🌞 Break & Lunchtime

- Play kindly
- Stay safe
- Join activities
- Ask adults for help if needed
- Positive behaviour may earn Dojo points

## 💻 Online Behaviour

- Be kind online
- Do not send unkind messages
- Do not share inappropriate images
- Tell an adult if something online worries you



## 🗨️ Making Things Right

- Children talk about what happened
- Repair relationships
- Learn from mistakes
- Have a fresh start

★ Our goal is for every child to feel safe, valued and ready to learn.



# Events & Achievements

## Career Day!



Lacewood held our very first career day this half term! We had a career themed assembly led by Mrs Sellars in the morning and then welcomed guest speakers in the afternoon; including a firefighter, ophthalmologist and audiologist, A&E nurse and 2 district nurses. A selection of children were able to speak to the visitors and learned more about the important jobs that they do. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Well done to the children and a big thank you to our guest visitors for your time, enthusiasm and expertise!



## World Book Day!

The children loved dressing up as their favourite characters for World Book Day. They explored who they are as a reader by creating their own reading shields and enjoyed many books and stories throughout the day.

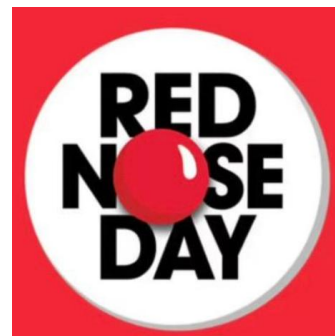




# Events & Achievements

## Looking After Our Local Area

Mrs Greaves took the Lacewood School Councillors to litter pick in the local area. They collected an amazing 19 bags of rubbish! Well done to them for their hard work and in helping to keep our local area free from rubbish!



Lacewood held a non-uniform/ wear red day and raised £130 for Comic Relief. Well done everyone!



## Spring Coffee Morning

Lacewood held a Spring coffee morning this half term. The children in Foundation Stage and KS1 took part in an Easter Bonnet Parade and the KS2 children displayed their egg competition entries in the hall. Thank you to the parents who attended and helped us to raise £273 for school funds!



## Go Team Lacewood!

The Lacewood football team reached the Barlow Salmon's final. They represented Lacewood well and showed hard work and determination during the competition. Well done to all players who took part.





# Learning in Foundation

**Georgia O’Keeffe and Andy Goldsworthy inspired art.**



**Science week and STEM challenges.**



Please remember the £3 half termly donation we ask for from parents to help us provide those extra special activities for children.



**Exploring nature and growing our own beans.**



**Learning about the life cycle of chickens**



Willow class! A reminder to please send homework and reading books into school every Friday so we can update and change them. 😊



Polite reminder to not let children (including siblings) play with our outdoor equipment before and after school. Thanks 😊

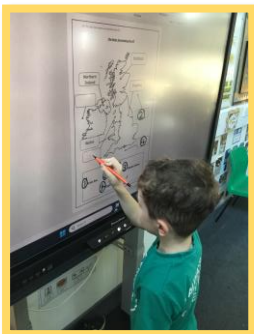




# Learning in Year 1

## Geography

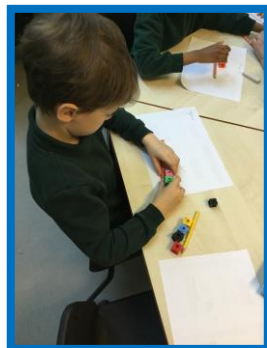
In Geography, we have loved learning about the countries of the UK and the water surrounding it. We have looked at the flags of the UK, too, and the capital cities of the 4 countries.



Song- Countries of the UK

## Maths

In Maths, we have enjoyed our recent topic of measurement. We learned how objects can be measured using non-standard units, such as cubes, and standard measurements such as Cms.



Topmarks Game-Measurement

## Science

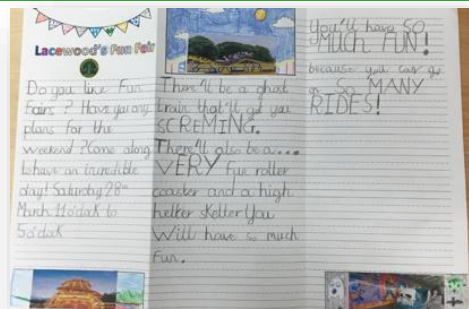
In Science, Year 1 have enjoyed learning about different animals and their characteristics; including amphibians, reptiles, birds and fish. They have also learned what these animals eat and the definition of the words carnivore, herbivore and omnivore.





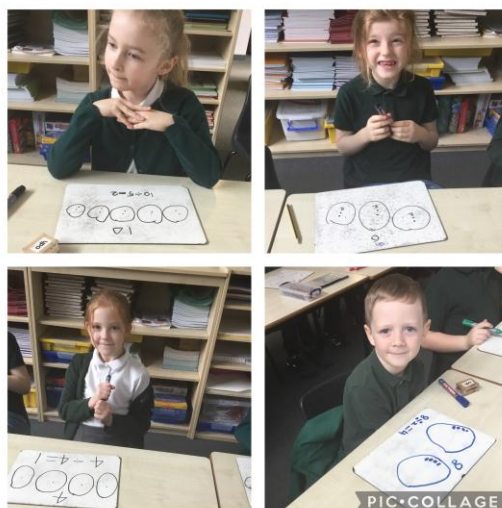
# Learning in Year 2

In literacy, we have been writing setting descriptions about fairgrounds. We have also just completed our first ever persuasive leaflet. Children worked hard to include repetition, direct address and exciting language choices. Their published pieces were fantastic!



In Geography we have been learning all about our local area. We have used Google Earth to find our school. We have plotted a route on a map and collected data on different house types whilst on our local area walk. The children then went onto look at arial views of St Andrew's Square, and in small groups plotted the shops onto the map.

In maths, we have been looking at multiplication and division. The children have tried many different styles of division, such as sharing, grouping and using their times table knowledge. They have become extremely quick at answering  $\times$  and  $\div$  questions



In DT, our focus this half term has been on mechanisms. In groups of 4, children worked together to design and make a Ferris Wheel by closely following a design brief. After completion they worked together to evaluate their design.



# Learning in Year 3

We really enjoyed our Egyptian day in school this half term. We dressed up as Egyptians and took part in lots of history activities including – mummification, writing in ink on papyrus paper, amulet making with clay, building an Egyptian city and playing Egyptian board games!



In our DT textiles unit, we have designed and made our own Egyptian collars based on our personalities. We used pinking scissors to cut our collars and felt pieces to stick onto our collars.



In PE, we have been focusing on yoga. Holly class have shown excellent focus when balancing in yoga and great partner work when supporting each other in creating their own yoga flow!



In computing, we have been using the crumble kits. We wrote a code for our sparkle batons and then used the iPads to create some light painting pictures.



# Learning in Year 4

We had a special visitor this half term. Harkarat Singh, who is a Sikh, came into our class to tell them all about the Sikh religion. The children were really engaged and learned a lot!



The children experienced a hockey workshop this half term. It was the first time they have done hockey and they loved it! They learned how to hold the stick properly and showed some wonderful dribbling skills.



As part of science week, children were given the task of making their own bird's nests! They had to plan, design and make their nests and then test them against rain and water!



## MTC Tests

The children have been working extremely hard on their times tables this half term. I have seen lots of progress and so many children now know all their facts! Some children's scores have nearly doubled! Well done, Linden Class!

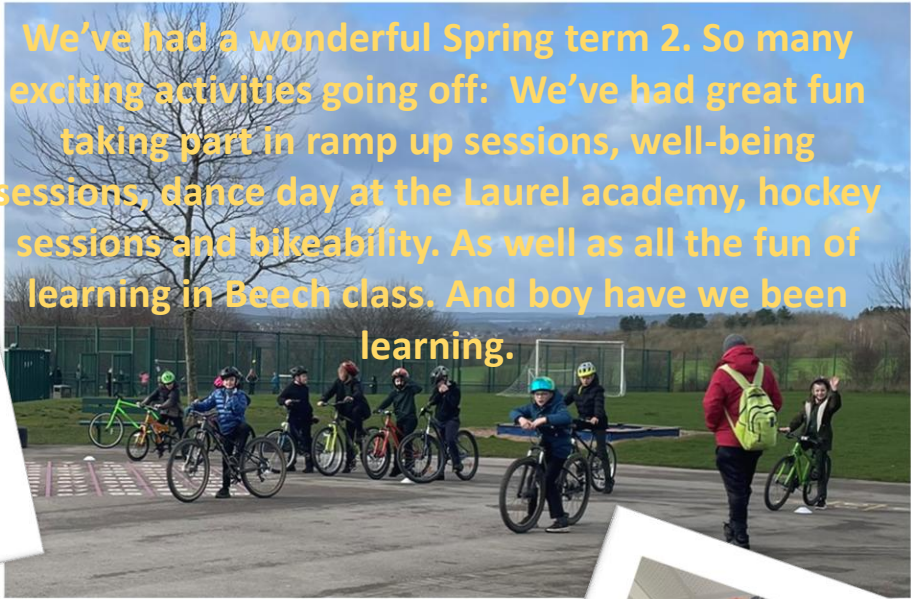




# Learning in Year 5



We've had a wonderful Spring term 2. So many exciting activities going off: We've had great fun taking part in ramp up sessions, well-being sessions, dance day at the Laurel academy, hockey sessions and bikeability. As well as all the fun of learning in Beech class. And boy have we been learning.



We've loved learning about Mexico in our Geography work this half term. And to finish off with our Mexican Fiesta, was just the most enormous amount of fun.



**Golden Leaf Winners**  
Well done to:  
Cataleya, Ella, Matilda,  
Harper and Stanley





# Learning in Year 6

## SATs Preparation 🎨 ✨

As we approach the countdown to SATs, the children have completed their recent assessments, which have given us a clear indication of their current progress and expected outcomes for May. With only 20 school days remaining after the Easter break, we are making the most of every opportunity in school. Morning starters are now focused on reasoning practice to further develop the children's confidence and fluency. It has been particularly pleasing to see quieter members of the class growing in confidence and contributing more during these sessions. Thank you to all parents who attended the SATs meeting—your support is greatly appreciated. All key information has been sent home, but if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



## Literacy – Narrative & Non-Chronological Writing 📖 ✨

In Literacy, we have explored two exciting styles of writing this half term. The children began by designing their own hybrid animals, combining different creatures to create something unique. They then wrote non-chronological reports, explaining their animal's key features, habitat and hunting methods, while carefully considering their audience and purpose. A real highlight was using AI image generation to bring their creations to life, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. More recently, we have focused on narrative writing, inspired by the original Jumanji. The children have written their own stories where characters are transported into new worlds, developing their use of tension to engage the reader and using dialogue to bring their characters to life. Their creativity and enthusiasm throughout have been excellent.

## Science Week 🧪 🌈

We also recently celebrated National Science Week, where the children took part in two exciting practical activities linked to different areas of science. In one session, we explored the machines used to land on the moon, focusing on rovers and how they gather data. The children then designed and built their own models, carefully considering practicality, durability and additional features to support their design. In another experiment, we investigated microorganisms, focusing on yeast and whether it can be classified as a living thing. We observed how yeast produces carbon dioxide, similar to processes in the human body, and watched with excitement as a balloon inflated during a reaction with warm water and sugar. The children showed fantastic curiosity and engagement throughout these activities.



# Clubs in School

Day	Club
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Wildlife Club</b> – Y2-6 3.15-4.15pm <b>Gymnastics club</b> – FS1-Y2 3.15-4.15pm <b>Minecraft Club</b> – Awaken Education
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Street Dance</b> – Y3-6 3.15 – 4.15pm <b>Y6 Greater Depth Writer's Club</b> – 3.15 – 4.15pm <b>Y5 Girl's Maths Club</b> – 3.15 – 4.15pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Lego and Games club</b> – Y2-6 3.15 – 4.15pm Please note the change of day
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>AK Sports Club</b> – Y1-6 (Paid in cash at the office or AK Direct) <b>Robotics Club</b> – Y5-6 3.15-4.15pm
<b>Friday</b>	<b>No Clubs</b>



All **School Clubs** can be booked through the Arbor App.  
 All **School Clubs** are aimed at selected groups (no booking needed).

**Awaken Clubs** are booked through the separate Awaken App.

**AK Sports** are booked through completing the flyer and bringing the payment into school in a named envelope.

If you have any problems booking clubs, please speak to the office on:  
**01709 887750**



# Important Dates

Date	Year Group	Event
13.04.26	Whole school	Ash Randall Free Style Footballer Visit
15.04.26	Willow Class	Oral Hygiene Checks
16.04.26	Beech Class	Amazelab (STEM) full day workshop in school.
16.04.26	Whole School	AK Sport's Launch Assembly
21.04.26	Y1-Y6	Barnsley Youth Choir Singing Workshops for KS1 and KS2
23.04.26	Willow and Ash	<i>James Brunt</i> – Land Artist Workshop in school
29.04.26	Linden class	Y4 Scooter Handover Day
01.05.26	Whole School	Tempest Class Photos and Y6 Leavers
01.05.26	Y3-Y6	Spelling Bee Final assembly (Parents invited)
6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Y5	Robinwood Residential
11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6	<b>SAT's Week</b> (Breakfast club for SAT's to be confirmed)
13.05.26	Y3	Low Hall Wood River's Trip (am)
19.05.26	KS1	Athletics Event (Dearne Cluster) @ Lacewood (Mr Edwards will send information home)
20.05.26	Y4	Viking workshop in school (all day)
22.05.26	Whole School	Merits and Dojo Awards Break up for half term



# School calendar 2025-26

**BARNESLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE 2025-26 ACADEMIC YEAR**

For community and voluntary controlled primary, secondary and special schools

**September (22 Days)**

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**October (18 Days)**

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**November (20 Days)**

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**December (15 Days)**

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**January (20 days)**

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**February (15 days)**

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

**March (20 Days)**

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**April (14 Days)**

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

**May (15 Days)**

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**June (22 Days)**

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29	30					

**July (14 Days)**

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**August**

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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31						

- Denotes Bank Holidays
- Denotes School Holidays

195 days in total – including 5 days to be taken as professional development days for teaching staff





# School calendar 2026-27

## BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE 2026-27 ACADEMIC YEAR

For community and voluntary controlled primary, secondary and special schools

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**November (21 Days)**

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**March (19 Days)**

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**August**

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Denotes Bank Holidays  
 Denotes School Holidays

195 days in total – including 5 days to be taken as professional development days for teaching staff

Inset Day