

WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2026

HENDAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

TEL: 01924 259465



Hendal Primary School
Belong, Aspire, Achieve.

NEWSLETTER

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These newsletters will be sent out every Wednesday to keep you up to date with events and information relating to School.

WELCOME BACK

Our return to School has been a calm and productive start. Children had a lovely day yesterday, getting to know their new teachers and catching up with friends. We have lots of exciting things planned for your child's learning throughout the coming year.

Minnie

I am writing in memory of Minnie, who will always belong and be part of Hendal Primary School. Our School Community has honoured Minnie's life with moments of reflection in assembly and by talking openly and honestly about what a wonderful little girl she was. We will continue to share our love and support with Minnie's family.

SAFEGUARDING - WALKING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

In the UK, there isn't a minimum legal age to walk to School alone, however, parents with children under 10 are advised not to let their children go to School unaccompanied.

The decision to let your child walk to School alone is a personal one and should be based on a few factors like their maturity level, the safety of their route, and your comfort level.

Some things to consider when deciding if your child is ready to walk to School alone are:

Maturity: Does your child understand and follow - directions, stay calm if lost, and recognise potential dangers?

Route Safety: Is the path free from heavy traffic, crime and other risks?

Stranger Awareness: Do they know not to talk to strangers or accept rides?

Child's Confidence: Is your child eager and confident, or are they anxious about the new freedom?

How you Feel as a Parent: We know that the back to School feeling is one of anxiety for both parents and child, so if you feel uncomfortable about their independence and the ability to cope with so much change, DO NOT rush into letting them walk home alone.

School recommend that children are dropped off and collected by a responsible adult until after the February Half Term in Year 5 when the lighter nights start.

Water Bottles

Please can we request that children's drink bottles are filled with water only. The NHS guidelines states Squashes, Flavoured Milk, Fruit or Juice Drink and Flizzy Drinks are not suitable for young children as they contain sugar and cause tooth decay even when diluted. Water is a healthy and FREE choice to keep your child hydrated at School.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

If you have not already done so please inform the School Office of your email address. You will then receive a link for set up for ParentMail as it has come to our attention that some parents have still not downloaded the app.

School Uniform

Please can you ensure you label ALL your children's uniform including coats, shoes, lunchboxes and water bottles.

School Dinners

Please can you help your child to pick their School Dinner at home using the School dinner system. This ensures that children order a meal that they like and also helps to reduce the amount of lost learning time at the start of the day.

Nursery Times

Please can we remind you that our Nursery opens at 8.30am until 11.30 am for Morning Sessions and opens at 12.15pm until 3.15pm for our Afternoon Sessions.

PENALTY NOTICES AND FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The School does NOT authorise holidays taken in term time and works in partnership with the Education Welfare Service regarding the issue of Penalty Notices. Pupils have an entitlement to an education, not a term time holiday.

Hendal Primary recognises that School attendance is closely linked to attainment. As such Penalty Notices will be issued for parents taking their children out of School during term time without permission. We will contact the Education Welfare Service when the tenth half day (5 full days) of authorised absence is recorded for your child throughout the year and a Penalty Notice will be issued by the Education Welfare Service. The School will work closely with the Education Welfare Service to enforce this policy.

Payment of a Penalty Notice is now £80 per child per parent if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, increasing to £160 per child per parent if paid under 21 days, but within 28 days. If the Penalty Notice is not paid in full by the end of the 28 day period, the LA must either prosecute under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996 or withdraw the Notice. There are other substantial changes to how the National Framework for Penalty Notices will be issued. Please see School Calendar attached for Inset Days.

SATS RESULTS 2026

We would like to share our amazing and well deserved SATs Results. These results are the best we have ever had and are due to the many years of hard work from the children and the whole staff team. Other contributing factors are the many wonderful learning experiences we offer at Hendal Primary School and the welcomed support from parents.

Designated Safeguarding Leads - Mrs K Ashton (Headteacher), Mr D Benson (Deputy Headteacher),

Mrs R Knowles (Assistant Head Teacher, SENCO & Early Years Foundation Leader), Mrs R Bentham (Teacher), Miss A Walsh (Learning Mentor Safeguarding), Mrs A Spiers (Chair of Governors - aspiers@hendal.wakefield.sch.uk). If you have any concerns regarding the welfare of children you can contact Social Care Direct on 0345 850 3503