

We are a Team that Trust each other to unlock potential.
Tel: 01983 407217 email – admin@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

News from Brading CE Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs B Gilbert

Our Christian Values: TRUST - TRUTH, RESPECT, UNITY, SINCERITY, TOLERANCE -

This week our focus has been on RESPECT

30th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't quite believe how quickly this term is going. We now only have two more weeks to go until we break up for February half term

We have some exciting things happening in school over the next few weeks. From Monday we will be celebrating Careers Week, a fun and exciting opportunity for pupils to learn about the many different job people do and to start thinking about what they might like to be when they grow up. Throughout the week, the children will take part in a range of activities designed to explore different careers and workplaces, understand there are many pathways to success and everyone's journey is unique. We are especially excited to welcome visitors who will be talking to the children about their jobs and the skills they use every day. Pupils will have the chance to ask questions and discover how learning at school helps them prepare for the future.

Careers Week activity challenge - I would like to ask the children to brainstorm at home and come up with a career that they are interested in. If they research as much information as they can relating to these jobs, (this could be facts, drawings and printouts from home) or could even interview a family member about their job, I would be very excited to hear all about this with them. I will be providing the children that have created the best work with a prize at the end of the week. Please can these be sent back to school by Thursday morning. Each class will be experiencing different opportunity's which will be all shown in next week's newsletter.

The following week we have Internet safety week, it is going to be so exciting. We would like to invite all parents/carers in on Monday 9th February from 2pm to spend time in class seeing all of your children's fabulous work for this half term and starting our safety week off.

Have a fabulous weekend and remember my door is always open.

Mrs Gilbert
Headteacher

P.S – Please don't forget Mrs Willshire and myself are available from 8.30am everyday if you need to discuss anything. All teaching staff are not available in the mornings but will be available after school only.

Collective worship this week – we have been continuing to focus on Sincerity
Bible Reflection – "love one another deeply, from the heart".

Weekly Focus

Headlice – We have started to see a rise with Headlice in school. It is important to check your child's hair for head lice. The best technique is to use a head lice comb when the hair is wet, leaving in conditioner and combing the hair in sections. When the hair is wet, head lice cannot move so they are easier to comb out. Please note that they do not jump or fly, you can only catch head lice from head to head contact. Treat appropriately: the wet combing technique eradicates the lice and eggs. This should be done every 3 to 4 days over a 2-week period to break the life cycle. If you require further information please have a look at the following website: <https://www.chc.org/how-to-treat-head-lice-and-nits-successfully/> Children who become clear of head lice can be re-infected at school. You can help to tackle this by following good prevention, by being vigilant to spot any new infections or re-infections and by seeking prompt treatment if you find any head lice.

School Reminders

Booking Wraparound - Going forward from today there will be a slightly different way to book Wraparound. Ideally, we will need a week's notice of any bookings for Wraparound. To make sure the booking is secure for wraparound, as from Monday 26th January, we will require you to send us an email and make payment on School Money. Do not assume your child has a place until you receive an acknowledgement from the school office. Any bookings made on school money without contacting the office will be invalid.

School Nurse – we have the school nurse booked in to visit on Thursday 5th Feb. This session is booked in from 9am until 11am. Please contact Mrs Willshire if you would like to book in to see her. Your school nurse can support with the following health concerns: Physical Health concerns related to school absences: not chronic or persistent absenteeism. Long term conditions e.g. asthma, eczema, impacting on schooling Support for healthy lifestyles - diet and exercise. Growth concerns Support around Sleep Continence i.e. night/daytime wetting, soiling, constipation

Absences/Illness - Please make sure if your child is going to be absent from school due to illness, medical appointments or any other reasons, you need to provide the office with a phone call, email or pop into the office (also any supporting letter you may have) on the day of the absence to inform them. Remember to please keep your child off of school for 48 hours after the last episode of Diarrhoea and vomiting before bringing your child back into school. If we do not hear from you by 9.15am we will ring you. This is part of our duty of care and our safeguarding to ensure everyone is kept safe.

Sharing Worship – Please remember the change in time for Sharing Worship moving forward. These will take place on Friday mornings from 8.35am. We will always contact you via text inviting you along if your child has received a certificate.

Safety – If your child is not attending their fun club, you will need to let the office know and sign them out. We have reminded all of the children that they should stay with their adult when they leave. Once you have picked up your child from school please make sure that they stay with you. Year 5 & 6 children who leave school without an adult, please remember you are representing the school and to be safe at all times. All roads are dangerous and I don't want any accidents happening, especially as the evenings are still quite dark. In addition, can I please remind you about parking sensibly. There are residents who also live along this road and we all should be considerate of this.

Water Bottles – Please can I remind you that children should only be bringing water in with their bottles each morning. We have started to see a rise in squash being used.

Dates for Your Diary

February

- 2nd – Careers week in School
- 3rd – Y5/6 Basketball event at Medina
- 5th – School nurse in school
- 6th – Galapagos Parents invited to Collective Worship – email sent from teacher
- 9th – Y1/2 trip to Southampton for Youth Orchestra
- 9th – Internet Safety Week
- 11th – EYFS/KS1 Aurora Orchestra in school
- 12th – Cuba's trip to St Marys Church
- 13th – Last day of term
- 23rd – First day back at school after half term.

March

- 3rd – Cuba trip to Amazon World
- 6th – World Book Day
- 27th – last day of term for Easter

Foodbank Vouchers

Mrs Willshire is able to issue Foodbank Vouchers to anyone who may be struggling. Please email Mrs Willshire to request one if required.

Jo.willshire@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

Attendance

Whole School Target: 95%

Current weekly % = 85.01%

Class	% Last Week
Antigua	95.8
St Lucia	95
Cuba	68
Hawaii	88.2
New Zealand	92.3
Galapagos	89.1
Jamaica	81.9



Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing.

As set down by the Department for Education, penalty notices can be issued for unauthorised absence. With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example:

3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. INSET training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

1 First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

2 Second Offence

Within 3 years

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

3 Third Offence

And Any Further Offence (Within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Attendance Traffic Light System



Concern
Drastic affect on academic achievement.

Cause for Concern
We work with our EWS Officer who will conduct home visits when attendance becomes a concern

Excellent attendance!
Keep up the good work.

MISSING SCHOOL = MISSING OUT!

96 – 100% attendance equates to 4- 7 days off each year

90-95 % attendance equates to 9-20 days off each year (50-100 lessons lost)

90% and below equates to 20-30 school days off each year (100-150 lessons lost)

We want our children at Brading CE Primary to enjoy coming to school.

Research proves that there is a high correlation between school attendance and academic performance and success.

Absence from school is often the greatest single cause of poor performance and achievement.

Ensuring children attend school is crucial for the welfare of children and safeguarding their wellbeing.

EVERYDAY MINUTE COUNTS



3 school days lost per year

10 school days lost per year

19 school days lost per year



Wraparound care prices:

Breakfast Club - £4 (from 7.45am)

Wraparound until 4pm - £6

Wraparound until 5pm - £8

Wraparound until 6pm - £12 (this needs to be agreed by Mrs Gilbert with prior notice)

All to be booked via SchoolMoney

Class emails:

antigua.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

cuba.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

stlucia.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

newzealand.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

galapagos.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

jamaica.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

hawaii.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

PE Days:

Cuba - Friday

St Lucia - Wednesday

New Zealand - Wednesday

Galapagos – Thursday/Friday

Jamaica – Tuesday/Thursday

Hawaii – Tuesday

Children are to come in their PE kits on these days.

Coats, Hats and Scarves

Now that the temperature has dropped, can you please ensure children have a warm, waterproof coat in school every day. Children can wear hats and gloves at break and lunch times, but scarves may only be worn to and from school for health and safety reasons. Please make sure all items are named to prevent them from getting lost!

Thank you

Fun Clubs:

Mon – Y1,2&3 Sports Club

Tues – Yr. 6 SATS BOOSTER Club

Tues - KS1 Science Club

Tues – KS2 Sewing Club

Tues - KS1 Cooking Club

Wednesday – Y4,5&6 Sports Club

Thursday - New Carnival Dance sessions for KS2

Please contact the office to book.

Makaton

As part of our ongoing learning here at Brading Primary School we focus on a Makaton symbol every week.

Here is our next Makaton sign.



Attendance Traffic Light System



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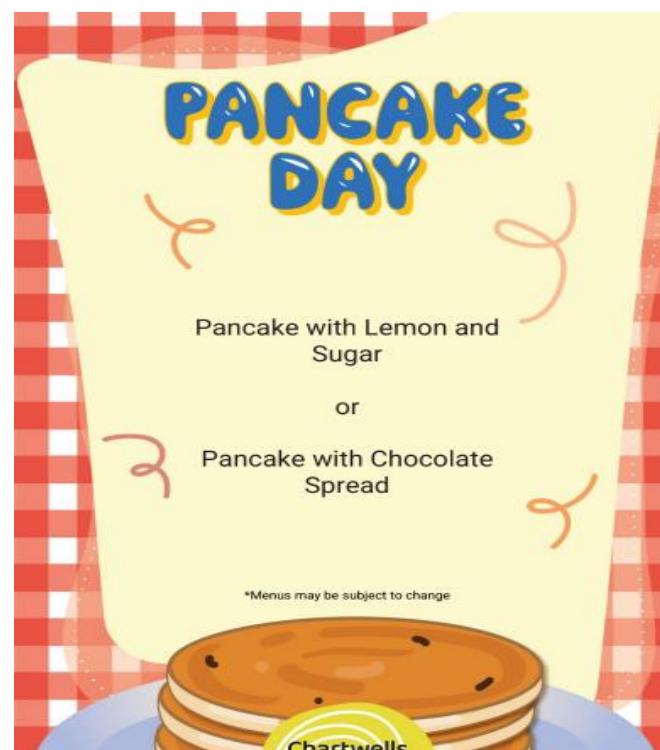
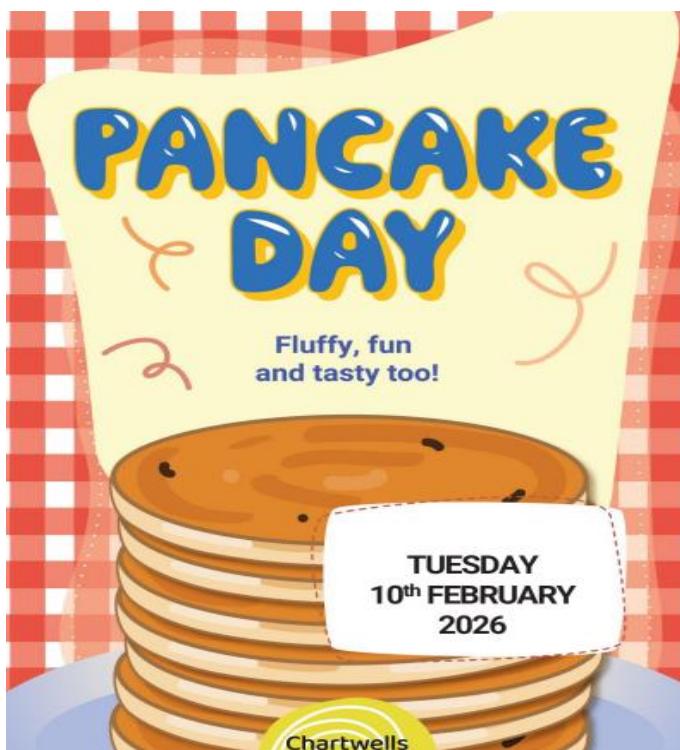
SCHOOL LUNCH WHAT'S COOKING?

SCHOOL MENU WEEK COMMENCING: 2nd February 2026

We also offer Vegetarian options, tomato pasta as well as jacket potatoes, baguettes and sandwiches with a selection of fillings each day.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese and Tomato Pizza Veggie Meat Feats Pizza	Chicken & Broccoli Pasta Bake	Roast Gammon Roast Quorn	BBQ Chicken	Southern Fried Chicken Quorn Nuggets
Chocolate Marble Cake	Chocolate & Pear Slice	Lemon Cookie	Crunchy Chocolate Mousse	Strawberry Jelly

We now have some vegetarian options available each week. These are all available on School Money



THIS WEEK AT BRADING

ANTIGUA

This week in Antigua we have carried on our people who help us topic. We have been looking at doctors and nurses and have had fun making our friends better and even the dinosaurs! We have had a lovely time outside, we went onto the field and enjoyed working together to make a bridge. Our story of the week has been doctorsaurus we have enjoyed listening to it.



CUBA

This week in Cuba we have still been exploring the world of people who help us. The children have been indulging in exciting topic experiences such as role playing a coastguard to rescue people from the water and bandaging patients as a nurse. Our parents came in to learn about our visuals and chat boards. We also had a visit from the nurse!



ST LUCIA

This week in St Lucia class we have been focusing on the story Supertato. The naughty evil pea had trapped all of the vegetables in ice and we had to use different tools to free the vegetables. We all worked to make our supertatos too using real life potatoes! We also have had lots of fun exploring outside. We were mixing paints together and then added them to the water tray to see all of the different colours we could make



THIS WEEK AT BRADING

NEW ZEALAND

In New Zealand class, we have been writing about all the fun things we can do on the Isle of Wight. In maths, we have been comparing numbers and mixing up addition and subtraction. In PSHE, we took part in a 'Feelings' workshop. We have been learning new GPCs in phonics and using these to blend and segment. The children are really enjoying their enrichment activities on a Friday and I hope they are sharing this with you. Next week is 'Careers Week' where we will do a different activity each day.



GALAPAGOS

This week Galapagos class have been very busy! We started the week by exploring fossils and the fossilisation process, we even had a go at making our own fossils with bread and sweets. In topic we discussed earthquakes, thinking about how people stay safe during earthquakes and how they are measured. Finally, we are now finalising our diary entries, imagining we were in Pompeii when Mount Vesuvius erupted. The children have been so enthusiastic and engaged in our Extreme Earth topic which has been so lovely to see! Have a nice weekend!



JAMAICA

This week in Jamaica class, we have explored the multiple ways that rivers are used for our topic. We listed a range of uses on the board, one being for irrigation, and discussed the impact that this can have on people who rely on rivers. In science, we looked at fossils and how they link to evolution. We researched the importance of fossils in creating links to evolution and then displayed our findings on a poster.



HAWAII

This week in Hawaii class, the children have been learning about how fossils form over time. The children could order the process of fossilisation. We used bread and sweets to make our own fossils and finished the lesson by making a fossil out of clay.



This week in photos





BIRTHDAYS AT BRADING PRIMARY THIS WEEK ARE:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



SCARLETT &
MAIYA



Friends of Brading

If you would like to support the school and the children by arranging some fun, exciting events while raising much needed funds, please let the office know! Absolutely anyone who has a connection with Brading Primary can become a 'Friend of Brading'. Mums, Dads, Guardians, Carers, Grandmas, Grandads – you are all welcome to join

Parenting Puzzle

Are you a parent or carer of a child aged 3-5 years?

Parenting can be challenging... but you don't have to figure it out alone.

Join our **FREE 5-week Parenting Puzzle Programme**, developed by the **Centre for Emotional Health** and based on proven strategies that really work.

Our 5th week includes our Preschool and School Readiness workshop.

This relaxed and supportive course will help you:

- Understand your child's emotional needs
- Build stronger communication and connection
- Manage behaviour positively
- Reduce stress for the whole family
- Feel more confident in your parenting



Up coming dates:

Face to face at Ryde Family Hub

Starting 12th January 2026 for 5 consecutive

Mondays, ending 9th February 2026

9.30am until 11.30am

Or

Online via Microsoft Teams

Starting 27th February 2026, for 5 consecutive

Fridays, ending 27th March 2026

9.30am until 11.30am

You don't have to be struggling to benefit – the Parenting Puzzle is packed with strategies and insights that are valuable for **all** parents and carers of children age 3-5 years.

You'll meet other parents and carers, share experiences, and discover practical tools to make family life calmer and happier.

For more information check out our website [Parenting Puzzle & The 10 Week Nurturing Programme : Isle Of Wight Family Centres](#)



Scan the QR code to Contact us now : [Contact Us : Isle Of Wight Family Centres](#)

Toileting Workshop

We are here for every step of your child's journey, especially when they are learning new skills such as using the toilet or potty. This workshop contains tips and guidance as your child begins to navigate this important part of their development.



- ❖ 2-hour sessions
- ❖ Face-to-face and online sessions available from:
24/02/2026 – 27/02/2026
- ❖ For parents of children aged from 12 months

★ We are delighted to have Sunni from ERIC (The Bowel and Bladder Charity) delivering these sessions. ★



To book a free place on any available workshop, use the link or QR code.

[Isle of Wight Family Centres Events - 18 Upcoming Activities and Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

PLEASE NOTE: We are unable to accommodate children at the face-to-face sessions.



Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.



Isle of Wight
Council



The school nurse will be offering drop-in sessions each term bookable via school.

The slots are for 30 minutes and these are bookable through Mrs Willshire, please

email: jo.willshire@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

Next session:

Date: Thursday 5th February 2026

Time: 9am – 11am

Your school nurse can support with the following health concerns:

Physical Health concerns related to school absences: not chronic or persistent absenteeism.

Long term conditions e.g. asthma, eczema, impacting on schooling.

Support for healthy lifestyles - diet and exercise.

Growth concerns

Support around Sleep

Continence i.e. night/daytime wetting, soiling, constipation



Social media influencers are people who have established credibility in a specific industry and have the power to influence other people's decisions. Most commonly associated with YouTube and Instagram, 'influencers' will usually have a large number of followers and be viewed as authentic by their audience. It is for this reason that many influencers are often paid by big companies to promote their products in the hope of persuading their followers to purchase those goods.



What parents need to know about SOCIAL PRESSURES LINKED TO 'INFLUENCERS'



AN UNREALISTIC PERCEPTION OF BODY IMAGE

Some of the most popular social media influencers often depict themselves as having the perfect body and are paid to promote items such as health supplements or garments, which young people believe can help them achieve the same look. What is not always realised is that these images can be edited or filtered and aren't always a true life representation. Your child may feel like this is what they need to look like and in some cases, become obsessed with their body image, which could contribute towards a lower self-esteem or even becoming depressed if they can't achieve the same look.



ENCOURAGING BAD HABITS

Although many social media influencers will get paid to advertise brands and their products, they will also post their own material online too, usually depicting their daily life or an activity for example. This may have both desirable and undesirable consequences, with influencers able to inspire both good habits, such as healthy eating, exercise or routines. However, it may also encourage children to adopt bad habits, such as drinking, smoking, swearing or even criminal behaviour, particularly if these are seen to be endorsed by the influencer.



AUTHENTICITY OF ENDORSEMENTS

Social media influencers hold a lot of persuasion with their audience and are often looked up to by younger followers. Many children will see them as credible, authentic and trust what they see online. However, some influencers may not always believe in the product they are promoting and therefore can mislead their followers, abusing their level of confidence in them. Your child may therefore feel themselves looking up to people who are disengaged or who take interest in activities that they themselves do not actually care about.



Safety Tips For Parents



FOLLOW WHO THEY FOLLOW

A good way to see first-hand who may be influencing your child is to create your own social media account and follow the same people they do. This will give you a strong indication of what is shaping how your child behaves, what they like and what they are taking an interest in.



TALK ABOUT ROLE MODELS

Role models can play an important part of your child's life, particularly outside of the home. Talk to your child about who they look up to and why. Remind them that not everybody online is who they seem to be and if you do have concerns that your child is being negatively influenced, work with them in finding more positive alternatives.

BUILD THEIR SELF-ESTEEM

It's important that your child is aware of how unrealistic perceptions of life can be depicted on social media and that it is easy to be deceived. Discuss with your child how images can be heavily edited, cropped or manipulated to create artificial scenarios and that often the lifestyle that people display on social media isn't always realistic or in fact the truth.

DISCUSS REALISTIC VS UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

If you notice your child has suddenly taken a strong interest in the way they look, or you find they are a lot more body conscious, then it's a good idea to speak to them about why they feel that way. If they seem unhappy, try to build their self-esteem by talking to them and listening to their concerns, helping to build their confidence through praise and positivity. Remind them that looks aren't everything and not everything they see online is actually a true depiction of real life.



ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENT THINKING

Social media influencers can be quite powerful individuals who hold a lot of persuasive power so it's important to encourage your child to think independently about everything they see and engage with online. Talk to them about the dangers of blindly following others and in keeping an open mind when viewing content. Teach them to always question people's motives online, especially when they see individuals are promoting a brand or product which they are likely to have been paid to advertise but may not necessarily personally endorse.



Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



Raise funds for us for FREE

with  easyfundraising



Join as our supporter today at:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause

Just search for:

The Friends of Brading - Sandown

8,000+ retailers will donate to us whenever you shop with them



Start at the
easyfundraising
website or app

Click out
to where you'd
like to shop



Checkout:
prices are exactly
the same!

The retailer sends
a % of your spend
to easyfundraising



They pass
it on to us
:)

Plus, you'll get...



Exclusive retailer offers



Competitions



A warm feeling inside!

Over
£60m
raised for UK good causes

£0

extra cost to anyone

Occupational therapy

Parent advice sessions

The NHS Occupational Therapy Team will be running monthly parent advice sessions. These sessions are open to any families which don't have an existing referral.

The sessions will be with an Occupational Therapist and an Assistant.

The team will be able to give advice, signpost to other services / charities and support with completing a full referral to Occupational Therapy if it is felt the needs discussed require a full assessment.

The team will be able to support with advice around:

- Self Care tasks - e.g. washing, dressing, using cutlery, toileting
- Fine motor skill development
- Play skills
- Preschool / school readiness



Session Dates for 2026

(more dates and locations may be added if required):

15 Jan, 19 Feb, 19 March, 16 April, 21 May and 18 June.

Slots will be available at 9am, 10am and 11am.

Appointments will last for 45mins.

To book, contact the department on **01983 534520** or via email to iownt.paediatric-ot-mailbox@nhs.net

Sessions will take place at the Childrens Therapies Department,
St Mary's Hospital, Newport, Isle of Wight



The Nurturing Programme

If you have a child aged 3 to 13 years,
then this programme is for you.



The Nurturing Programme offers strategies to add to your parenting toolkit, giving you positive ways of helping children handle their feelings and behaviour.

**We have 2 new courses starting in January at our
Newport Family Hub**

Wednesdays - 7th January until 18th March

(no session in February half-term)

9:30am till 11:30am

Or



Mondays - 12th January until 23rd March

(no session in February half-term)

9:30am till 11:30am

**Please visit our website and complete the contact us form to
register your interest:**

www.isleofwightfamilycentres.org.uk/contact-us



For any questions or support booking on, please
email iowfamilycentres@barnardos.org.uk
or call 01983 529208



Isle of Wight
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THE CENTRE FOR
**EMOTIONAL
HEALTH**
HOME OF FAMILY LINKS

BARNARDOS

Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.

- Free impartial advice relating to SEND for 0-25 years.
- Confidential sessions not recorded.
- Peer support, talking to others experiencing a similar journey.
- A dedicated session with an experienced support worker

**2
FEB
13:00**

Responding to a draft
EHCP

If you are in that critical
time frame having
received your draft

**4
FEB
12:00**

Considering an EHC Plan?

Independent and
impartial information to
guide you through the
process

**10
FEB
17:30**

Alternative Provision

What constitutes as a
suitable education in
relation to section 19 of
the education act

**11
FEB
12:00**

Ordinarily Available
Provision and SEN Support

Looking at support
available for those who do
not have an EHCP

**17
FEB
11:00**

Responding to a draft
EHCP

If you are in that critical
time frame having
received your draft

**18
FEB
13:00**

Appeals to SEND Tribunal

A step-by-step guide
through the appeals
process

Y6 SECONDARY TRANSITION

Join Lisa for our SEN Support Workshop

- Learn what a smooth transition looks like
- Explore practical SEN strategies
- Make the most of the time before September
- Get signposted to extra guidance



March 2026

Friday 6th 13:00

Tuesday 10th 17:00

Thursday 12th 10:30



JOIN US VIA
TEAMS



WWW.HAMPSHIRESENDAIASS.CO.UK/WORKSHOPS



Scan for our Padlet's
and information



Additional Information and Services

We have created a number of Online Notice Boards, known as Padlet's, full of information and guidance on a range of topics, including:

Best Start in Life

Early Language

Oral health

Infant Feeding
Support

Nutrition and
Healthy Eating

Neurodiverse
Information, Resources
and Services

Toileting

School
Readiness

Health Visitor
Drop-in Clinics



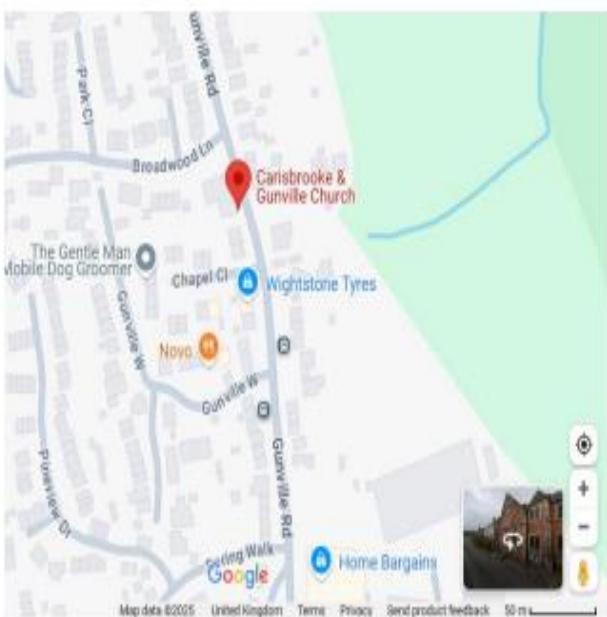
Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.





Parent and Caregiver Peer Support Sessions

Where: Gunville Methodist Church Hall



When:

11th September 2025 (10am - 12 noon)

6th November 2025 (10am - 12 noon)

15th January 2026 (10am - 11am)

5th March 2026 (10am - 12 noon)

7th May 2026 (10am - 12 noon)

Come along to meet with other parents / caregivers for an informal meet up and chat about your neurodiversity journey. Refreshments provided. No need to book, just turn up.

Free onsite parking.

Webinars

We host a range of webinars, that all parents and caregivers are welcome to join:

- Accepting Adolescence
- Break-Through 'Behaviour'
- Child to Parent Violence
- Feel without Fear
- Navigating Neurodivergence
- Restablishing Routines
- Seasonal Sensory Awareness
- Sleep

Parent Peer Support Groups

We host regular parent peer support groups and drop in sessions. (Details available upon request).

Isle of Wight **Neurodiversity** Team

Let's Walk Together on This Journey

- Celebrate neurodiversity.
- Understand strengths and differences.
- Support each child's growth every step of the way on the Isle of Wight.



If you have difficulty understanding this document, please contact us on 01983 821000 and we will do our best to help you.

Isle of Wight **Neurodiversity** Team

Parent Information Leaflet

2025/2026

Delivered by the Isle of Wight Neurodiversity Team



Neurodiversity Team – Embracing Strengths, Supporting Journeys (0–19 years, Isle of Wight)

We value each child's unique neurotype and collaborate to provide respectful, practical support for families, schools, and professionals across the Isle of Wight.

Our Team

We bring together a network of specialists including:

- Family Support Workers
- Neurodiversity Practitioners
- Sleep Practitioners

Each professional contributes to a holistic, strengths-based approach co-created with families and settings.

What Is Neurodiversity?

Innate differences (e.g., autism, ADHD, dyslexia, dyspraxia, Tourette's, sensory needs): natural variations in brain function.

Acquired differences: brain changes arising from life experiences like trauma or health conditions.

Our Vision & Mission

- A **needs-led, island-wide response**, with clear pathways for support.
- A **system-wide approach**, involving health, education, local services, and community partners.
- Promoting **timely, meaningful strategies** at home and in educational settings.
- Empowerment through **awareness** of evidence-based, affirming support.

How We Support You

Signposting & Universal Guidance No diagnosis needed—access support, resources, and community links.

30-Minute 1:1 Consultations Confidential support sessions to explore needs and co-develop tailored strategies.

Neurodiversity Profiling Tool A collaborative visual assessment across nine developmental areas to spotlight strengths and areas for support.

Training & Workshops For families, schools, and organisations—building neuro-knowledge and inclusive practices.

Inclusion & Impact

- **Strength-Based & Neuro-Affirming** We celebrate and validate neurodivergent ways of being.
- **Collaborative Co-Production** Families, schools, professionals, and young people partner in decisions and support planning.
- **Evidence-Informed, Practical Strategies** Tools that work in real life—home, school, and community.

Accessing Support

- Contact us directly to discuss needs or book consultations.
- Referrals welcome from families, schools, health professionals, or community organisations.





Beth Dyer
Service Manager - Education
Children's Services
Isle of Wight Council
County Hall
Newport
Isle of Wight
PO30 1UD

Email: Beth.Dyer@iow.gov.uk
PA Support: Amie.Cass@iow.gov.uk

Wednesday 28th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Listening and Engagement Session

I am writing to invite you to a '**listening and engagement**' session about future school place planning on the Isle of Wight.

By school place planning, we mean how the Local Authority plans ahead to make sure the number of school places across the Island matches the changing number of children, while taking account of inclusion, special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) provision, parental preference, travel, and the long-term sustainability of schools. We know that this can feel complex, and this session is an opportunity for us to explain things clearly, listen to your views, and think together about how we communicate and engage with families as we plan for the future.

This session is a **listening exercise**:

- No decisions will be made at the sessions.
- There are no proposals being consulted on.
- It is not about individual children, admissions cases, or specific schools.

The focus will be on the overall approach to planning school places for the future across the Island. The views shared during the session will be summarised and taken into account as part of the information presented to the Children's Services Committee in March, alongside other information used to inform future planning. We want this to be a calm, respectful, and constructive conversation, and we welcome parents and carers who would like to better understand the process or share their perspectives.

Session details are as follows:

- **Wednesday 4th February**, 10:00-11:00 and 14:30-16:00 at The Riverside Centre, The Quay, Newport, PO30 2QR (feel free to drop in)

- **Tuesday 10th February**, 10:00-11:30 Online on Microsoft Teams.
Meeting ID: 330 261 838 902 86
Passcode: Ed6Bj3ck

- **Thursday 12th February**, 18:00-19:30 Online on Microsoft Teams
Meeting ID: 353 697 863 810 93
Passcode: s2DU2TK2

Thank you for taking the time to engage with this work. We look forward to listening and working together as we plan for the future needs of children and young people on the Isle of Wight.

Yours sincerely,

Beth Dyer
Service Manager - Education