



Federation Newsletter

November 2025

www.crigglestonecastle.co.uk/

Crigglestone - (01924) 251151

criggadmin@crigglestonecastle.wakefield.sch.uk

The Castle - (01924) 664787

castleadmin@crigglestonecastle.wakefield.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely and restful half term, enjoying some special moments together. It's wonderful to welcome everyone back for what is always one of the most magical times of the year - the *tinsel and glitter season*! We have an exciting few weeks ahead, full of festive fun, creativity, and learning as we count down to Christmas.

Nursery Attendance Matters

Attendance Matters



Regular attendance and punctuality are key to helping your child thrive.

Every day in school builds:

1. *Strong foundations for future learning*
2. *Important life skills like sharing and independence*
3. *Emotional resilience through routines and relationships*
4. *Friendships with peers and adults*
5. *Language and communication skills*
6. *Awareness of the wider world*
7. *Good habits for lifelong learning*

Our goal is 96%+ attendance for every child. Let's work together to make every day count!



Key Information for Parents



Mrs Quinn

Executive Headteacher

I split my time across both schools throughout the week. Please do come and say hello!

You can also contact me via:

- Class Dojo Message
- Email: kquinn@crigglestonecastle.wakefield.sch.uk
- The school telephone numbers: (01924) 251151 / (01924) 664787



Follow Us

Stay connected with updates, events, and school fun



**Federation of Crigglestone
and The Castle Nursery
Schools, Wakefield**



criggcastlenurseryschools

Wakefield School Admissions – Reception Place for September 2026



Online applications for Reception school places for **September 2026** are **now open**.

Please make sure to apply **by 15 January 2026** to give your child the best chance of securing a place at your preferred school. Late applications may significantly reduce your options.

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools/school-admissions/apply-for-a-full-time-place-in-reception/>

Potty Training Challenge!

This half term, we're challenging our families to give potty training a go, with those children that are ready and showing signs! Many children are ready to start learning this important skill around 2-3 years old and a little consistency at home can make a big difference. Our staff are here to offer advice and encouragement — together, we can help your child gain confidence and independence.



Here are some top tips from ERIC:

- Look for readiness signs (dry periods, interest in the toilet)
- Choose the right equipment (comfortable potty or seat)
- Establish a routine (after meals, before bed)
- Celebrate successes (praise and encouragement)
- Be patient (accidents are part of learning)

ERIC Potty Training Guide: <https://eric.org.uk/potty-training/>

ERIC Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1A1LbSvKXK/?mibextid=wwXIfr>

School Fund Money



We kindly ask for a **£7 School Fund donation** for this half term (cash or bank transfer). These contributions help us provide exciting extras that enhance your child's learning. If you wish to donate more, you're very welcome. We completely understand that times are tough, and there is **no pressure** on any family unable to contribute. Thank you for your continued support ♥

Bank Transfer Details	
<i>Crigglestone Nursery School</i>	<i>The Castle Nursery School</i>
Account name: Crigglestone Nursery School Fund	Account name: The Castle Nursery School
Account Number: 65386866	Account Number: 65767278
Sort Code: 08-92-99 (Co-operative Bank)	Sort Code: 08-92-99 (Co-operative Bank)

Thank you for your generous donations.

Upcoming SEND Coffee Mornings at The Castle Nursery School (9-10am)



Dates for your diary:

4th December 2025

12th February 2026

23rd April 2026

11th June 2026

Support - A safe space for parent carers to share experiences and get advice.

Connect - Build relationships with other parent carers, school staff and WPCF.

Empower - Gain access to resources, guest speakers, and SEND guidance.

Co-production - Strengthen home-school partnerships = better outcomes for children.



Come and join us — we'd love to see you there! Families of children with SEND, from both **Crigglestone** and **The Castle Nursery Schools** are warmly invited to attend.

The Castle Family Hub



Located at **255 Barnsley Road, Wakefield, WF1 5NU.**

The Castle Family Hub is a warm, welcoming space offering early help, support services, and activities for local families.

What's On Offer?

- **Parenting Support:** Programs like *Triple P* and "Who's in Charge?" to build confidence and manage behaviour.
- **Well-being & Emotional Support:** Sessions for both children and parents on managing stress, anxiety, and anger (BEAM).
- **Domestic Abuse Awareness:** *Freedom* program helps recognize signs of abuse and its impact on children.
- **SEND Parent Groups:** Friendly term-time meetups for parents/carers of children with special educational needs or disabilities.
- **Coffee Mornings:** Meet staff and learn about local services in an informal setting.
- **Online Courses** also available for convenience and flexibility.

Why Visit the Hub?

- Get **early help** with parenting, behaviour, mental health, housing, debt, or family conflict.
- Access **joined-up support** through coordinated services tailored to your needs.
- **Connect** with other parents and families facing similar challenges.

Contact Us

Phone: 01924 303 376

Email: WFTCastleFamilyHub@wakefield.gov.uk

 <https://www.wakefieldfamilies-together.co.uk/family-hubs/>

[Click Here to View our What's on Guide](#)

"Less Screen Time, More Play Time"



At our federation, we're championing the message of "Less Screen Time, More Play Time", inspired by the excellent campaign from 50 Things to Do. Research shows that too much screen use can hamper children's development in speech and language, sleep and social skills—whilst rich, interactive play helps build vital communication, problem-solving and creativity. We therefore encourage all our families to choose play-based time together—whether it's getting outside, exploring something new, or simply enjoying imaginative games—rather than more screen time. Let's work together to give our children the strongest start in life.

50 Things to do before you're five.



experiences, there's something for every child to explore and enjoy—all **completely free!**

Our federation proudly **supports and promotes** 50 Things to Do Before You're 5 in Wakefield! This fantastic free resource is full of fun and educational activities designed to spark curiosity, support development, and create special moments with your little ones. From outdoor adventures to hands-on learning

We'd love to hear what activities your family has been up to. Don't forget to **post photos to your child's ClassDojo portfolio** so we can celebrate your adventures together. Why not visit wakefield.50thingstodo.org and download the free app to begin exploring new experiences with your child today?

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Kirsty Quinn

Executive Headteacher

Mental Health and Wellbeing



Safeguarding - Keeping Children Safe



Wakefield
Safeguarding Children Partnership

There is more information for parents on the Wakefield Safeguarding Children Partnership website:
<https://www.wakefieldscp.org.uk/>

Our Federation DSLs (Designated Safeguarding Leads)

If you have any concerns about a child or family, please speak to one of our DSLs. They can be contacted via the main school office, (01924 251151 - Crigglestone or 01924 664787 - The Castle) or by email, to headteacher@crigglestonecastle.wakefield.sch.uk (Please mark FAO: DSL/Safeguarding Concern)

Social Care Direct

If you have any concerns about the welfare or safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult then please contact Social Care Direct. Any information you give will be treated with confidentiality.

Social Care Direct are open 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Telephone 0845 8 503 503



Term Dates 2025 - 2026

School closes for Christmas Holidays: **Friday 19th December 2025**

School re-opens for Spring Term: **Tuesday 6th January 2026**

School closes for Spring Half Term: **Friday 13th February 2026**

School re-opens: **Tuesday 24th February 2026**

School closes for Easter Holidays: **Friday 27th March 2026**

School re-opens: **Monday 13th April 2026**

School closes for Spring Bank Holidays: **Friday 22nd May 2026**

School re-opens: **Tuesday 2nd June 2026**

School closes for Summer Holidays: **Friday 17th July 2026**

Inset Days

Monday 5th January 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026

Monday 1st June 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

