

Tolerance, Respect, Ambition, Courage and Kindness



Beech Street School Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2026

NEWSLETTER 1

*Back
TO SCHOOL*



Welcome back to another fantastic year at Beech Street. We are pleased to welcome our new Nursery cohort along with six new Reception starters. We have had lots of work done over the summer to get the school in top condition. I look forward to sharing the improvements with you on Class Dojo in the coming weeks.

Mr Spedding



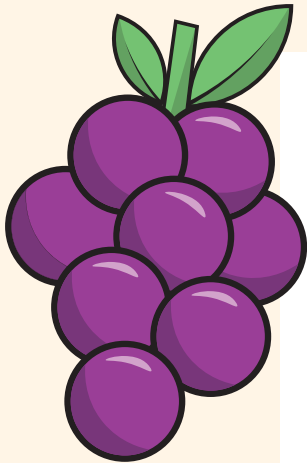
IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 17th Nov: Parents' Evening in School

Thursday 19th Nov: Parents' Evening Telephone Calls.

♦ School Information ♦

Food & Snacks

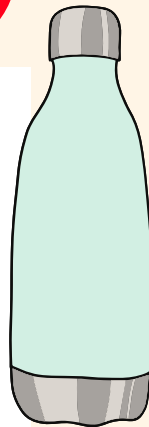


Just a reminder that any parents sending grapes to school as a snack must cut them vertically in half to prevent choking.



Water

We are a tooth-friendly Salford School which means that children are only allowed to bring water to school in their bottles. We have water refill stations around the school.



Nuts

We have some children at Beech Street with a severe nut allergy.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND NUTS OR ANY FOOD CONTAINING NUTS WITH YOUR CHILD

Thank you for helping us to keep safe!

No Fizzy Drinks



We do not allow children to bring in fizzy pop for snack or lunchtimes.

Healthy Snacks

Please note we allow the children to bring in healthy snacks at break time. **Chocolate bars, sweets and crisps are not allowed.** Possible snack ideas are fruit, cereal bars, cheese or vegetable sticks.



Learning at
BEECH STREET



STAYING SAFE ONLINE



SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

18
CENSORED

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247.

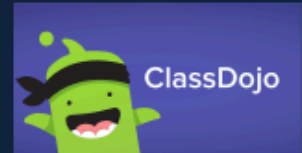


National
Online
Safety®

CLASS DOJO AGREEMENT



PARENTS ACCEPTABLE USE OF USING CLASS DOJO
SEPTEMBER 2026



To be shared on Class Dojo each September.

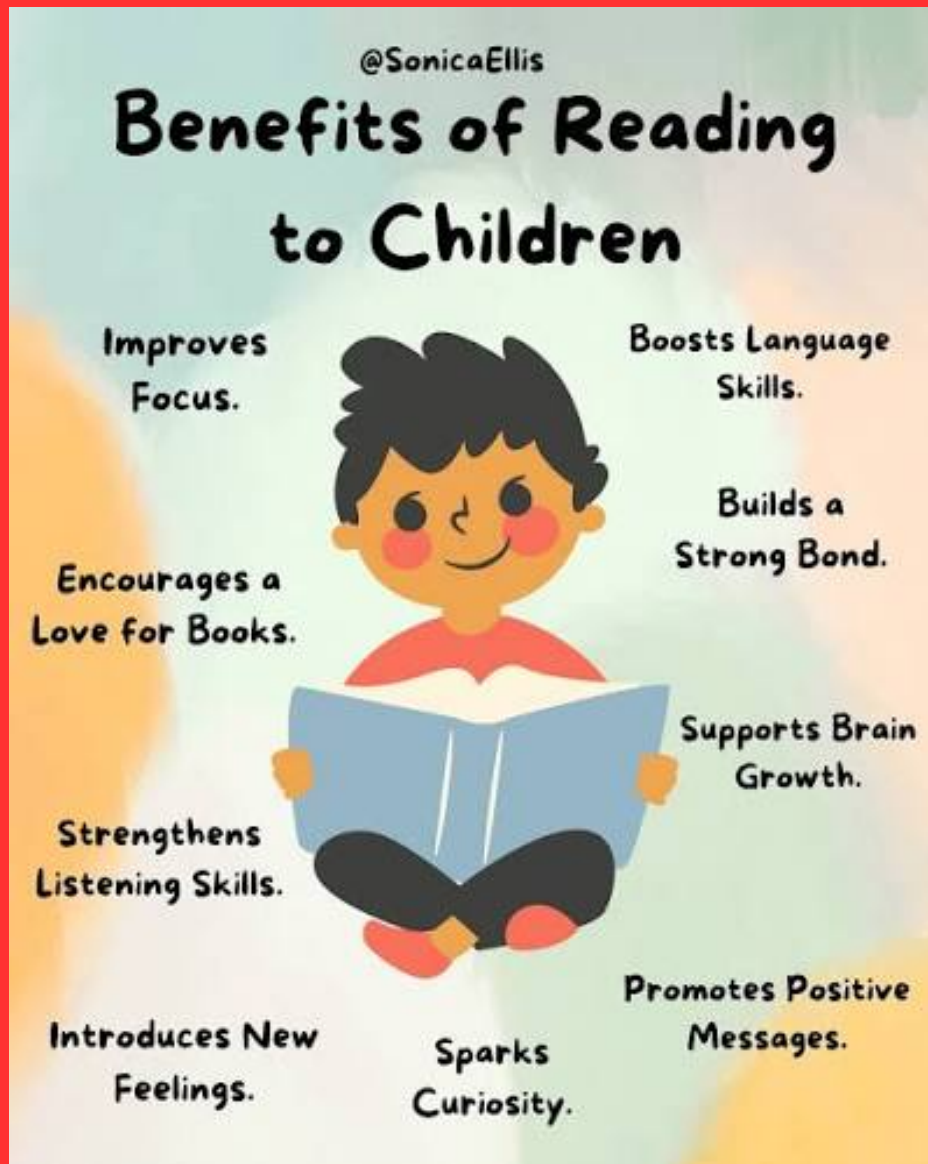
Class Dojo is a brilliant tool for helping parents understand what their child is learning about in school and increase parental communication. However, when using Class Dojo to communicate with the staff, parents should be mindful of the staff member's wellbeing and working hours.

8 Rules for using Class Dojo

1. **Please Be Kind!** Understand that things sometimes go wrong at school when we have 250+ children. We all do our very best to meet the needs of all of our children.
2. **Please use appropriate language – swearing or abusive/upsetting comments/messages are not ok and will not be tolerated.**
3. **Please do not report your child as ill/missing from school using Class Dojo.** You must telephone the school office to let them know and follow our absence procedures.
4. **Please do not send a complaint over Class Dojo** – if you have a complaint, please telephone the school office to discuss the next steps to take.
5. **Please do not send confidential safeguarding information over a Class Dojo Message.** This is serious and should always be done face-face or over the telephone.
6. **Please do not send staff messages late at night or over the weekend.** They work hard and need time to switch off from the demands of school.
7. **Please do not expect a reply immediately** – our staff will be working. If it is urgent, please telephone the office and seek further help. Please also be aware that staff, who are part-time, do not work on some set days. Therefore, they will not reply to any Dojo messages on days when they are not working.
8. **Please engage with Class Dojo by leaving positive comments and likes.** You are welcome to upload photos of your child learning outside of school and to share any awards/achievements they get with your class teacher.

Please be clear that a serious breach of our rules may result in your access being removed from Class Dojo for a defined period. This will be at the discretion of the Headteacher.

READING AT HOME



One of the most important things you can do to support your child's development is to help them develop a love of reading. Listening to your child read, reading with them, and sharing stories together can have a powerful impact on their learning, language development, and imagination. At Beech Street, fostering a lifelong love of reading is something we are truly passionate about, and we encourage every family to make reading a special part of daily life.

PLEASE HELP US GROW A LOVE OF BOOKS!



Salford City Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Salford City Academy's **Open Evening**



Ofsted



Read our report ↗

Salford City Academy - 4:30pm - 7:00pm
Thursday 1st October 2026

**Explore our academy, meet our staff and
students, and discover what makes Salford City
Academy special!**

OPEN MORNING

COME ON IN...

St Patrick's RC High School, 56 New Lane, Eccles, M30 7JJ

WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2026



WHAT TO EXPECT

We are already busy planning for you to come to our school either next September or September 2028 if you are in Year 5!

We would love Year 5 and 6 pupils and families to come and join us at St Patrick's for our Open Morning. All of our children in Y7-11 will be in their classrooms learning as you walk around! This will give you a great chance to see what St Patrick's is all about and decide if this is the school for you. We are sure you will be excited by what you see.

There will be a chance to hear from our Headteacher and other staff during the morning. We want to tell you all about what St Patrick's stands for and what our promise is to you. We want to help every child become the very best version of themselves and we will do everything we can to help each child to do this.

Headteacher: Mrs A. Byrne

ON THE DAY

GROUP ONE

St Teresa's RC Primary School
St Joseph The Worker RC Primary School

Non Feeder Primary School

08:45am - Arrival

09:00-09:15am - Presentation from Headteacher/Deputy Head

09:15-09:55am - Tour of the School

GROUP TWO

Holy Cross & All Saints Primary School
St Gilbert's RC Primary School
St Mary's RC Primary School

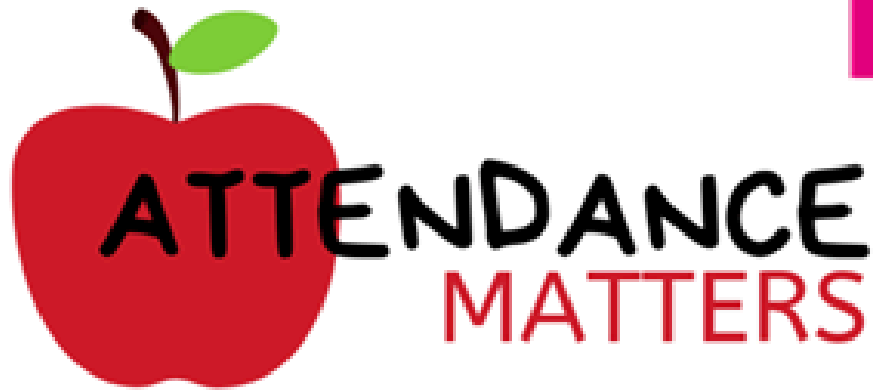
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10:15-10:55am - Tour of the School



Onsite parking is very limited. Please walk where possible or be sympathetic to our local neighbours when parking.



Timekeeping

Please help your child get the best possible start to the day by arriving on time so they can enter the school with all their school friends. School starts at 8.50 so the children can get settled and check in with staff and friends. This is a vital time for our children and staff and should not be underestimated. If your child is regularly late from school and gets into bad habits, they often start to come so late that they do not get a registration mark and this can lead to a fixed penalty notice from the authority.

Minutes lost each day	Days per school year
5 minutes	3 days
10 minutes	6.5 days
15 minutes	10 days
20 minutes	13 days
30 minutes	19 days

Should your child's attendance fall below 92%, absences may not be authorised and we would be asking for medical evidence and our Education Welfare officer will be made aware. If your child's attendance falls below 90% they are classed as a persistent absentee and legal intervention may be sought.

Attendance Percentage %	Days missed over a school year
100%	0 days
97.5%	5 days
95%	10 days
90%	20 days
85%	30 days
80%	40 days



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Salford City Council

Parent
Information



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FINES UPDATE:

From August 2024, the government have announced that the fine for school absences across the country will be £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days. This rate is the first increase since 2012.



In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160.

Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered. If you're prosecuted and attend court because your child hasn't been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500.

BEECH STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2026-2027

	CLOSE	RE-OPEN
2026		
Summer		Wednesday 2 nd September
Mid Term	Thursday 22 nd October	Monday 2 nd November
Christmas	Friday 18 th December	
2027		
New Year		Tuesday 5 th January
Mid Term	Friday 12 th February	Monday 22 nd February
Easter Bank Holiday	Thursday 25 th March	Tuesday 30 th March
Easter Holiday	Friday 2 nd April	Monday 19 th April
May Day	Friday 30 th April	Tuesday 4 th May
Mid Term	Thursday 27 th May	Monday 7 th June
Summer	Wednesday 21 st July	

BEECH STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2027-2028

	CLOSE	RE-OPEN
2027		
Summer		Wednesday 8 th September
Mid Term	Thursday 21 st October	Monday 1 st November
Christmas	Friday 17 th December	
2028		
New Year		Wednesday 5 th January
Mid Term	Friday 18 th February	Monday 28 th February
Easter Holiday	Friday 31 st March	Tuesday 18 th April
May Day	Friday 28 th April	Tuesday 2 nd May
Mid Term	Thursday 25 th May	Monday 5 th June
Summer	Wednesday 26 th July	

UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>What is happening</u>
Tuesday 15th—Friday 18th Sept	<i>Year 6 Peak District 3 night Trip</i>
Tuesday 22nd Sept	<i>Year 1 Parent Reading & Phonics Meeting 9am</i>
Friday 25th Sept	<i>Chess lessons to start in Year 4</i>
Friday 25th Sept	<i>MacMillan Coffee & Cake Charity Sale</i>
Monday 28th Sept	<i>After-school Clubs Start today (Year 2 upwards).</i>
Tuesday 29th Sept	<i>Reception Reading & Phonics Parent Meeting 9am</i>
Thursday 1st Oct	<i>October Oracy Festival @ Beech Street</i>
Wednesday 21st Oct	<i>Wellbeing Wednesday @ Beech Street</i>
Thursday 22nd Oct	<i>Last Day of term</i>
Friday 23rd Oct	<i>School CLOSED today</i>
Monday 2nd Nov	<i>School reopens on Monday</i>
Friday 13th Nov	<i>World Kindness Day @ Beech Street</i>
Friday 13th Nov	<i>Afterschool Clubs FINISH TODAY</i>
Monday 16th Nov	<i>Odd Socks Day - Anti-Bullying Week</i>
Tuesday 17th Nov	<i>Parents' Evening in school 3.30-7pm</i>
Thursday 19th Nov	<i>Parents' Evening via telephone calls.</i>
Tuesday 24th Nov	<i>New Parents Open Evening (Nursery & Reception</i>
Friday 18th Dec	<i>Beech Street Has Talent - School closes at 1.30pm today</i>