

Year 7 Secondary School Place

Parents/carers of year 6 children will need to apply for a secondary school place by **31 October 2019**. Apply online at www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/secondary-admissions

DEADLINE
THURS 31
OCTOBER

School Photos

The school photographer will be coming on **Friday 18th October 2019** to take individual and sibling photos of all children in the school.



Flu Immunisations

The Immunisation team will be visiting school on **Thursday 21st November 2019** to administer vaccinations to all families that have consented by returning their form. Please return your form if you haven't already.

Dinner Money



Unfortunately, due to price increases, Chartwells, our meal provider has to increase our school dinner fee to **£2.15** per meal (£10.75 for a full week). These changes will start from Term 2, Monday 4th November 2019. Prices will stay the same for Jellyfish and Rainbowfish Rooms.



Barton Camp

Please can children arrive at school on Monday 7th October with all of their kit in a bag/suitcase and their sleeping bag/duvet and pillow. Children will return on Friday 11th October at 11:00am. Parents can collect at this time. We will inform parents via text if there are any delays, as well as updates on how the campers are doing!

Stonehenge Trip



On Tuesday 8th October, Year 3 will be going on a trip to Stonehenge. They will be taking part in a workshop that links with their current topic "The Stone Age". The cost of this trip is £14 or free for children eligible for pupil premium. It is urgent that permission forms and monies are given to Main Reception by Friday 4th October.



Bristol Zoo Trip

On Wednesday 16th October, Year 1 and 2 will be going on a trip to Bristol Zoo. The cost of this trip is £10 or free for children eligible for pupil premium. Please can all permission forms and monies be given to Main Reception by Friday 11th October, thank you.

Parents Evening

Parents evenings for School & Daycare children will take place on Tuesday 12th November and Wednesday 13th November 2019. These are a great opportunity to discuss your child's learning with their class teacher. Sign up letters will be going home soon.

A huge thank you to Neil and Zelda who baked a delicious bread for the Upper Horfield Community School Harvest Assembly!



A Message from the Governors

A very warm welcome to all pupils, parents, carers and staff this term. A special mention to you if you're new to Upper Horfield this year, we hope you enjoy your time here.

In case you don't know me, my name is Heather and I've been a governor here for 8 years. You can find pictures of all the governors on the notice board in the main Reception if you want to put faces to the names. This year I've taken on the role of Chair of Governors, which is a big responsibility, but a challenge I'm looking forward to.

I have two sons who've both attended Upper Horfield, both in the daycare and school, the eldest now attends Orchard and the youngest is in Year 5. You'll often see me in Celebration Assembly on a Friday morning and I normally stay on for a coffee and a chat with other parents, so do come and say hello, I'd like to meet as many of you as I can.

What is the role of the governing body?

As governors, our job is to work with school leaders to try and make Upper Horfield Community School and Early Years the best it can be. We do this by looking at data and reports, meeting school leaders and visiting the school to look at priority areas in person. It is our job to support and challenge the school to consistently improve in the best interests of the children.

This year our primary focus as governors will be developing the curriculum to ensure it enables all our children to achieve their very best and that more of our children achieve greater depth in their learning.

Could you help?

If you can spare some time there are lots of ways to help out:

- Help fundraise by supporting/attending events organised by the PTA
- Join the PTA to help plan and run fundraising events and be involved in how funds are used.
- Speak to class teachers about volunteering for regular reading with the children or helping out with trips or one-off events

If you'd like to commit to a more formal volunteer role we do have a vacancy on the Governing Board. It is big commitment, but very rewarding and there is an excellent training package provided. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have about being a governor so do ask me if you see me in the playground or at Celebration Assembly. Or, if you're interested in helping out in other ways please speak to your class teachers.

I hope you're all enjoying this autumn sunshine we're having this week, and I look forward to meeting and speaking with you over the course of the year.

Kind regards

Heather Lewis
Chair of Governors



Time Off School

Dear Parent/Carer

At Upper Horfield, we are passionate about ensuring all our children make as much progress as possible. To be able to do this, it is important that their attendance is high. There is a lot of truth in the phrase "Every Day Counts" when it comes to our children benefitting the most from school. All children should attend school every day unless there is an unavoidable cause like illness.

The local authority Education Welfare Officer, as well as the school, monitors your child's attendance. Parents/carers commit an offence if a child doesn't attend school regularly and the absence is not agreed by the school. Continued unauthorised absence from school will lead to family involvement with the Education Welfare Department. To avoid this and any possible associated penalty notices, support the school and your child by making sure they are in school.

Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996 provides that a parent commits an offence if his or her child, being of compulsory school age, fails to attend regularly the school at which he or she is a registered pupil.

Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996 allows for a Penalty Notice to be issued to parents who commit such an offence. The penalty is £60 if paid within 21 days or £120 if paid within 28 days. Failure to pay will result in prosecution where on conviction you would be liable to a fine of up to £1000.

If you feel you need to take your child out of school for an extended period of time, you must request this in advance (request forms are available at the office). Leave of absence will only be authorised if there are extraordinary circumstances. If you take your child out of school, e.g. for a family holiday where there are no extraordinary circumstances, their absence will be unauthorised and a Penalty notice will be issued. Fines are issued per parent per child.

This means that for a child with two parents the fine would be £120 which would increase to £240 if not paid within 28 days.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance and would like a chat please arrange a meeting with their class teacher or myself.

Tim Seddon
Headteacher

Top Tips for Attendance

- Make school attendance a priority.
- Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep.
- Try to get into a regular morning routine
- Don't schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick.
- If your child is feeling "a bit poorly" in the morning, give them medication such as CALPOL and send them to school. We will monitor them.
- If you think your child is struggling with their work at school, contact their teacher. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behaviour.
- Ask for help from school if you're having trouble getting your child to school
- If you are genuinely having trouble getting your child in to school, contact us and bring them in when you can, even if it is a bit late.
- If your child is genuinely ill, get them to the doctor. This means you will have medical evidence and they will be less likely to pretend to be poorly in the future.



Starting Primary School 2020

If your child was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 you will need to apply for a primary school place by **15 January 2020**. Apply online, by visiting www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions. If you would like to have a look around the school, you can come in on any of the following dates for a tour, please book at Main Reception.

Monday 18th / Friday 29th November 2019 (10:00am)

Friday 29th November 2019 (10:00am)

Thursday 5th / Tuesday 10th December 2019 (10:00am)

Wednesday 8th January 2020 (10:00am)



Harvest Food Collection

Thankyou to everyone who has donated food for our collection this term. We are supporting the North Bristol Food bank, so if you can spare any donations between now and the end of term (24th October) they would be gratefully received.

Tapestry

A reminder to all Early Years parents/carers to activate your Tapestry account if you haven't already. Tapestry is a great way be updated on your child's learning. For any help, please ask for Mrs Becky Newman.

Term & Closure Dates



School Term Dates

Term 1 Monday 2nd September 2019 to Friday 25 October 2019

Term 2 Monday 4 November 2019 to Friday 20 December 2019

Term 3 Monday 6 January 2020 to Friday 14 February 2020

Term 4 Monday 24 February 2020 to Friday 3 April 2020

Term 5 Monday 20 April 2020 to Friday 22 May 2020

Term 6 Monday 1 June 2020 to Monday 20 July 2020

Closure Days (Staff Training)

Monday 2nd September Friday 25th October

Monday 6th January Friday 3rd April

Monday 20th July

Early Years

Term time only children follow the same term dates and closure days as school (please see above)

All year round children attend throughout the whole year except on the following dates we are CLOSED:

Friday 25th October 2019

Friday 27th, Monday 30th & Tuesday 31st December 2019

Monday 6th January 2020

Friday 3rd April 2020

Monday 20th July, Tuesday 21st, Wednesday 22nd, Thursday

23rd, Friday 24th July 2020

Diary

Monday 7th October
Year 6 go to Barton Camp

Tuesday 8th October
Year 3 Stonehenge Trip

Tuesday 12th October
Parents Evening

Wednesday 13th October
Parents Evening

Wednesday 16th October
Year 1&2 Bristol Zoo Trip

Friday 18th October
School photographer

Thursday 31st October
Year 7 secondary school application deadline

Friday 18th November
School open morning

Thursday 21st November
School Flu Immunisations