



Welcome to our Parents' meeting

September 2026

Meet the team



Miss Porter



Miss Steele



Mrs Smith



Mrs Garratt

Purpose and aims



- To meet your child's new teacher and to answer any questions you may have
- To provide the expectations for the end of the year in terms of the curriculum
- To clarify information about the school
— based on parent questionnaire feedback

School Life



Tapestry

- ▶ Tapestry is how we as staff record your child's progress and learning in reception, it is a safe and secure platform that we pay into.
- ▶ You will be able to see what your child has been learning and you as parents can also post things onto Tapestry to show what your child has learnt at home.
- ▶ As we move further into the year we will focus on posting your child's wow moments in their learning as evidence of the ELGs.



A typical school day

8.30am Children will arrive at the designated time and settle on their carpet

8.40am Group Time - *sharing visual timetable; discussing the day's activities*

9.00am Choosing Time – *This is the children's 'Choosing Time', where there are various areas in the classroom (creative, role-play, construction) the children can access freely. The outdoor environment will also be open for child-initiated play.*

10.00am Maths

10.15am Snack time

10.30am Little Wandle

11.00am Dough Disco

11.10am Story

11.30am Lunch/Home Time



Expectations of the academic year

- We follow the Statutory Framework for Early Years

The 7 areas of learning are:

Prime areas of learning particularly important in the first 3 years

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Physical Development

Communication and Language

Specific areas of learning

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and Design



Attendance



Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year – Less than 30 Hours of Learning Lost

Excellent attendance! These young people will almost certainly get the best levels/grades they can, leading to better prospects for the future. Pupils will also get into a habit of attending school which will help in the future.

95%: 10 days absence a year – 50 Hours of Learning Lost

These pupils are less likely to achieve their target levels/grades and will start to find it difficult to maintain a habit of attending school regularly. Pupils who take a 2-week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.

90%: 19 days absence a year – 95 Hours of Learning Lost

The Government classes pupils in this group as "Persistent Absentees", and it will be almost impossible to keep up with work and achieve their target levels/grades.

Parents of young people in this group could also face the possibility of legal action being taken by Dudley Council, including the issuing of Penalty Notices and Fines.

Behaviour Curriculum



S	 Self-belief
H	 Honesty
A	 Achievement
R	 Respect
E	 Enjoyment
D	 Determination



The Blanford Mere Way



	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
	SELF-BELIEF	HONESTY	ACHIEVEMENT	RESPECT	ENJOYMENT	DETERMINATION
All year groups from Nursery to Year 6	Explicit teaching of the full 'Blanford Mere Way' curriculum content	Ongoing revision of content	Longer recap of 'Blanford Mere Way' curriculum content	Ongoing revision of content	Longer recap of 'Blanford Mere Way' curriculum content	Ongoing revision of content

We believe that as our children practise these behaviours over time, they become habits that positively shape how they feel about themselves and how other people perceive them.

The Blanford Mere Way



Wonderful Walking

We know that we use **Wonderful Walking** to keep everyone **safe** in school and to make sure the learning of other children is not disrupted as people move around school.



Facing forward,
Walking at a steady pace; in a
straight line,
Hands behind your back,
Without talking during
learning time.



Super Sitting

We know that **super sitting** ensures that everybody is **ready** and able to learn without distractions.



Sitting up straight with legs
crossed,
Facing forwards with hands in your
lap,
Looking at the speaker,
Lips closed.



Legendary Lines

We know that **legendary lines** keep everyone **safe** in school and make sure the learning of other children is not disrupted as people move around school.



Our steps to Legendary Lines:

1. Face forward.
2. Stand in a straight line.
3. Hands behind your back without talking.



The Blanford Mere Way



Marvellous Manners

STEPS

Say full names when addressing members of staff.

Thank You – children know that they should say 'thank you' when they receive something or someone does something nice for them.

Excuse Me – children know that they should always use 'excuse me' if someone is in their way or they want to say something to someone when they appear busy.

Please – children know that they should always say 'please' when they are asking for something.

Smile – children know that they should demonstrate self-belief and be positive and upbeat when talking to adults and each other.



Tremendous Transitions

We know that **tremendous transitions** ensure a safe, calm and purposeful learning environment for all. They help to maximise learning time and create a sense of order and routine within the classroom and around school.

Our steps to Tremendous Transitions:

- 1) We are silent — to listen to instructions.
- 2) We are ready — to make the transition.
- 3) We are swift— to action the transition.

Examples of transitions may be moving from the carpet to tables; handing out books; lining up at the classroom door or leaving assemblies etc.



The Blanford Mere Way

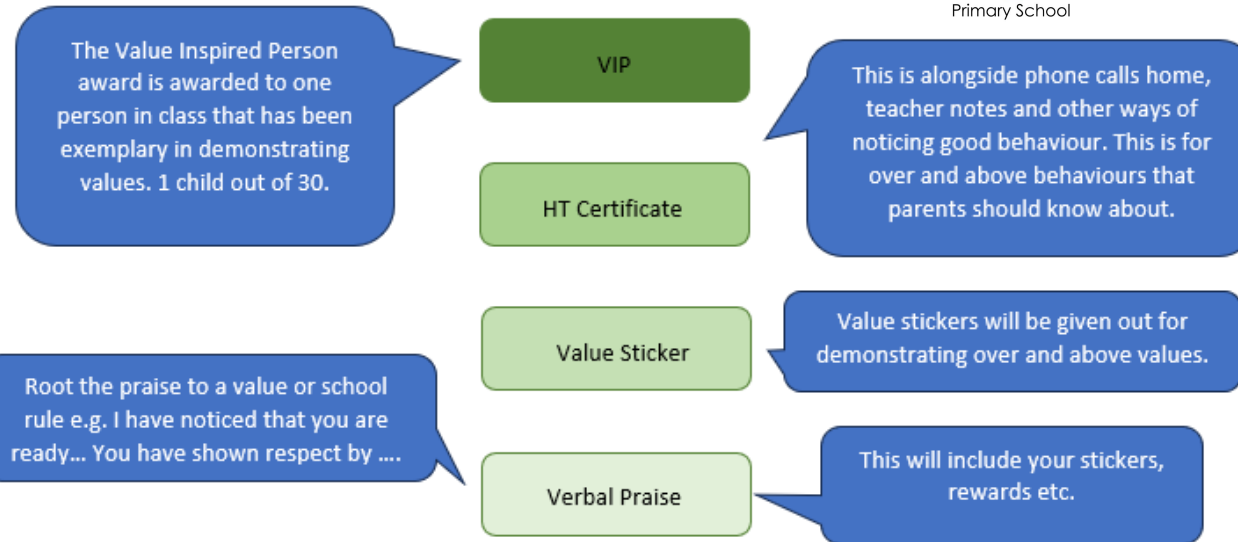


Shared Values Day

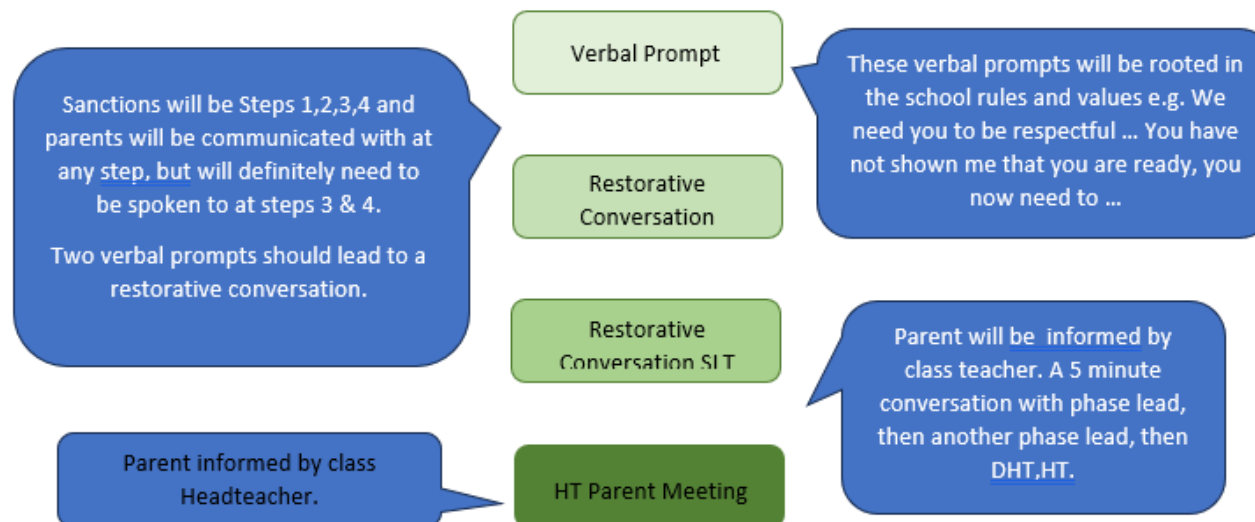


S	 Self-belief
H	 Honesty
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BLANFORD MERE REWARDS & SANCTIONS CHART



BE READY BE RESPECTFUL BE SAFE



The Blanford Mere Way



Sanctions

At Blanford Mere, we have developed a consistent and robust behaviour curriculum that allows children to be taught and retaught expected behaviours. We believe in a consistent and immediate response to the behaviours that we do not wish to see.

If a child is not demonstrating the behaviours that we would like to see a **verbal prompt** will be given. This prompt will signal to children that they need to rectify their behaviour and respond appropriately. At this point, we would hope that the child is now demonstrating the right behaviour.

However, if this is not the case, a short **restorative conversation** will be had with the child at this point or at the end of the session. We believe it is the immediacy of the response, not the weight of the sanction that matters. During the conversation we will connect with the child, acknowledge the undesirable behaviour, discuss how this behaviour can be improved and move forward.

If this behaviour continues, a **restorative conversation with a member of the senior leadership team** will take place with the child. This will take place during a break or lunchtime session.

If all of these restorative approaches have not had the desired effect, a **meeting** will be arranged by the Headteacher with the child and their parents/carers.

This information will be recorded on a behaviour log and monitored by the Senior leadership team.

Anti-bullying

S – Several

T – Times

O – On

P – Purpose



Online Safety



- ▶ Talking about online safety
- ▶ <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>
- ▶ Setting up parental controls
- ▶ <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

Online Safety – Social Media

APPS AND THEIR AGE RATINGS

13+		16+	
 Facebook	 Snapchat	 WhatsApp	
 Instagram	 Twitter		
 TikTok	 Kik	 Sarahah	 MeetMe
 YouNow	 Yubo	 YOLO	 LiveMe
 House Party	 Monkey		

In June 2026, the UK Government announced plans that, from Spring 2027, under-16s will no longer be able to use certain social media platforms.

The policy aims to reduce exposure to harmful content and improve children's wellbeing.

The exact list of affected platforms and implementation details are still being developed.

Online Safety

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about **YOUTUBE KIDS**

YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of YouTube which offers a colourful and easy-to-navigate environment that's suitable for young children. This app is easily accessible and available for mobile devices, which can be downloaded without needing the YouTube app on the device. Despite YouTube Kids seeming like a very child-friendly platform, it has raised concerns over its advertising and inappropriate content seeping through the curation process.

SETTING UP

- Download the YouTube Kids app and connect your own YouTube channel.
- Input your child's name, age and birth month.
- Select the types of videos you want to include for your child based on their age and your own personal choice.
- If you decide to approve the content yourself, the app will present you with sample videos for you to accept and reject.
- Once you've made your choice, you're ready to use the app!

Advice for Parents & Carers

- REMOVE ADVERTISEMENTS**
YouTube Kids advertises on your child's device as well as the app itself. If you decide you don't want your child to see ads, you can turn them off. However, this will remove all ads from the app, which means you won't be able to promote your own channel or any other content you want to share.
- BE AWARE OF UNSUITABLE CONTENT**
YouTube Kids has a filter to remove content that is deemed inappropriate for children. However, this filter is not perfect and some inappropriate content may still be visible. Parents should monitor their child's viewing history and report any inappropriate content to YouTube.
- RESTRICT VIEWING TIME**
The YouTube Kids app provides you with the option of setting up a timer to restrict and limit your child's viewing time. This can be set for 15, 30, or 60 minutes. When the timer runs out, the app will stop the video and show a message to the parent.
- MONITOR WATCH HISTORY**
The YouTube Kids app provides you with the option of monitoring your child's watch history. This can be done by going to the 'Watch History' tab in the app. You can see a list of all the videos your child has watched and the time they spent watching each video.
- WATCH TOGETHER**
It's important to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for your child. This may require spending time watching videos and content with your child. You can also use the app as a tool to teach your child about online safety and digital citizenship.

Meet Our Expert
Chris Davies is a parent and has worked in the gaming industry since 2015, providing reviews, news and gaming guides. He is also a member of the National Online Safety team and has been working on various gaming-related projects including parent support and writing online safety guides.

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about **WHATSAPP**

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. It's a free app and available on most mobile devices. However, it's important to be aware of the risks associated with using the app, particularly for children and young people. This guide provides information on the risks and how to protect your child from them.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- SCAMS**
Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to be other people, encouraging the user to click on a link to win a prize. These links can lead to a website that steals your personal information or to a scam where you are asked to pay money to win a prize.
- DISAPPEARING MESSAGES**
WhatsApp has a feature called 'disappearing messages' which allows users to send messages that will disappear after a set period of time. This can be used to share sensitive information, but it can also be used to share inappropriate content.
- ENABLING FAKE NEWS**
WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to the spreading of fake news. This is because the app is often used to share information quickly and easily, and this can lead to the spread of false information.

Advice for Parents & Carers

- CREATE A SAFE PROFILE**
Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them to a group, you should block them using settings in the app. This will prevent them from seeing your profile and status. The app also has a feature called 'privacy' which allows you to control who can see your profile picture, status and 'about' information.
- EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING**
If your child receives spam or offensive messages, they should block them. This will prevent them from seeing your profile and status. The app also has a feature called 'privacy' which allows you to control who can see your profile picture, status and 'about' information.
- REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS**
Young people shouldn't engage with any suspicious messages. If they do, they should report them to the app. This will help the app to remove the message and prevent it from being sent to other users.
- DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES**
If your child sends a message that they don't want to send, they should delete it. This will prevent the message from being seen by the other person. The app also has a feature called 'undo' which allows you to delete a message within a few seconds of sending it.
- THINK ABOUT LOCATION**
If your child needs to use the 'live location' feature, they should think about whether they want to share their location with the other person. This feature can be used to share your location with a friend or family member, but it can also be used to share your location with a stranger.
- CHECK THE FACTS**
If your child receives a message that says they have won a prize, they should check the facts. This can be done by going to the app's settings and checking the 'privacy' section. This will show you whether the app is legitimate and whether it is safe to use.

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Helen is a parent and has worked in the gaming industry since 2015, providing reviews, news and gaming guides. She is also a member of the National Online Safety team and has been working on various gaming-related projects including parent support and writing online safety guides.

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about **MINECRAFT**

Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming. First released in 2011, this open-ended 'sandbox' game of building and exploration still has over 140 million players who happily return to play it at least once every month. Minecraft has also been used for much more than just entertainment: it's sometimes used in schools to teach children coding, and it's also employed as a tool for computer-aided design, which is another valuable skill. Encouraging creativity and problem solving, Minecraft has plenty to offer gamers of all ages, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- PUBLIC SERVERS**
Joining a public network (called a 'server') lets your child potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to role-playing – encouraging direct player interaction. Anyone can join public servers and connecting to one is relatively simple. Public servers in addresses (and therefore someone's location) are easy to find with search engines.
- SCARY ELEMENTS**
The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposely only slightly spooky, so there's nothing too untoward in the game. However, some of the 'textures' that can be encountered might prove a little too scary for very young players. In the game, certain enemies come out at night and are accompanied by audio – such as zombie moans and skeleton bone rattles – that may unsettle young ones.
- ADDITIONAL PURCHASES**
After initially buying the game, players can make optional extra purchases for cosmetic items and other things. Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription (requiring regular payments) that lets users run a multiplayer server to play with their friends. Most games consoles also need an active subscription to enable online play, so online gaming can quickly become expensive fairly.

Advice for Parents & Carers

- ADDICTIVENESS**
Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and the outcome when a child has built something new, for instance, can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive. It's a way to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, so parents should encourage young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.
- RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS**
There are a lot of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube. Not all of them, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate Minecraft videos to share with your children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself, and how your child plays it.
- CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE**
Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of menacing zombies or creepers damaging your build.
- HOST A PRIVATE SERVER**
The easiest way to find a safe server for your child to play on is to make one yourself. Creating a private server is a lot of work, but if you've been given the necessary joining details, a private server also lets you control who's allowed to join – it's a bit like having a private club. Someone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft.
- ENCOURAGE BREAKS**
It's easy for the hours to fly by while your child is playing Minecraft, so reminding them to take regular breaks is essential. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play Minecraft in moderation – keeping addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their play better.
- TALK ABOUT STRANGERS**
At some point in their lives, almost everyone needs to have contact with a stranger online. Talking to your child about online safety, therefore, is a natural 'on' to having a plan to play for dealing with any hostile or difficult strangers. Ensure that your child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

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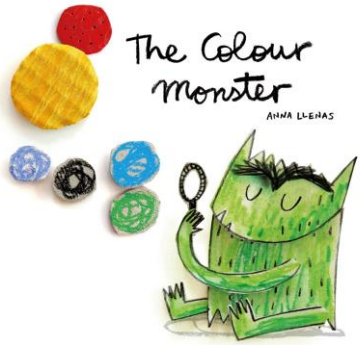
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Making an appointment

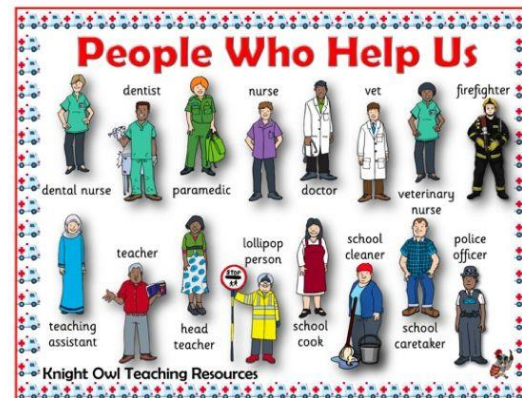
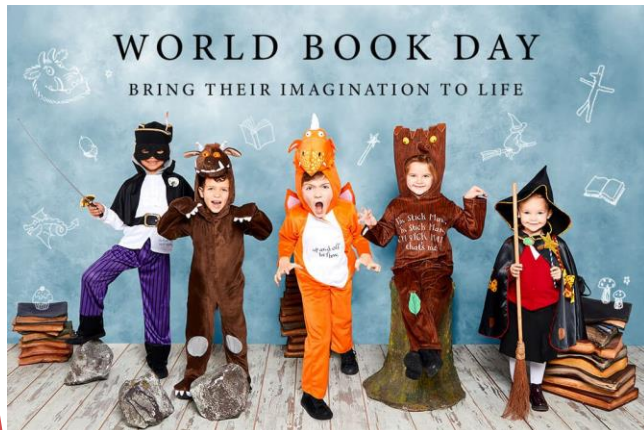


We like to work together with parents; teachers may ask to see you at the end of the day to talk with you and your child. This may be to highlight things they've done well, support their learning or to discuss a behavioural issue. We work together to resolve issues.





Some
Nursery fun to
look forward to!



Finally...



Any questions?

