



Whole School Information

Message from the Headteacher:

Teacher strike action. Currently we are hoping that strike action should not impact the full opening of school, however some planned activities may be changed due to staff absence. Striking teachers do not need to notify the school till the morning of the strike, as a result we will not know till the morning of the strike which teachers will be off.

The front of the building has now been clad. This has included privacy film to the windows.



Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice (DPCV)

Dear Parent Carers

Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice (DPCV) have 3 lunchtime meet and eat information sessions coming up across the county in Buxton, Chesterfield and Swadlincote, 11am - 1pm.

Come for as little or as long as you can.

Have lunch, meet other parent carers and find out about:

- DPCV (Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice) - Speak with trustees, become a member, learn about other upcoming parent carers events and tell us what information and support you need for the year ahead.
- DIASS (Derbyshire Information Advice Support Service) - Useful information about EHCP (Education Health Care Plan) Assessments, speak with DIASS representative.
- Sign up for a virtual 1:1 with Dan Careless, Strategic Lead for Schools and Learning from Derbyshire County Council, Children's Services.

Click the link below to register via the DPCV website and Eventbrite:

<https://derbyshireparentforums.co.uk/forumdates/>

We look forward to seeing you.

The DPCV Team

Immunisation information year 9 and 10:

Dear parent/carer,

Students in Year 9 and 10 are being offered their Teenage Booster (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio) and Meningitis ACWY vaccinations.

Please visit www.derbyshireandcityimms.co.uk/Forms/DTP to complete the consent form. The option to consent or decline the vaccination is at the end of the questionnaire so please complete the form whether you are consenting or not.

School name: **Brackenfield Special School**

School code: **DD113031**

Date in school: **03 February 2023**

You can find out more information about vaccinations offered in school via the link below or on our website:

[A Guide to Immunisations for Young People
www.derbyshirefamilyhealthservice.nhs.uk/our-services/5-10-years/school-age-immunisations](http://www.derbyshirefamilyhealthservice.nhs.uk/our-services/5-10-years/school-age-immunisations)

If you experience any problems, please contact the School Age Immunisation Team.

Repton: 01283 707178

Clay Cross: 01246 252953

DCHST.immunisationteam@nhs.net



Illnesses and Attending school



It can be difficult to know when to send your child into school when they are showing signs of illness and especially this time of year with reports of worrying illnesses. The UK health security agency advice is that children must continue to attend school as normal unless they are too unwell and have a high temperature. Further information is available [here](#) and please see when should I worry? [here](#)
If you are unsure, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Wet Weather Wear Reminder



Can we please ask that you send in named wellies (or suitable outdoor footwear) and waterproof clothing for use during the wet weather. It may also be appropriate to send in named spare clothes, including socks to provide a change if needed so the children can still access outdoor learning. If you require support in sourcing these items, please let us know by emailing parents@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk



Wow Moments

We love to hear about amazing things our pupils are doing at home! Please send in pictures or let us know what great things they are doing, and we can upload these to each pupils BOOP profile. Please send them to parents@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk



Communication Strategies

We have some upcoming workshops for parents/carers please use this [form](#) to book your place on the following workshops-

Picture Exchange Communication System 31/01/23 13:00-14:30

Communication books and Pointing boards 7/02/23 13:00-14:30

Makaton 28/2/23 13:00-14:30

Attention Autism 07/3/23 13:00-14:30

These are suitable for all and will give chance to ask questions about how these approaches are delivered in school and request resources for home where appropriate.

If you are unsure which workshop would be best please contact clawrence@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk You are welcome to join as few or many as you like.

Family Support

Umbrella Events

A VALENTINES TREAT FOR YOU February 14 2023 The Umbrella Family Support team would like to invite you to a Parents & Carers Mental Health Wellbeing event at The Farmhouse pub Ashbourne Road Mackworth DE22 4LY 9.30am Arrival - with tea/coffee & pastries 10am – 12 Yoga & Mediation workshops 12.15pm buffet lunch with tea and coffee Finish at 1.30pm This event will cost £6 to be paid at the time of booking (40 places available) Email:

Alisha.mcguinness@umbrella.uk.net

Conference day on **19th March** with workshops on Sensory Processing, Challenging Behaviour and Autism for more details, please contact Umbrella, familysupport@umbrella.uk.net

Half term they have a Family Fun bowling session on Wednesday 22nd February. Please contact them to book and for more details

Umbrella is open to all Families to join, joining is free and enabled you to attend events like the ones above. If you would like to join you can either contact Umbrella direct on familysupport@umbrella.uk.net or contact school family support and we can give you a membership form.

Haircut:

If you are interested in your child having their haircut at school, please can you complete the form here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ila6QS3RSkq59QyY52dSEVnwEusFTf9BkE nauvSdqg9UMkhDTFBIWDJETVcwSIVWREpSM0xCUEhCMC4u>

Any questions please ask the family support team on earlyhelp@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk or call us on the main school number

What is Domestic Abuse?

We define domestic abuse as an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and violent behaviour, including sexual violence, in the majority of cases by a partner or ex-partner, but also by a family member or carer. It is very common. In the vast majority of cases it is experienced by women and is perpetrated by men.

How to report Domestic Abuse?

Call 999 if it's an emergency or you're in immediate danger. The police take domestic violence seriously and will be able to help and protect you.

Other organisations who can help

Contact any of the following organisations to get help and advice about domestic abuse.

Freephone National Domestic Abuse Helpline, run by Refuge

0808 200 0247

www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk

Galop (for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people)

0800 999 5428

www.galop.org.uk

Live Fear Free helpline (Wales)

0808 80 10 800

www.livefearfree.gov.wales**Men's Advice Line**

0808 801 0327

www.mensadviceline.org.uk**Rape Crisis (England and Wales)**

0808 802 9999

www.rapecrisis.org.uk**Respect phonenumber**

0808 802 4040

www.respectphonenumber.org.uk**Scotland's Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline**

0800 027 1234

sdafmh.org.uk**Scottish Women's Aid**

0131 226 6606

www.scottishwomensaid.org.uk**Women's Aid Federation (Northern Ireland)**

0800 917 1414

www.womensaidni.org**Inside Roblox's Criminal Underworld**

As we all know, one of the fundamental principles of safeguarding is 'offenders are where the children are'. Roblox is exceptionally popular with children from Y3 upwards and as such there are always concerns. That isn't to say that Roblox is a bad/unsafe game, it's just that criminals will always be able to exploit different aspects of games and social media, often using simple social engineering tricks such as curiosity and urgency. These criminals are not always adults as you can see in [THIS](#) article about the criminal underworld of Roblox. When we are talking to children about how to stay safe online, it's important that we try to engage with the things they are actually using, in this case talking about scams in Roblox, sharing personal information (usernames and passwords), not trusting people you don't really know (online friends). If children can understand what you are saying 'in their minds eye' then the positive impact will be greater.

TikTok - Quack Health Tips

You will be well aware by now of the hopes that the Online Safety Bill will curb much of the inappropriate content that is being algorithmically fed into the social media feeds of children and young people. A new investigation by The Telegraph saw a reporter create a number of social media accounts and posing as 13/15 year olds to test the sites, and the results are unsurprisingly disturbing with ludicrous dieting tips, pseudoscience violence and sexual content. You can see the article on the Telegraph site [HERE](#).

Instagram - Muting Undesired Content

Following on from the post above, Instagram have just introduced a new feature so that users can fine tune their Explore page and mute undesired content. The function works very similar to the YouTube 'not interested' function which apparently tells the algorithm "I don't want to see any more of this stuff". How effective this will be I don't know as it is brand new. Full details can be found [HERE](#).

School Uniform - Simply First



Over COVID 19 Simply First have changed the way they operate their shop.

Parent/carers are now being directed to the website:

www.schooluniformnottingham.co.uk to place orders. You will then be sent an invoice for payment, and once payment has been received the order will be processed and you will receive a notification when your order is ready to collect.

Payments are made via bank transfer using their order name and invoice number (important) as payment reference.

Please note from **Monday the 4th of April 2022** Simply First will be operation from a new Premises:

Container Self-Storage - Simply First Ltd

The Embroidery Pod, Unit 13, Block B, Ind Estate, Mark St, Sandiacre, Nottingham NG10 5AD.

Our School Day

Please be reminded of the school times.

Student Arrival and Registration	8.55 – 9.05 – Taxi drop off 9.00 – 9.10 – Parent drop off
Morning Session	09.10 – 11.40
Lunch Session (30 minutes within this time)	11.40 – 13.10
Afternoon Session	13.10 – 14.20
Pupil Departure and Pastoral Time	14.20 – 14.35 – Taxi collection 14.30 – 14.40 – Parent collection

Attachments

Sign of the week:

Our sign of the week this week is 'To Remember' Please click this link to watch a video of the sign: [To Remember \(makaton.org\)](http://To Remember (makaton.org))

Upcoming dates from the school calendar

School Holidays:

We break up for half term on **Friday 17th February 2023** until **Friday 24th February 2023**. School reopens to pupils on **Monday 27th February 2023**.

Please note there is an update to the inset days for 2023. **Monday 8th May 2023** is now a Bank Holiday for the Kings coronation, school will be closed to staff and pupils on this date and the planned inset day on the **2nd May 2023** has been cancelled, school now be open to pupils on this date.

Parents Evening:

We will be offering Parents Evening appointments on Wednesday 8th February from 3pm – 5.30pm. Other appointments during the week will be available if you are unable to make a time on the Wednesday.

Please complete this form to express your interest in a parents evening appointment and your class teacher will be in touch to confirm a time. Please complete by Wednesday 1st February.

[Parents Evening 06.02.23](#)

[Please click here](#) for a copy of the 2022-2023 school holidays.

[Please click here](#) for a copy of the Autumn and Winter Menu 2022-2023