



The
Redstart
Primary School



Message from Mrs Collins

5th June 2026

Photo of the week

Welcome back to the final term of what has been a very busy and rewarding school year. I do hope that the sunshine will make a more regular appearance in the coming weeks so that we can all enjoy the best of the season together.

We have another exciting and full term ahead. Many year groups will be heading out on school trips, and there will be numerous opportunities for children to participate in sports competitions and enriching experiences. These moments are always highlights of the term and play such an important role in building confidence, teamwork and lasting memories.

We are also beginning to look ahead to next year. I am very much looking forward to welcoming our new families into the Redstart community at our Welcome Event next Wednesday. It is always a special occasion and an important first step for those joining us.

Across the school, children will soon begin taking part in transition activities to help prepare them for the next stage of their learning journey. We will be sharing further details about next year's arrangements shortly, but please be reassured that everything is in hand. We are committed to supporting every child so that they feel confident, secure and ready for the changes ahead, and we will always do our best to minimise any anxiety around transition. Speak to your child's class teacher if you have any specific concerns.

Our Year 6 pupils are entering a particularly busy and memorable period, as they prepare for their end-of-year production alongside a range of other enriching activities. We know this will be a wonderful way to celebrate their time with us.

Please take a moment to review the updated guidance regarding mobile phones and smart watches, which is attached to this newsletter. Your support in following this guidance is greatly appreciated.

With warmer weather hopefully on the way, we also ask that you continue to support your children in staying safe. Recent assemblies have focused on sun safety and water safety, and we encourage you to reinforce these important messages at home.

As always, members of the Senior Leadership Team and our pastoral staff are available on the gates and at the front of school before and after the school day. Please do come and speak to us if you have any questions, concerns or simply wish to check in.

We are very much looking forward to seeing many of you at the events coming up this term, including Sports Days, the Year 6 leavers' activities and the FORS Summer Fair.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



Dates for your Diary

- 10th June Enhanced Transition @ Holyrood for YR 6 Sen children
- 11th June Buzzards swimming starts
- 11th June Enhanced Transition @ Holyrood for YR 6 Sen Children
- 12th June FoRS Non School Uniform
- Summer Fayre Donation
- 15th June-KS2 Sports day
- 16th June-KS1 Sports day
- 29th June-Reading Challenge
- 30th June Reception stay & play

The Redstart Primary School, Redstart
Road, Chard, TA20 1SD
www.theredstartprimaryschool.clf.uk
E-mail: info@rps.clf.uk



General Information

Attendance & Term-Time Holidays

We understand that family time is important, but we kindly remind parents that holidays during term time should be avoided. Taking children out of school can significantly impact their learning.

Please understand the following:

Even if you are taking your child out for a day only, please complete the term-time leave form. If we don't know where your child is, we have to instigate our safeguarding procedures which take up valuable time.

One of our core values is honesty. If you are planning a holiday, please be truthful. We value open communication and trust between school and home.

You can use the absence line (01460 67457 option 1) to leave messages at any time of the day or night. We can administer medicine if needed and will send children home if they are too poorly to attend school.

Office Hours & Contact

Please note that the school office opens after **9:00am**. If you arrive before this time, we kindly ask that you wait outside. For general queries, you can:

- Visit our school website
- Phone the office (01460 67457)
- Email us (info@rps.clf.uk)

We aim to respond promptly and appreciate your patience.

School Hours & Gate Access

- Gates open at 8:40am

Classroom doors open at 8:45am

If you arrive at 8:50am or later, please go to the front entrance and sign in at the late gate. Punctuality helps children start their day calmly and confidently.

School Trips & Contributions

We love offering trips and experiences that enhance learning. However, when voluntary contributions aren't made, the school absorbs the cost, which limits what we can offer in the future.

If you're unable to contribute, please speak to us—we're here to help. Every little bit makes a difference and means we can continue to offer experiences to the children that enrich their learning.

Contact Details– As per our attendance policy it is the Parents/Carers duty to ensure contact details are kept up to date. It is also important for School to hold details of at least 2 emergency contacts for each pupil. This information can be sent to the School office at Info@rps.co.uk

School Dinners– Please book School dinners 2 days in advance via the MCAS app.

Contact Details– As per our attendance policy it is the Parents/Carers duty to ensure contact details are kept up to date. It is also important for School to hold details of at least 2 emergency contacts for each pupil. This information can be sent to the School office at Info@rps.co.uk

Important Update: New Telephone Answer Machine Options

We have updated our telephone answer machine to help direct your calls more efficiently. When you call the school, you will now hear the following options:

1. Student Absence (Main School) – To report a pupil absence for the main school.
2. Nursery Student Absence – To report an absence for a Nursery child.
3. Safeguarding Team – For any safeguarding messages/concerns.
4. General Messages – For all nonabsence related enquiries.
5. Extension Number – For staff use only.
6. Reception – To speak directly with our school office.
7. Staff Absence Reporting – For staff use only.

Thank you for your cooperation as we improve our communication systems.

Nursery

We have had a busy time this term in Nursery. Our topic Growing and Insects has developed further curiosities of nature and life cycles, as the children continue to enjoy observing our caterpillars and are waiting for them to turn into butterflies. They have planted various seeds and plants and have understood what makes them grow, watering them daily, observing and commenting on growth. They have enjoyed the core books :The Hungry Caterpillar and Jack and the Beanstalk and many songs in group time.

The pre- reception children are getting ready to transition over to school as they make their journey to Reception in September 2026. We will continue to support them through visits over and talking about their feelings in regular discussions in small group time.

Nursery open evening for our new children and parents for September 2026 will be 24th/25th June 3-4pm.If you know of anyone who would like to visit, please contact the main school office or email the school direct.

We will also be having a Nursery Graduation Party on 21st July 2026 2.15pm for children leaving us in July 2026 and celebrating achievements of those children who will be returning in September keep an eye on the Nursery information board outside the Nursery for updates.



We have really enjoyed the end of our term in Reception! We spent lots of time being Geographers through our focus book *The Way to School*, creating imaginative maps as well as maps of our own journeys to school. A definite highlight was working with the Bee Bots – programming them was a fantastic way to put our mapping skills into practice in a fun and interactive way. The children have also loved exploring music, using instruments to put on performances and create and follow their own rhythms. We are very much looking forward to our visit to the farm next week! Please remember to complete the photo permission and packed lunch forms that have been sent out by the office.



We have been so pleased to welcome the children back to school this week, it's hard to believe that it is our final term of the academic year. Thank you for your continued support with phonics at home—it really is making a difference. As the Phonics Screening Check takes place next week, please keep up the great work with regular reading and practising sounds to help your child feel confident and prepared.

At the end of last half term, we had excellent fun on our STEM day, where we designed and created towers to the moon. This taught the children about the importance of being resilient – this wasn't as easy as they first thought. We also released our butterflies into the wild. This supported our Science topic about growing. We hope that you are taking good care of the sunflowers, it was really hot last week, so they need plenty of water. As predicted, the weather hasn't been quite so nice this week, so please ensure that your child has a coat in school each day. We have also begun to practise for Sports Day. We do PE on a Monday and Friday.

Finally, we are looking forward to our trip to Magdalen Farm. Please check the My Child at School App, to ensure you have paid and given your consent. Many thanks.



It has been wonderful to welcome the children back after the holidays! We have really enjoyed hearing all about what they have been up to during their time away. It's clear they have had lots of exciting experiences to share, and it has been lovely to see them return to school with big smiles, full of enthusiasm and ready to learn new things.

We are especially pleased with how engaged the children have been with **Times Tables Rock Stars**. They have shown fantastic effort and determination, and we have loved seeing just how hard they are working to improve their times tables. Their progress and positive attitudes have been brilliant!

As a reminder, we ask that children are **reading at least four times a week at home**. Regular reading makes such a difference to their confidence and progress in all areas of learning. Children who complete their reading, as well as spend time on **Spelling Shed** and **Times Tables Rock Stars**, will continue to earn **house points**; a great way to celebrate their hard work!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are looking forward to another busy and exciting term ahead.



Another amazing term has flown by and we can't quite believe this is our final term with these wonderful learners!

In Writing, the children have been inspired by *The Boy Who Grew Dragons*, creating imaginative and wonderfully chaotic scenes featuring their very own pet dragons. They also impressed us with their non-chronological reports on newly invented dragon species. Alongside this creativity, we have been focusing on strengthening key writing skills, particularly ensuring consistent use of capital letters and full stops.

In Maths, they have worked hard on fractions, while continuing to develop their arithmetic skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

In History, the children have built a strong understanding of the Romans—exploring how they lived, their invasions and the lasting impact they have had on modern day Britain.

We also enjoyed a fantastic STEM Day, where the children were inspired by the Artemis II project to design and create their own lunar bases. Thank you so much for your support and generosity in providing the many resources that made this day such a success.

As we head into the final stretch of Year 3, we would really appreciate any support at home. Even a small amount of regular practice with handwriting, capital letters and full stops, as well as arithmetic skills and times tables, will make a big difference.



The Year 4 children will all complete the National Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check at some point next week, so any additional practise at recalling their times tables will really help them with this. There are lots of free websites to further support them, such as [timestables.co.uk](https://www.timestables.co.uk) and Topmarks Maths, which have lots of resources and games the children can access to help their learning. The children also all have their individual logins for Times Tables Rock Stars which they can use at home to help them with their practise for this. The children are very well prepared for this and we have been completing regular sessions in school since September - we can't wait for them to be able to demonstrate their fantastic knowledge!

Osprey Class have really enjoyed their swimming sessions and next week Buzzard Class start their sessions. Please remember to bring your child's swimming costume and towel in a bag they can carry to and from the swimming pool. Goggles are optional.

We look forward to starting our final unit next week on the Ancient Maya Civilisation.



It's lovely to see the children having come back from the May holidays with renewed energy, focus and positivity.

In Maths, we are about to do assessments to check the children's progress. The children have worked hard to apply their knowledge of to reasoning problems and have been revising all of the methods learned so far. Please remind your child of our expectation of doing at least 10 minutes of Maths homework per week, which acts as revision from our lessons in school. All children in Y5 need to know their times tables so please encourage your child to practise them through TT Rock Stars and complete their 'rock stars' sheet. Your child has their log in and passwords in their homework book.

In our writing lessons, we've been using the book 'Journey' which has no wording. The children were inspired to write from the lovely illustration. They then designed a leaflet to describe a 'fantasy' theme park. Our next book is called 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. The children will be focusing on descriptive and figurative language to write during this term. We will also be reading it as our class read.

In RE, we are part way through learning about Islam. The children have finished their sculptures for the Art project which look amazing. We are moving on to do a collage project next so if you have any magazines that the children can cut up for this, we would be very grateful.

Thank you for your support with encouraging your child to read 4 times a week and continuing to work hard with their homework.



Year 6 have a busy FINAL half-term of primary school. The children will start preparing their exciting end of year play entitled Shakespeare Rocks! They have been given a QR link to the songs for them to learn at home, as well as a script that they can take home to learn their lines.

A quick reminder of important dates coming up:

Holyrood transition days: Monday 6th July & Tuesday 7th July

Year 6 Play 'Shakespeare Rocks!': Wednesday 15th July & Thursday 16th July 6PM

Year 6 Bowling Trip: Monday 20th July – during school time.

Year 6 BBQ: Monday 20th July – after school.

Year 6 Leavers Assembly: Tuesday 21st July – 9.15am



We are well and truly into summer Forest School now. We have enjoyed a lot of sunshine and also some showers as well. This has encouraged so much natural growth that the meadow now has tall, green grass and the trees are laden with bright green leaves. The explosion in growth has given the older children a lot of opportunities to show off their tool skills using a range of tools to cut back the unwanted foliage. As well as this, it has also produced ideal condition for everyone's favourite Forest School games of Hide and Seek and Hide and Sneak.

Many thanks to everyone who has followed the guidelines for summer Forest School clothes - please remember that even on the hottest days we do not allow shorts and sandals at Forest School. In order to keep them safe the children need to have proper T shirts that cover the shoulders, long trousers and footwear that encloses and protects the foot.

Before the end of the summer term we will attempt to do some outdoor cooking with as many children as we can. It is really important that we know if children have either of the following:

- a dairy product allergy
- a gluten-free diet

This information will be on the school information system if you have already told us, but if the condition is new, or if the child is new to the school then please update the records by informing the office.

Mobile Phones & Watches

Updated mobile phone and smart technology at Redstart Primary School based on DfE guidance published on 19th Feb 2026

Italicised parts of the document are quotes from the government guidance.

“Schools should develop a mobile phone policy that prohibits the use of mobile phones and other smart technology with similar functionality to mobile phones (for example the ability to send and/or receive notifications or messages via mobile phone networks or the ability to record audio and/or video) throughout the school day, including during lessons, the time between lessons, breaktimes and lunchtime.”

In order to comply with the government guidelines, we have set the following expectations at Redstart Primary School:

- Children in all year groups are permitted to wear a watch (analogue or digital) that has only a time-telling function – the watch should not have any other functions such as being able to record sound or video, have a calculator, or play games.

Yes	Yes	No	No
			

- Children below Year 5 should not bring phones or smart devices to school.
- Year 5 and Year 6 children are permitted to bring a mobile phone to school.
- Year 5-6 children will turn off their phone when they enter the school gates. Their phones will be placed in a designated phone box in the classroom on entering the class. Any other ‘smart devices’ (such as smartwatches) that can receive messages, access a mobile network, or have functions other than telling the time should also be handed in.
- The ‘phone box’ will be put in a classroom cupboard and kept there until the end of the school day.
- Children reclaim their phone at the end of the school day and put it in their bag or pocket. (If a child has an after-school club, they will reclaim their phone after the club has ended.)
- Phones may be turned back on when the child has left the school site.

In line with the government’s intention that, *“Schools should ensure that pupils’ educational experience on a school trip is not disrupted by the presence of mobile phones”*, The Redstart Primary School will not permit any child to take a mobile phone or a smartwatch on a school trip. Adults accompanying the children on a trip will have access to a mobile phone in order to maintain contact with the school or emergency services as required.

Safeguarding Team

**Safeguarding is high priority at The Redstart Primary School. We take every opportunity to ensure that our pupil's safety is paramount. We want our pupils to be healthy and happy and to develop well, both physically and mentally.
Our Safeguarding Team**



Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mrs Rebecca Collins:



**Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are:
Mrs Joanne Margetts, Early Intervention and Attendance Lead**



Mrs Tara Duke, Nurture Lead



The DSL for Nursery is Mrs Caroline Miller:



Mrs Kerri Norman, Senco

Parent & Family Support Service

We would like to remind our school community that if any parent or carer is looking for extra support around matters including but not limited to;

- **separation**
- **parent communication**
- **tricky behaviours**
- **debt**
- **housing**
- **mental health/emotional wellbeing**

please feel free to have a conversation with a member of our safeguarding team who would be happy to discuss a referral to the Parent & Family Support Advisor, or other service if necessary.

If you are concerned about your child's attendance, please contact the school office to make an appointment with Mrs Margetts who will be happy to offer you and your family support.

If you have recently had a change of circumstance, please consider whether this may have affected your entitlement to financial support. Any of our parents/carers are welcome to request an assessment of their means to see if their child may qualify for Free School Meals. Also, please remember that we are always happy to request food parcels for any of our families. These requests will be dealt with confidentially and on a 'no questions asked' basis.

Please see the Somerset School Nurse Team Newsletter leaflet regarding 'Chat Health' for advice and support from the School Nurse Team. Again, if you wish to talk about a referral, please



April/May/June 2026



Somerset School Nurse Team Newsletter

Welcome to the Somerset School Nurse Team newsletter!

The school nurse team is made up of Specialist Community Public Health Nurses, and Assistant Practitioners. We specialise in promoting the health and wellbeing of children and young people aged 5–19 years and cover primary and secondary schools across Somerset.

This newsletter will be delivered termly, and is intended to keep you up-to-date on all the things we are doing as a service, and will include topics and links relevant to physical and mental health.

We hope you find this newsletter helpful but please do feedback anything you would like to be added.

[Somerset children & young people : Health & Wellbeing : Phn School Nursing](#)



Feedback QR code

ONLINE SAFETY

Are you worried about your child being online?

For more information and advice visit:
[Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

S **M** **A** **R** **T**

- SHARE RESPONSIBLY**
We all love to share photographs, fun things we're doing and much more.
Be careful what you share and always ask permission if somebody else is in the photo or video.
- MANAGE your PRIVACY**
If you're using apps that can communicate with others, turn on privacy.
Only let people you really know follow you unless you've asked permission from your parents.
- ASK for HELP**
Don't ever be worried about asking for help from someone you trust.
You will NOT be judged.
- RESPECT OTHERS**
Be kind.
Other people may have different opinions from you.
That's okay, but if they become abusive, take screenshots, block and report and tell an adult.
- THINK CRITICALLY**
TRUST your INSTINCT
Is it true? Does that person really know me? Has that really happened?
Always question!

Fussy Eating in Children



Do you worry about your child being a fussy eater?

For further information check out the following webinars, or speak with your GP or School Nurse team for further support

[Webinar on Fussy Eating in Children - patientwebinars.co.uk](#)



ELSA Support



Did you know that most primary schools are able to offer ELSA support to school aged children in their care around a variety of topics including bereavement, anxiety, stress, friendships and managing emotions/feelings.

ELSA stands for Emotional Literacy Support Assistant, and they are specialist teaching assistants with a wealth of knowledge and experience of working with children.

ELSA's are trained and regularly supervised by the Educational Psychologists.

Their aim is to build your child's emotional development and to help them to cope with life's challenges.

The ELSA will help your child to find solutions to problems they may have.

Please speak with the ELSA in your school if you feel this support could benefit your child.



UK Government NHS

WRAP YOUR CHILDREN UP WITH THE BEST PROTECTION - VACCINATIONS

Are your child's vaccines up to date? Check their red book or speak to their GP practice.

STAY STRONG. GET VACCINATED.



HOW TO KEEP YOUR SMILE HEALTHY *Just for kids!*

DID YOU KNOW FEELING YOUR BEST STARTS WITH A HEALTHY SMILE?
Follow Toothie's tips to keep your smile strong and you feeling great every day!

BRUSH EVERY MORNING AND NIGHT

- Use a fluoride toothpaste
- Brush all the sides and surfaces of your teeth for 2 minutes.
- After brushing, spit don't rinse.

VISIT THE DENTIST REGULARLY

- The dentist will ask you to open your mouth wide
- The dentist will check your teeth are growing properly.
- The dentist will help keep your teeth clean and healthy.

EAT HEALTHY FOOD AND AVOID SUGARY DRINKS

- Too much sugar is bad for everyone.
- Sugary drinks and unhealthy snacks between meals can cause holes in your teeth if you have them too often.
- Our mouths and bodies are stronger and happier when we have healthy food and drinks.



worldoralealthday.org
#WORLDORALHEALTHDAY #HAPPYMOUTH



National Sun Awareness Week



11th May—17th May 2026

As the nicer weather approaches it is important to remember to stay safe in the sun.

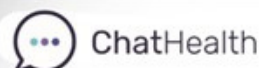
Sun Safety Tips

Make sure you:

- *Spend time in the shade between 11am & 3pm
- *Cover up with suitable clothing and sunglasses
- *Take extra care with children
- *Use at least factor 30 sunscreen



For more advice please visit:
[Sunscreen and sun safety - NHS](#)



Parent advice & support

Healthy lifestyles

School transitioning

Emotional health



**is your child
5-19 and are you
looking for confidential
help and support?**

A safe and easy way to contact
your School Nursing Team

Just send a text
07480 635 515



Improving
LIVES

Disclaimer: This is not an emergency service; it operates Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and is only available by using a UK mobile number. Your messages are stored on our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who can use ChatHealth Service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of a safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may

Tips for SATs Week



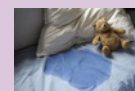
- The SATs don't effect what school you will get into
- They are important, but most teachers just want you to do your best
- Lots of schools make the SATs week really relaxed, having breakfast clubs, extra playtime, relaxation time, no other lessons, so it can even be fun. Find out what your school is doing
- This is good practice for taking tests. But you can do it in the comfort of your school which you know well and will help support you
- Talk to your friends and family about how you are feeling about the SATs. It's likely that other people are feeling a bit nervous too
- If you're struggling, talk to your teacher or another adult at school that you trust and you know will listen
- If it helps, write a timetable for the week. Make sure you add some treats, like watching your favourite show, doing sport, or having your favourite meal/ snack
- Talk to the people around you and tell them what you think would help you in that week, e.g. I might need more hugs or down time; I need to get to bed on time; I want you to walk me to school in the mornings
- Concentrate on the tests one at a time. Do your best and however they go, try to let the last one go and then focus on the next one
- Try to eat well, sleep well and take some exercise that week
- Get your clothes and school bag ready each night, so in the morning you can stay calm
- Celebrate when they are over!

As we approach exam season here are some tips to share with your child...



Issues with bedwetting?

Check out the video below for advice...



[ERIC Helpline Podcast - Bedwetting \(short version\) on Vimeo](#)

For further advice or support speak with your GP, School Nurse Team or click on the link below:



[Home - ERIC](#)

Somerset School Nurse Team Contact Details:

Email: schoolnurseduty@somerset.gov.uk

Tel: 0300 790 9854

School Attendance - information for parents/carers

As per our attendance policy, the school undertakes regular monitoring of attendance to ensure that, where required, help and support is offered at the earliest opportunity.

In order to ensure parent/carers are kept up to date with their child's attendance record, the school will send out letters at specific intervals, for example, where there have been frequent absences or where attendance has fallen below a certain percentage. This is regardless of whether absences are authorised or where the school has been kept fully updated with the reasons for absence.

We do appreciate that it can be frustrating to receive a letter when your child has suffered absences which could not be helped i.e. where there is a rule to stay at home for 48 hours. Where the school identifies concerns (unexplained, sporadic or lengthy absences or continued lateness) parents/carers will be invited in for a meeting to discuss what support the school can provide to improve attendance.

Descriptor	Attendance	Whole Days Absent	Lost Hours of Learning
Excellent	100% - 99%	0 - 2	0 - 10
Good	98% - 96%	4 - 7.5	20-37.5
Requires Improvement	95% - 91%	9.5 - 17	47.5 - 85
Persistent Absentee	90% - 86%	19 - 27	95 - 135
Critical	85% - 80%	28.5 - 38	142.5 - 190

We thank all our parents/carers for continuing to update the school office where your child has been unable to come into school.

If your child is unable to attend school due to a medical appointment, please ensure you provide us with evidence of their appointment. This could be a letter from a hospital or GP or even a screenshot of an appointment email or text.

Also, please do not inform the school that your child has an appointment or is sick if you are, in fact, going on holiday. At Redstart we teach the children the importance of integrity and this is undermined if you ask them to lie about where they have been.

It is most likely that we will find out anyway since children like to talk about their lives

outside of school. We would rather you were honest and we can code your child's absence correctly and know that they are safe.

Food Parcel Support

If any of our families are in need of a food parcel, please contact the school office and ask to speak with our Early Intervention Lead, Mrs Margetts. The food parcel service is provided by the Community Hub in town. Referrals made are treated confidentially. It is a 'no questions asked' service.

You do not need to explain your circumstances unless you wish to and there are no income thresholds to meet to qualify. Some families may require a little support for a short time or there may be reasons for longer lasting support.

Volunteer as an Academy Councillor



The
Redstart
Primary School

Proudly part of the
 Cabo
Learn
Federation

Volunteer as an Academy Councillor at The Redstart Primary School

Make a difference in your community by joining our Academy Council – a local governing board that works with school leaders to support and challenge decisions, ensuring the best outcomes for every child.

What does an Academy Councillor do?

As a Councillor, you'll work closely with the Principal and leadership team, help guide strategic decisions, support school improvement, and represent the voice of the community.

Time commitment:

- 6 meetings per year (late afternoon/evening)
- Occasional link meetings or panels

What you'll gain:

- Full training and support
- Leadership and strategic experience
- An opportunity to influence the future of The Redstart Primary School



Find out more or express your interest at:

www.clf.uk/volunteer-with-us



FREE LIVE WEBINARS
RELATIONSHIP FITNESS
FOR FAMILY LIFE

Find out how to boost your relationship for a calmer, happier family life

More information:
Ruth James, ruth.james@somerset.gov.uk

 Communications for couples
5 & 19 May 7PM-8PM

 Managing stress and conflict
together 9&16 June 7PM-8PM

 Parenting together without
drama 8 July 7PM-8PM

To find out
more and
book your
place:



FREE live webinars: Relationship fitness for family life

I thought you might be interested in the free live webinars we are running over the next few months.

Investing time in building a stronger relationship between you as a couple helps you create a safe, supportive environment where your children can thrive. Ruth James, Reducing Parental Conflict Coordinator, ruth.james@somerset.gov.uk, has been working with couples and will be sharing her practical tools to help strengthen your relationship.

Whether you attend as a couple or on your own, you'll leave with practical tips you can use in your day-to-day family life.

All webinars are 7PM – 8PM and you are welcome to join one or all of the steps.

Step 1: Communication skills for busy couples is run over 2 webinars on Tues 5 & 19 May This webinar will show couples simple ways to argue less, talk better, and feel closer. Strong communications between couples creates the foundation for a calm family life where your children can thrive. To book: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1984464705354?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Step 2: Conflict without chaos for couples is also run over 2 webinars on Tues 9 & 16 June

This webinar helps couples learn practical ways to handle disagreements without damaging their connection. You'll discover tools to reduce tension, improve how you argue, and create a calmer family life.

To book: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1984955744064?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Step 3: Parenting your children together without drama – 1 webinar on 8 July
Parenting is a team effort, but having different parenting styles can cause conflict and stress. This webinar is designed for couples who want to strengthen their ability to work as a team, so they parent their children together.

To book: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1984960772103?aff=oddttdtcreator>

For more information about relationship support, please go to:
https://www.cypsomersethealth.org/managing_relationship_conflict

SEND Information



SENshine Support

GARDENING CLUB

For SEN children aged 4-13

Monthly Clubs 1-3pm

Starting Saturday 28 February 2026

AT OUR CHILDREN'S ALLOTMENT IN
CHILTHORNE DOMER

www.skoolbeanzcic.com



£8.95^{pp}

ASC SESSIONS

MON, FRI & SUN BETWEEN 9:45AM - 10:45AM

CARERS JUMP FREE!

**SENSORY ROOM AVAILABLE
THROUGHOUT AND UNTIL 11:00AM**

FLYOUT
SOMERSET



**Somerset Parent Carer Forum
Community Inclusion & Activity Team**

Family Fun Day

**Saturday 27th June
10am to 2pm**

**THE MENDIP SCHOOL, PRESTLEIGH,
EDMUND RACK ROAD,
SHEPTON MALLET, BA4 4FZ**

FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

**MEET PROVIDERS AND TRY OUT INCLUSIVE
ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
AND ADDITIONAL NEEDS IN SOMERSET**

**FOOD STALLS, FACE PAINTING, INFLATABLE
ASSAULT COURSE, SPORTS, LEGO, ARTS &
CRAFTS, ANIMALS, SENSORY
TOYS BOARD GAMES**



FREE Sign • Smile • Connect

Makaton Signing Choir

Join our fun, friendly and inclusive group where we bring music to life through Makaton signing!

- No experience needed
- Everyone welcome
- Relaxed, supportive environment
- Learn new skills & have fun
- Singing is optional!

WHEN? We meet fortnightly on Mondays from 5.30pm until 7pm. Come for as much of that time as you wish.

WHERE? Wellington Methodist Church hall
45 Waterloo Road, Wellington, TA21 8JQ

COST: Free

Email for more information:
Jennie: makatontutorjennie@gmail.com
Ruth: ruth@irvine.mc.uk

For the next choir dates go to:
www.makatontutorjennie.co.uk
(see the 'local events' page)



Auesome Chard SEND Support Group

**INTRODUCING...
THE CHILL ZONE**

2026 FIFA WORLD CUP

A relaxed, creative space for young people

Make Friends • Chill Out • Be Yourself
SEND-friendly, Inclusive & welcoming

What is The Chill Zone?
A safe and supportive social group for young people with SEND to:

- Relax and socialise
- Get creative & build confidence
- Fun, low-pressure activities
- Feel accepted just as they are

No pressure. No judgement. Just a place to belong.

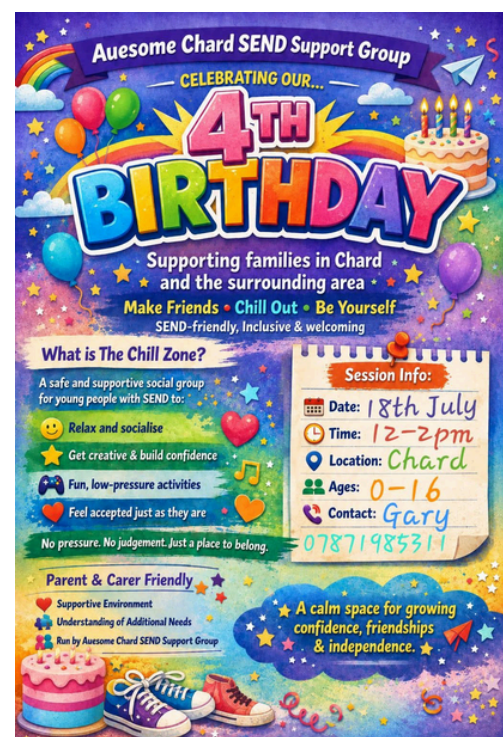
Session Info:

Date: **13th June**
Time: **12 - 2pm**
Location: **Chard**
Ages: **0 - 16**
Contact: **Gary**
07871985311

Parent & Carer Friendly

- Supportive Environment
- Understanding of Additional Needs
- Run by Auesome Chard SEND Support Group

A calm space for growing confidence, friendships & independence.



Auesome Chard SEND Support Group

**CELEBRATING OUR...
4TH BIRTHDAY**

Supporting families in Chard and the surrounding area

Make Friends • Chill Out • Be Yourself
SEND-friendly, Inclusive & welcoming

What is The Chill Zone?
A safe and supportive social group for young people with SEND to:

- Relax and socialise
- Get creative & build confidence
- Fun, low-pressure activities
- Feel accepted just as they are

No pressure. No judgement. Just a place to belong.

Session Info:

Date: **18th July**
Time: **12-2pm**
Location: **Chard**
Ages: **0-16**
Contact: **Gary**
07871985311

Parent & Carer Friendly

- Supportive Environment
- Understanding of Additional Needs
- Run by Auesome Chard SEND Support Group

A calm space for growing confidence, friendships & independence.

SEND Information

Somerset Parent Carer Forum
Community Inclusion & Activity Team

Family Fun Day

Saturday 11th July
10am to 2pm

**POLDEN BOWER SCHOOL,
BOWER LANE, BRIDGWATER
TA6 4GU**

FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

MEET PROVIDERS AND TRY OUT INCLUSIVE
ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
AND ADDITIONAL NEEDS IN SOMERSET

FOOD STALLS, FACE PAINTING, INFLATABLE
ASSAULT COURSE, SPORTS, LEGO, ARTS &
CRAFTS, ANIMALS, SENSORY

**Community Inclusion and Activity Team
Polden Family Club**

Drop-in club for families with children or young people with
disabilities and/or additional needs. Siblings are also invited!

Polden Bower School
Bower Lane
Bridgwater
Somerset
TA6 4GU

10am – 1pm

10th January 2026
7th February 2026
7th March 2026
25th April 2026
9th May 2026
6th June 2026

Activities Include:
Arts & Crafts
Outside play area
Indoor games
Sensory Activities
Lego

£3 per child (cash
only)
No need to book –
Just turn up!

Parent carers must be in
attendance and are to remain
responsible for their children at
all times.

Please check the Somerset's SEND Local Offer Facebook page for any
updates or cancellations
<https://facebook.com/LocalOfferSomerset/>

For more information, please email:
CIATeam@somerset.gov.uk

NEW SEND JUNIOR CLASSES

SEND JUNIORZ (Ages 7-13)

- Fridays at Taunton Catholic Centre
- Small groups
- Structured but flexible sessions

Calm. Supportive. Inclusive.

Designed for children who need a little extra support.

Our SEND Junior Street Dance classes are designed for children with additional needs, including Autism, ADHD, sensory differences and anxiety.

- ✓ Building clear confidence through movement.
- ✓ Clear routines and structure.
- ✓ Encouragement, no pressure.
- ✓ Fun, freedom and self expression.

SEND aware teachers
DBS Checked
Inclusive and child-led

www.mildance.co.uk

Sound Lab

MUSIC GROUP FOR NEURODIVERSE YOUNG PEOPLE

YEovil

Join Sound Lab Yeovil to collaborate, express your inner musicality and have fun through improvisation, songwriting, music technology, instrumental performance & games.

When:
Tuesdays 5.30pm - 7pm during term time

Where:
The GateWay
Addlewell Ln
BA20 1QN

Sound Lab Yeovil is a weekly after-school creative music programme for young people aged 14+ with ASC and/or additional learning needs. No prior musical knowledge or experience required.

Contact mark@evolvemusic.org.uk for further details or visit:

EVOLVE MUSIC
www.evolvemusic.org.uk

Somerset Council

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Together, You Thrive

THE HIVE Young People's Centre

You're not alone. Let's support each other.

For Home Educating Families

A relaxed, welcoming space to connect, chat and access support.

- Home educating families welcome
- Tea, coffee & friendly conversation
- Share experiences, advice & support
- No judgement – just understanding

Connect. Share. Support. Together.

VENUE
The Hive Young People's Centre
Chard TA20 9BH

TIME
1 – 3pm

STARTING
Every Friday, starting 12th June

CONTACT
info@thehiveyppc.co.uk

Everyone welcome. Come as you are.

Somerset Parent Carer Forum

10 Year Celebration SEND CONFERENCE

Celebrating 10 Years as a CIC

Join us for a fantastic day celebrating everything SEND

11th June 2026 | 9am – 4pm

Haynes Motor Museum
Sparkford, Somerset

What's Happening:

- Inspiring Talks from experts and guest speakers
- Your Opportunity to Talk with Local Services
- Information Stands from a range of local providers and services.
- Connect & Chat with other families and professionals.

Who's it for?
Parent Carers • Families • Professionals
Anyone passionate about SEND

Learn • Connect • Celebrate

DON'T MISS OUT – SAVE THE DATE!
www.somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk

THE HIVE Young People's Centre

OUR NEW SENSORY ROOM

A CALM SPACE. A BIG DIFFERENCE.

Our new Sensory Room is a safe and supportive space designed to help everyone feel calm, focused and ready to thrive.

£10 PER 45 MINUTE SESSION

A SPACE TO...

- FEEL CALM AND SAFE**
A quiet space to relax and feel secure.
- EXPLORE AND DISCOVER**
Fun lights, textures and sounds to spark curiosity and play.
- DEVELOP AND LEARN**
Supports sensory development, motor skills and learning.
- PLAY AND CONNECT**
A space to enjoy together and build confidence.
- BE YOURSELF**
A welcoming space where every child belongs.

For booking enquiries contact:
info@thehiveyppc.co.uk

Come in. Take a breath. You belong here.
EXPLORE OUR NEW SENSORY ROOM TODAY!

Nursery Spaces

REGISTER NOW!

**The Redstart**
Primary School & Nursery

Places available

To book a tour visit reception or contact:
☎ 01460 67457 ✉ info@rps.clf.uk



  theredstartprimaryschool.clf.uk

 Cable Learning Federation

Nursery Spaces Available

We currently have spaces available in our nursery! If you're interested in a place for your child, please complete an Expression of Interest form on our website Welcome to the Nursery - The Redstart Primary School

SUMMER FAYRE

RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE

To raise money for
REDSTART PRIMARY SCHOOL

LOTS OF FANTASTIC PRIZES!



MAIN PRIZE
HETTY VACUUM



STIHL
CORDLESS
GARDEN PRUNER



TATTOO
VOUCHER



**AND MANY
MORE!**

OTHER PRIZES INCLUDE:



MONKS YARD
VOUCHER



AXMINSTER
CHIROPRACTOR



FORDE ABBEY
VOUCHER



COOK
GIFT CARDS



HAMPERS
& MANY MORE!



RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN AT THE
SUMMER FAYRE
ON SATURDAY 20TH JUNE 2026

TICKETS CAN BE
PURCHASED FROM:





If you need to contact FoRS regarding any of
the events they organise for the school,
please email them at
friendsofredstart@gmail.com



FoRS Summer Fayre

Our Summer Fayre will take place on **Saturday 20th June 11:30-14:30** on the school field. We will have live music, entertainment, a variety of stalls including tombolas, ice creams, BBQ, inflatables, glitter tattoos and various games. To support the fundraising event, school will be having a non-uniform day on **Friday 12th June 2026**. As a contribution we will be asking for a donation on the day of the following items:

Nursery - Any items from the below list

Reception - Small Packets of Sweets

Year 1 - Tombola General Items

Year 2 - Tombola Games/Sport Items

Year 3 - Tombola General Items

Year 4 - Tombola Food Items

Year 5 - Tombola Games/Sport Items

Year 6 - Alcohol (this can be handed directly to Y6 teachers, given to the FoRS team or dropped into the school office)

All donations are completely voluntary, we really appreciate how supportive our parents are, without your help such events would not be able to take place.

We are still short of a few helpers, both on the day and leading up to the event and so if you are willing to donate some of your time for this event, please send an email to friendsofredstart@gmail.com or message us through the FoRS facebook page.

Families & Local Events

2026
Updated!

Grief Support Hubs

Grief can feel very lonely but it doesn't have to be.

Join us in a safe and confidential space to share experiences and meet others.

- A welcoming space to connect with others who are dealing with loss.
- Led by a grief professional, offering guidance and support.
- Come as you are – no pressure, just a warm drink, cake and a chat.
- Creating a community of connection.

✉ For more details, contact maria@griefspecialists.org

In association with Grief Specialists CIC and Watch CIO.

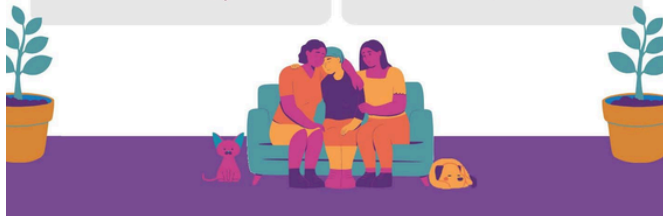
Crewkerne

Henhayes Centre, South St,
Crewkerne, TA18 8DA
First Thursday of every month
from 11am - 12pm

Chard

The Hive (Young People's Centre)
Essex Close, Chard, TA20 1RH
Third Thursday of every month
from 1.45pm - 3pm

*New
details



Open Mental Health
Giving you the support you need, when you need it.
Lots of things can impact our mental health. If you are an adult living in Somerset and need support, Open Mental Health are here to help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

v. January 2026

STARTING 6TH MARCH

Early Years Explorers

DISCOVER. PLAY. GROW.

FREE GROUP

FRIDAYS
(EXCEPT LAST FRIDAY IN THE MONTH)
10:00 - 11:30
CHARD COMMUNITY HUB
BODEN CENTRE, BODEN STREET,
CHARD. TA20 2AX

SNACKS INCLUDED

For more information, please contact wellbeing@youngsomerset.org.uk

www.youngsomerset.org.uk

pop-in for a chat

TALKING CAFE

- Health
- Finances
- Housing
- Feelings of loneliness and isolation.

Monkton Elm Garden Centre
1st Wednesday of the month
10am - 12 noon

Drop-in to the Talking Cafe for support and advice from a Village Agent.

Monkton Elm Garden Centre (Cafe), Taunton

info@thrivesomerset.org.uk
www.thrivesomerset.org.uk

funded by

Free Activities and Groups in Somerset	
Activity / Group	What they offer
Somerset Community Connect – Talking Cafes	Find local services, support, advice, and activities. Friendly and informal drop-ins for over 18s
Somerset Wildlife Trust	The "Somerset Nature Connections" project aims to tackle some of the barriers that prevent people experiencing the health and well-being benefits of Somerset's spectacular natural environment.
Carers Support Groups	Somerset Partnership NHS Trust support groups for carers of adults with mental health problems.
Somerset Libraries	Not just books! Other resources include internet access, DVDs, talking books and regular events.
Mind in Somerset Recovery and Wellbeing Groups	Available to anyone over 18 and living in Somerset and provide a relaxed, safe and supportive environment to explore ways to stay well.
Gardening Groups	Free weekly gardening sessions in Glastonbury and Shepton Mallet.
Somerset Health Walks	Walking for well-being can help you to feel good, to have more energy, to sleep better and manage your weight. All walks are free of charge and are led by a team of Volunteer Walk Leaders.

Families & Local Events



Crochet Group



Mondays, 12.30pm to 2.30pm
Tuesdays, 6pm to 8pm

Upcoming dates:
Tuesday 6 and Monday 19 January
Tuesday 3 and Monday 16 February
Tuesday 3 and Monday 16 March
Tuesday 7 and Monday 20 April

Free to attend | Learn a new skill | Refreshments | Warm Space
Kindness | Collaboration | Positivity

BOARDGAME CLUB!!

AT JENNY'S CAFÉ AND BISTRO
38A Fore st chard TA20 1PT

There is a menu available with a food deal
↓
Can drink + pizza or chips for £5
Limited space up to 35 people
Ages 11-18 are welcome!!

GAMES AVAILABLE
- exploding kittens
- ludo
- hungry hippos
- articulate
And more!!
You are welcome to bring your own games too!!

Opening date: 27th march
Open Fridays 4:30-7:30

RULES
-if you misbehave you will be asked to leave
-if you cause any damages you will be charged
-be respectful to the staff, building and to the others there

FREE ENTRY

TOGETHER ON TUESDAY

A club for primary school children and their parents, carers & siblings

Join us for Crafts, Cooked Tea, Songs & Story

New craft each week
Cooked tea provided
Short bible story and song

Every Tuesday during term time
ALL WELCOME
3.30pm - 5pm
St Mary's Church rooms
THIS IS A FREE CLUB BUT DONATIONS ARE WELCOME



Sewing Workshop



Chard Community Hub
Tuesdays, 6pm to 8pm

Sew together | Learn clothing repair and other new skills | Beginners welcome | Free to attend | Warm Space | Refreshments
15+ welcome with a parent/carer
For more info: secretary@chardcommunityhub.com
Kindness | Collaboration | Positivity



Healthy Routines Workshop



Friday 12 June 1.30pm to 2.30pm
Chard Community Hub, Boden Centre, TA20 2AX

A free workshop focused on building healthy routines for you and your little ones. It will include advice and guidance on sleeping, eating, play times and general healthy routines.

A welcoming session for questions, top tips and advice shared among parents.

This session will be run by Julie from the Health Visitors and Meg from the Hub.

To book, please email; mparfoot@holyrood.bep.ac

Families & Local Events



We're a Warm Space



Join us on

Tuesdays, 10am to 1pm
Chard Community Hub
Boden Street, TA20 2AX

for arts and crafts, board games and puzzles,
great company and a cuppa.

For more information: tgreynolds@holyrood.bep.ac or 01460 923149

Kindness | Collaboration | Positivity



Mobile Community Pantry



Join our Community Pantry on wheels!

£3.50 for 10 items

Help us prevent food waste

Every Tuesday

10:15am Alun Rees Way, TA20 2HQ

10:35am Bubwith Close, TA20 2BL

11am Jarman Way, TA20 1FB

11:20am Skate Park car park, TA20 1NW

11.45am Bishops Court, TA20 2FA

For more info: secretary@chardcommunityhub.com

Kindness | Collaboration | Positivity



TABLETOP GAMES NIGHT



Thursdays 6pm to 9pm
Chard Community Hub
Boden Centre, Boden Street
TA20 2AX

Free to attend | Warm Space | 18 +
For more info visit Chard Games Hub on Facebook

Kindness | Collaboration | Positivity



Families & Local Events



Soup and Snack Hub



Tuesdays, 1pm to 2pm
Anyone in need of a free, hot lunch is welcome to join us.

Chard Community Hub
Boden Street, TA20 2AX

For more info: secretary@chardcommunityhub.com

Kindness | Collaboration | Positivity



CHARD NINJAS

Age Specific Martial Arts Training
Developing Foundation Skills For Life Through Game Based Learning

Ages 18 - 36 Months
Thursday 9.30 - 10.00am

Ages 3 - 4 Years
Tuesday 4.30 - 5.00pm, Wednesday 4.15 - 4.45pm
& Thursday 4.00 - 4.30pm

Ages 5 - 7 Years
Monday & Tuesday 5.30 - 6.15pm,
Wednesday 5.15 - 6.00pm & Thursday 4.15 - 5.00pm

Ages 7-10 Years
Tuesday 4.45 - 5.30pm & Thursday 5.00 - 5.45pm

NEW! - SEND CLASS - Ages 6 Years & Above
Monday 4.15 - 4.45pm



Chard TKD, Buck House Academy, Holyrood Street, Chard, TA20 2AH

FREE TRIAL ☎ 077969 50134 ✉ chardtaekwondo@gmail.com **FREE TRIAL**

www.chardtkd.co.uk

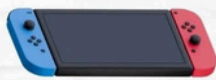
Chard Youth Hub



FREE Hot Drink

Drop in to this safe space and chill with a youth worker.

Play Games!



3:15-5:15PM Every Wednesday

@ ChardCommunityHub, Boden Street, Chard



T.O.T.S
Tots On Tuesday
@stmaryschurch

PLAY CRAFT SING

PLAY DOH PUZZLES

10-11.30AM EVERY TUESDAY (TERM TIME)
ST MARY'S CHURCH ROOMS

£1 DONATION FOR UNLIMITED TOAST, FRUIT, PANCAKES, YOGURTS ETC TEA AND COFFEE

ALSO FREE CLOTHES BANK FOR AGES 0-5YRS

BUBBLES SLIDE CLIMBING FRAME

Families & Local Events

[illegible]

go on a picnic

visit a playground

go to the zoo

fly a kite

bake and decorate cupcakes

go on a bug hunt

get crafty and make art

read a fun new book together

explore a nature trail

find an ice cream van

spend a day at the beach

pick flowers or make a bouquet

run through the sprinklers

have a movie night in

build a fort and read stories

catch fireflies

visit a splash pad

visit a farmer's market

draw with pavement chalk

plant something together

make a lemonade stand

go on a bike ride

JUNE
THINGS TO DO
WITH KIDS
@GREATDAYSOOT

HOLYROOD
ACADEMY

BOOK FEST

All Children Starting School in September Will Receive a Free Book!

Thursday 16th July
3:30pm Upper Site Hall
Everyone is Welcome!

If you have any questions, please email our Literacy Lead, Mrs Wilsher: kwilsher@holyrood.bep.ac.uk



ARE YOU A DAD?



If so, we'd love to connect with Dads who are open to:

- *Sharing ideas about what support would be helpful*
- *Helping design a new group or project*
- *Or simply staying informed*

If you are a Dad, or know a Dad or just know someone who might be interested, please do let us know via email, mparfoote@holyrood.bep.ac

Boden Centre | Boden St | Chard | Somerset | TA20 2AX | T: 01460 9231 49



THE HIVE
Young People's Centre



The Hive Haven

A welcoming group for

Parents/Carers and children
with additional needs
and disabilities.



Play, connection
& friendship



Refreshments
available



Meet other
parents and
carers



A safe, supportive
and inclusive
environment



Everyone welcome
Come for a chat and a cuppa –
for a relaxed, understanding space
for families.
♥ No diagnosis required.



The Hive Young People's Centre
Essex Close
Chard
TA20 9DH



**SENSORY ROOM
AVAILABLE**



**EVERY
WEDNESDAY**



10:00am – 12:00pm

**STARTING
WEDNESDAY
10TH JUNE**

TERM TIME ONLY



info@thehiveypc.co.uk

THE HIVE
Young People's Centre

Busy Bees

Parent/Carer Baby & Toddler Group

A warm and welcoming space for parents/carers and little ones to learn, play and make new friends.

- Singing**
- Art & Crafts**
- Sensory Play**

EVERY MONDAY
12pm - 2pm

STARTING MONDAY
12th JUNE

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE
Bring a picnic lunch.

Come along, have fun and make memories together!



27- 31 JULY (5 DAYS)
SUMMER HOLIDAY
CRICKET CAMP @
CHARD CRICKET CLUB



9AM-12PM - 5 - 9 YEARS OLDS

1-4PM - 10 - 16 YEARS OLDS

COST £65 PER CHILD

BOOK ONLINE @

WWW.PRO-COACHING.CO.UK

**ALL PROFITS GO BACK INTO THE CLUB FOR DEVELOPMENT
 OF GROUNDS FACILITIES TO BENEFIT ALL**

Music Teacher Information



Piano Teacher-Mike Hurley (mike_hurley@outlook.com)



Guitar Teacher-Mr Pomeroy (fdpomeroy@yahoo.com)

Parking Safely Outside School

We kindly ask all families to park considerately outside the school to help keep children safe. Please avoid blocking driveways, stopping on zigzag lines, or parking too close to crossings and corners. These areas must remain clear so children can walk safely and drivers can see them. Thank you for helping us protect our pupils and keep drop-off and pick-up times calm and safe for everyone

**Selfish and
Dangerous**

School Keep Clear

**No Stopping,
No Excuses**

School Keep Clear

**DON'T STOP
HERE**

We are an Operation Encompass School

For further information, please come and see us.



OPERATION
ENCOMPASS



We are an Operation Encompass Early Years Setting

For further information, please come and see us.

OPERATION
ENCOMPASS



Avon and Somerset Police
SERVE. PROTECT. RESPECT.