

Forest Hall Primary School

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NEWSLETTER 1: September 2025

General information and reminders for Autumn 2025

There are 3 training days this year when school is closed to children. We had the first one on Monday and the next is on 05.01.26 with one left to finalise.

Term dates for 2024-25

Autumn:	02.09.25 – 19.12.25	Half Term: 27.10.25 – 31.10.25
Spring:	06.01.26 – 02.04.26	Half Term: 16.02.26 – 20.02.26
Summer:	20.04.26 – 17.07.26	Half Term: 25.05.26 – 29.05.26

Bank Holiday: 04.05.26



We have had a smooth start to the new school year with all of the teachers reporting that their classes have settled quickly to their new room and routines. There have been lots of smiling faces around school and a quiet working atmosphere during lesson time. Some of our younger children have had a few wobbles on leaving their grown up in the morning but have quickly cheered up when they got into their room.

Drop offs and pick ups

As we have more children in school than last September and the yard is busier, it would be helpful in the mornings if Y1 and Y2 parents would see their children into the class line and then move to the back of the yard so the lines can move quickly into school. Our Nursery and Reception children still need their grown up close by to see them through the green gate.

At the end of the day, Y1 and Y2 children will come through the green gate and line up behind the white line. Again, it would be helpful if parents could wait behind the white line so that the staff and children can see is there.

Reception and nursery wraparound children will wait behind the green gate until their adult comes forward to collect them.



**To keep everyone safe, children are to wheel their bikes and scooters through the yard.
NO RIDING IN THE YARD BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL!**



Who can pick your child up from school?

Children from nursery to Y5 must be collected from school by someone over the age of 16 years. Children will only be released into the care of parents and named emergency contacts. If you have asked a friend or family member who is not on your contacts list to pick up your child, please ring school and let us know or we will have to ring you for consent whilst they wait at home time. Y6

children can ride their bikes / walk home when their parents have signed the consent form and returned it to school.

Uniform

Please make sure your child's name is written in all of their uniform including coats and jackets to avoid any mix ups as several children have the same coats.

- Children can wear small stud pierced earrings to school as long as their parents have signed and returned the disclaimer. *You can find a copy of the pierced earring disclaimer on the web site in the Parents section. Paper copies are available at the office.*
- Leggings and joggers are not part of our uniform and not to be worn for school.
- Our children wear grey skirts/trousers – not black
- PE kit is white T shirt and dark / royal blue shorts with black sandals for indoors. Trainers can be worn outside.

Healthy School

We encourage children to bring water bottles to school to remain hydrated during the day. As a Healthy School we do not allow children to bring juice or squash to drink in class due to the potential damage to their teeth.

Children who have packed lunches can bring juice or squash to have with their meal.

Keeping your contact details up to date

Please let the office know if you have changed address or phone number so that we can get in touch with you quickly should we need to.

Attendance

Our overall attendance last year at 94.55% was disappointing as it was below the national average of 94.8% and also the North Tyneside average of 95.28%.

School attendance continues to be a concern nationally as so many children and young people are not attending school regularly enough to fully develop their knowledge, skills and understanding.

All schools have to check that reasons for absence or taking children out of school are genuine. The government has stated that cheaper holidays and birthdays are not acceptable reasons for keeping children off school.

Holidays in term time are only authorised if the reason is a one-off, exceptional circumstance and your child's attendance is above 90%.

Parents **must** fill in a leave of absence application form before their child is taken out of school during term time. (*In the Parents section of the website or paper copy available from the office.*)

Family holidays are not one-off exceptional events and so will not be authorised.

If you do not inform school before your child goes away, the LA will fine you.

The penalty fine is £80 per parent per child if paid within 21 days rising to £160 or a court appearance.

This year we want to work with our families to improve attendance at Forest Hall so that we are at or above the national average.