



Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2026

**School Term & Holidays
2026-2027**

Autumn Term 26

School Opens

Wednesday 2nd September

Half Term

Monday 26th - Friday 30th
October

School Closes for Christmas

Holidays

Friday 18th December 3.15pm

Spring Term 27

School Opens

Monday 4th January

Half Term

Monday 15th - Friday 19th
February

School Closes for Easter

Holidays

Thursday 25th March 3.15pm

Summer Term 27

School Opens

Monday 12th April

May Day (School Closed)

Monday 3rd May

Half Term

Monday 31st May - Friday 4th
June

INSET DAY (School Closed)

Monday 7th June

School Closes for Summer

Holidays

Friday 16th July 3.15pm

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Welcome back to the Autumn Term. Everyone looks extremely smart in their school uniforms and the children have made us all very proud with how quickly they have settled back into school life.

As always, we want to make leaving your children with us as stress free as possible. If you have any questions or would like to speak to us, please do. We have an open-door policy and all staff come onto the playground in a morning to collect children from the yard. We would ask if you do need to speak to a member of staff, you arrive 5 minutes prior to the start of the school day so it doesn't disrupt the start of the day for the rest of the children in class.

A reminder that your child's class teacher is always first port of contact, however, either in their absence or if you aren't able to speak to them about a particular issue, you should make contact with: -

- Mrs Hughes for Early Year (Nursery & Reception)
- Mrs How for Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)
- Mr Atkinson for Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6)

Finally, I am always available and will be visible on the playground at the start of each day.

If you wish to speak to us in confidence rather than outside on the playground, pop into the school reception and either make an appointment, or leave Mrs Turner a contact number and we will contact you as soon as we are available.

At Flash Ley we firmly believe that home school communication is key. Please do let us know if you have any questions, so that we can help put your mind at rest.

Headteacher

As part of our continuing commitment to Safeguarding, please be advised that our Designated Safeguarding Leads are: Mrs J Banks (Headteacher) & Mrs V Locke. The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are Mrs K How and Mr R Atkinson (Deputy Heads) and Mrs R Kenney. Please contact these officers should you have any concerns; emails should be sent to: headteacher@flashley.staffs.sch.uk

Should you have any concerns outside of school hours, please contact 1st Response on 0300 111 8033

SENCO leads are Mrs J Banks and Mrs S Rogers.

A reminder of class teacher emails if you need to get in touch.

These are manned from 8.30am - 4pm and 3.30pm on a Friday. Please allow up to 48 hours for a reply. We will endeavour to reply before that.

- Mrs Wooding - Nursery - nursery@flashley.staffs.sch.uk
- Mrs Hughes - Reception - earlyyears@flashley.staffs.sch.uk
- Miss Young - Year 1 - young.k7@flashley.staffs.sch.uk
- Mrs Baynham - Year 2 - baynham.c@flashley.staffs.sch.uk
- Miss Bunn - Year 3 - bunn.a@flashley.staffs.sch.uk
- Mrs Slade-Nowell - Year 4 - slade-nowell.j@flashley.staffs.sch.uk
- Mr Davies - Year 5 - davies.p@flashley.staffs.sch.uk
- Mr Atkinson - Year 6 - atkinson.r@flashley.staffs.sch.uk

SAFETY AROUND SCHOOL

A polite reminder in relation to bikes and scooters

Please remind your child that they need to wheel their bike or scooter from the main gates down the pathway to the bike shed rather than riding it. We have had several near misses with other parents and children so we need to make sure we are all safe when walking down the pathway to school.

No bikes or scooters are allowed into the playground or around the school building. All bikes and scooters need to be left in the bike shed at the front of the school.

This will ensure that everyone walking around school to collect children are safe!!

School Dinner Money

Polite reminder to pay for your child's dinner money on Parent Pay in advance.

If you think you may be eligible for free school meals please see the following:

Applying for free school meals

The Government has announced changes to the entitlement criteria for free school meals from September 2026. From then there will be two different types of free school meals, known as 'targeted' and 'expanded'.

- **Targeted means that your child has a free school meal every day and the school receive extra funding for your child - previously known as Pupil Premium'**
- **Expanded means that your child will just receive a free school meal every day.**

Who can apply for free school meals?

You can only apply online if you meet the low-income criteria.

Families who receive any of the following are eligible for 'targeted' free school meals:

- Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- are in receipt of income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- receive the guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Families in receipt of Universal Credit, with annual household earnings exceeding £7,400 will be entitled to 'expanded' free school meals.

To apply under 'targeted' or 'expanded' free school meals please click this link:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/financial-support-school/free-school-meals/applying-free-school-meals>

A free school meal cannot be provided under 'expanded' criteria before 1 September 2026.

Free school meals for nursery children

Nursery aged pupils who make a successful free school meals application can get a free meal on the days they are in education both before and after lunchtime.

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 get a free school meal. You do not need to apply, and you do not need to meet any rules. This is called Universal Infant Free School Meals. However, if your family gets certain benefits, we still ask you to apply for income-based free school meals. This helps the school get extra funding to support your child.

If you already have a free school meal at school, you **do not** need to re-apply for September as Staffordshire County Council will automatically check if your child is eligible as either a 'Targeted' or 'Expanded' free school meal.