

Newsletter

26th September 2025

Term 1 - Responsibility

parents@abbotswoodprimary.org.uk



Aim High, Believe and Achieve

OUR VALUES

Responsibility
Empathy
Sense Of Pride
Perseverance
Enthusiasm
Curiosity
Teamwork

School Photos - Friday 3rd October 2025

The photographer will be visiting us on Friday 3rd October to take individual and sibling photos. If you would like your pre-school children/babies to have their photos taken with their siblings please queue by the After School Club door for 8.30am, Siblings that attend Abbotswood will have their photos taken during the morning so please do not queue for them. All children need to wear **full uniform** even if it is a PE day. PE kits will need to be sent into school so that they can change later.

'Aim High, Believe & Achieve'



Abbotswood Primary School

Is your child starting school in September 2026?

Come and see our 'welcoming and nurturing school' in action. We have open days throughout October, November & December. Call or email to book a place for you and your child.



01454 867777



admin@abbotswoodprimary.org.uk



Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Good
Early years provision	Good

Appointments During School Hours

If your child needs to attend an appointment, please try to schedule it outside of school hours whenever possible. We understand that this isn't always feasible; however, arranging appointments at the beginning or end of the school day helps minimise disruption to learning.

If the appointment is during the morning and is local, we would expect your child to attend school beforehand.

Please send confirmation of the appointment (text or letter) to parents@abbotswoodprimary.org.uk, including your child's name, class, and the time you will need to collect them (if applicable).

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.



Workshops being held here at Abbotswood Primary School

Thursday 13th November 2025 - Parent Engagement - 9am

Wednesday 21st January 2026 - Masking Workshop - 9am

Thursday 12th February 2026 - Anxiety Workshop - 9am

Thursday 5th March 2026 - Sensory Workshop - 9am

Your feedback drives real change in supporting neurodiverse children at school.

A chance for you to gain valuable information and support for your child.

Find out more about South Glos Parent Carers and the support available to you.

The TESCO logo is displayed in red, with a blue horizontal line and four diagonal slashes underneath.

Tesco Uniform Flash Sale

To help you out this term we're offering a 15% discount on all orders* over the next few days.

Details - 15% Off School Uniform*

Valid: 25/09/25 - 29/09/25

Use code at checkout: SEP15

(*Offer excludes bundles, events hoodies, and clearance items)

Please note this offer is only valid until Monday 29th September.

Attendance

TARGET 96%

LAST WEEK 95.2%

THIS WEEK 95.9%



Learner of the Week and Respect Award

Hedgehogs - Deniz and Connor

Squirrels - Alma and Elsie

Foxes - Macey and Aurora

Badgers - Finley and Evelyn

Rabbits - Luca and Brooke

Robins - Esme and Ben

Deer - Ella and Leo

Bats - Archie and Lizah

Woodpeckers - Ashley and Ava B

Otters - Evie and Simona

Kingfishers - Taiyen and Lunaria






Falcons - Eloise and Fola

Help Us Grow Our Year 2 Garden!






Year 2 are busy turning our garden into a brilliant place for growing, playing and reading - but we need a little help!

We are looking for some bits and bobs you might have at home that we could use.





For Our Garden:

-  Seeds (flowers, veggies or herbs)
-  Plant pots or trays
-  Gardening gloves (child or adult sizes)
-  Compost or soil
-  Spare plants or seedlings

For Our Mud Kitchen:

-  Old pots, pans, spoons or jugs
-  Baking trays, bowls or muffin tins
-  Buckets and watering cans
-  Safe bits of wood or planks
-  Aprons or old shirts for messy play

For Our Reading Shed:

-  Children's books in good condition
-  Cushions, beanbags or rugs
-  Fairy lights or little lamps (battery-powered)
-  Plastic boxes to keep books safe

If you can donate anything, please bring it to the school office.

Thank you.

Dates for your Diary

* Added since last newsletter

2025

Friday 3rd October 2025 - School photographer (individual photos)

Monday 6th October 2025 - KS2 Parent Homework Workshop 2.45pm til 3.15pm

Wednesday 8th October 2025 - Year 3 Puppet Workshop

Monday 13th October 2025 - Year 5 Explorer Dome

Monday 20th October 2025 - INSET

Tuesday 21st October 2025 - Reception Class Museum 2pm - 2.30pm

Tuesday 21st October 2025 - How can I help my child with early reading? - Parent Workshop
2.30pm - 3pm

Thursday 23rd October 2025 - Year 4 Science Fair - details to follow

Thursday 23rd October 2025 - Flu immunisations

Tuesday 11th November 2025 - Parents Evening

Wednesday 12th November 2025 - Parents Evening

Monday 8th December 2025 - Rocksteady Concert for Parents of band members only - 10am

Tuesday 9th December 2025 - Reception Nativity (Time to be confirmed)

Tuesday 9th December 2025 - School Choir performing at Yate Shopping Centre

Wednesday 10th December 2025 - Reception Nativity (Time to be confirmed)

Monday 15th December 2025 - KS1 Nativity (Time to be confirmed)

Tuesday 16th December 2025 - KS1 Nativity (Time to be confirmed)

Wednesday 17th December 2025 - Christmas Dinner

2026

Monday 5th January 2026 - INSET

Tuesday 17th March 2026 - Parents Evening

Wednesday 18th March 2026 - Parents Evening

Tuesday 24th March 2026 - Year 1 trip to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm (details to follow)

Wednesday 10th June 2026 - Sports Day (Times to be confirmed)

Monday 15th June 2026 - Friday 19th June 2026 - Year 6 camp to Morfa Bay

Monday 22nd June 2026 - Friday 26th June 2026 - Year 5 swimming

Monday 29th June 2026 - Friday 3rd July 2026 - Year 5 swimming

Wednesday 1st July 2026 - Year 6 Transition to Brimsham Green

Thursday 2nd July 2026 - Year 6 Transition to Brimsham Green

Friday 10th July 2025 - INSET

Tuesday 14th July 2026 - Year 6 Play (Time to be confirmed)

Wednesday 15th July 2026 - Year 6 Play (Time to be confirmed)

Thursday 16th July 2026 - Year 6 Party (details to follow)

Friday 17th July 2026 - Year 6 Leavers Assembly (details to follow)

Monday 20th July 2026 - INSET

Tuesday 21st July 2026 - INSET

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

On messaging apps, social media and online games, group chats are one of the most popular ways that children connect. Group chats allow messages, images and videos to be shared in one place and help friendships flourish; however, they also come with a number of risks.

TEASING AND BULLYING

Children of all ages are keen to fit in socially, and group chats can sometimes complicate that process. While group chats can foster connection, they can also give way to mean comments or jokes at someone's expense, especially when others join in for laughs. When bullying happens publicly, in front of friends and classmates, it can intensify the emotional impact – adding to embarrassment, anxiety and feelings of isolation for the child being targeted.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Children often can't control who is added to a group, which can lead to privacy concerns. Sharing personal details in group chats can be dangerous, and children have no control over what others do with the material they send. Some members of the chat might even decide to use such information maliciously.

PEER PRESSURE

Children may feel they have to constantly stay engaged just to be included and keep up with the conversation. In some cases, they might partake in inappropriate behaviours – like sharing explicit photos, jokes or teasing – just to fit in. Group settings can also encourage children to act in ways they normally wouldn't, or stay silent when they know something is wrong, out of fear of being excluded. Some children may find it difficult to leave toxic group chats.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some group chats may include inappropriate language or imagery. Even if a child isn't actively participating in the conversation, they may still be exposed to this content simply by being part of the group. Some apps have disappearing messaging features, where content is only available once or for a few seconds, which makes it harder for children to report something they've seen.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

Exclusion in group chats is common and can take several forms. Sometimes a new group is created specifically to leave one child out on purpose. In other cases, the chat may happen on an app that a child doesn't have access to, making it impossible for them to join in. This can cause feelings of being left out – even unintentionally.

VIDEO AND LIVE CHATS

Many popular apps allow children to engage in live streaming with interactive chats or have group video chats. Anyone can be added to these streams, and often children tag peers in the comments and have conversations which are unmoderated. There's a risk of being exposed to inappropriate or violent content and offensive language, either in the group videos or via the group chats.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats can become an arena for children to compete for social status. Help children consider how people might feel if they behave unkindly. If a child does upset someone, encourage them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

SET SOME GROUP CHAT RULES

Discuss safe group chat practices, such as asking a peer for consent before adding them to a group chat, or leaving a group chat if a stranger is added. Tell children that if they're added to a group they didn't agree to beforehand, it's OK for them to leave immediately.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If a child encounters inappropriate content or feels uncomfortable in a group chat, encourage them to block and report the sender and leave the group. Make sure children know it's OK to leave a group chat if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Group chats are an excellent way for children to connect and feel like they belong. However, remind them that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their feelings and empower them by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. You can also encourage children to speak up if they witness others being bullied.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

It's vital for children to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Ensure they understand the importance of not revealing personal details – like their address, their school, or photos they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they can't be certain where it might end up or how it might be used.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Being bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be an irritating distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to children that they can still be part of a group chat while disabling notifications. In fact, it would be healthier for them to do so, helping them avoid the pressure to respond immediately.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware, who has developed anti-bullying and cyber-safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government, comparing the internet use and online behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College