



Holway Park Community Primary School

Shakespeare Avenue, Taunton, TA1 2JA | Tel: 01823 252126 | Email: office@holwaypark.somerset.sch.uk

Stargaze, Spirit, and Strive to Sparkle!

25th Sept 2026

Key Dates

SEPTEMBER 26

29 – MUSEUM OF SOMERSET RAPIDS

30 – BREWHOUSE Yr 5&6

OCTOBER 26

7 – MUSEUM OF SOMERSET STREAMS

7 - FLU IMMUNISATION (ALL CHILDREN)

21-23 - HUISSH WOODS Yr4

26-30 - HALF TERM (SCHOOL CLOSED)

NOVEMBER 26

2 - INSET DAY (SCHOOL CLOSED)

3 - BACK TO SCHOOL

4 - SCHOOL DISCO (AFTER SCHOOL)

6 - INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS

**FULL ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL IS ESSENTIAL -
REGULAR ABSENCE IS REGARDED AS A CHILD
SAFEGUARDING ISSUE**

Update Contact Details

Pupil Data Collection Sheet



<https://forms.office.com/e/ckn2bHvw9m>

A message from Mrs Brewer, the Head Teacher.

Don't Forget! Key School Reminders & Updates

Online Booking – School Dinners

The school dinner ordering is now fully up and running. Please remember to book your child's school dinners on SCOPAY **in advance**.

Asthma Medication Reminder

If your child uses an inhaler, please make sure you have completed the correct forms and ensure it is returned to school and available every day. To ensure our records remain accurate and up to date, we will be asking parents and carers to complete new medical consent forms for medication kept in school, including inhalers. This is part of our annual review process and may also be required when medication expires or medical information changes.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep all pupils safe and well.

Smoking and Vaping on School Grounds

A Reminder to All Parents, Carers and Visitors

To help provide a safe, healthy and welcoming environment for our children, smoking and vaping are strictly prohibited anywhere on the school site. This includes school buildings, playgrounds, sports areas, car parks and school entrances.

We kindly ask all parents, carers and visitors to refrain from smoking or vaping while on school premises and when waiting at the school gates.

By respecting this policy, you are helping to promote healthy lifestyles and setting a positive example for all children.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our school environment safe and smoke-free.  

Year 6 Secondary School Applications – Deadline: 31 October 2026

If your child is transferring to secondary school in September 2027, please ensure you submit your application by 31 October 2026.

Due to increasing demand for school places in the Taunton and Wellington areas, it is important that applications are submitted on time and that you list three school preferences. We strongly recommend that you include your catchment school as one of your choices.

Please be aware that if your preferred schools are unable to offer a place and your catchment school has not been included as a preference, your child may be allocated a place at a school further from home. In these circumstances, there may be no entitlement to school transport assistance.

For full details on the application process and how to apply, please see the School Admissions information using the link below.

APPLYING: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/starting-at-a-secondary-or-upper-school-in-september/>

GUIDE: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/secondary-admissions-guide/>

Secondary School Opening Sessions for Year 6 Leaver 2026/27

Castle School, Bishop Fox's and Monkton Wood Open Day and Open Evening sessions took place in September. If you were unable to attend and would like information about any additional visits or sessions, please contact the Secondary Schools directly.

Mainstream Reception New Entrants 2027 – Open Days

Holway Park Community Primary School will be holding Open Days for children due to start in Reception in September 2027 (Mainstream School only):

 Tuesday 29th September - ⌚ 9:30am to 11:00am

 Friday 9th October - ⌚ 9:30am to 11:00am

 To book a place, please contact the school office at office@holwaypark.somerset.sch.uk.

★ Come and see our school, meet our staff, and find out more about starting school at Holway Park! ★

Medical & Dental Appointments During School Time

A Reminder to Parents and Carers

Regular attendance is essential for children to make the most of their learning and school experiences.

Where possible, we kindly ask parents and carers to arrange medical, dental and other healthcare appointments outside of school hours. This helps minimise disruption to your child's education and ensures they do not miss valuable learning time.

We understand that some appointments can only be offered during the school day. In these circumstances, please inform the school office in advance and provide appointment details where possible.

☒ Helping Your Child Attend School

- Book appointments after school, during holidays, or on non-school days where possible.
- Inform the school office of any unavoidable appointments.
- Ensure your child attends school before and after the appointment whenever practical.

Thank you for your support in helping us maximise learning time for all pupils.  ✨

School Interactions

We are committed to maintaining a safe, respectful, and professional environment for our students, staff, and visitors always. Please be advised that **abusive, aggressive, or inappropriate behaviour towards school staff will not be tolerated under any circumstances**. This includes, but is not limited to, raised voices, threatening language, or disrespectful conduct.

Our staff are here to support you and your children, and we ask that all interactions remain courteous and constructive. Any incidents of unacceptable behaviour may result in restricted access to the premises and could be escalated in line with school policies.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us ensure a positive and welcoming environment for everyone.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

School / PE Uniform

Please take a moment to review our School Uniform Policy:

<https://www.holwaypark.somerset.sch.uk/school-uniform-2>

Teachers may send reminders home if uniform does not meet the policy.

PE Footwear Reminder: PE trainers should be plain black, with no bright colours or large logos, or children may wear black plimsolls.

PE, Swimming & After-School Sports Activities – Jewellery Reminder

FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL PUPILS, ALL JEWELLERY, INCLUDING EARRINGS, MUST BE REMOVED BEFORE TAKING PART IN PE, SWIMMING AND AFTER-SCHOOL SPORTS ACTIVITIES.

Please ensure that jewellery is removed before your child comes to school, or that they are able to remove it independently when required. Thank you for your support in helping us keep children safe during physical activities.

If you need support obtaining uniform, please speak to the school office.

Lost property will be placed outside the office area. Please check regularly for missing items.

   **REMEMBER TO LABEL ALL CLOTHING AND BELONGINGS TO HELP US RETURN THEM TO THE RIGHT CHILD.**

ATTENDANCE

One day's absence could be as many as seven missed lessons, as well as time spent with friends and doing extracurricular activities. You can support your child's physical, social and mental wellbeing by ensuring they are in school every day.

It can be difficult to know whether your child is too ill to attend school. **NHS guidance is clear that it's fine to send them in with a minor cough or common cold.**

We know that parents and carers worry about their children's mental health. Rather than keeping your child off school, let us know about your concerns. We can then work together on supporting your child.

Attendance is regarded as a Safeguarding issue.

A big thank you to most parents who make sure their children attend school regularly. Your efforts, working in partnership with the school, will ensure that your child will have the best chance to achieve their potential and have real opportunity in further education and the world of work. It will also enable your child to:

- ✓ access the lessons needed to achieve their expected progress and standards
- ✓ maintain friendships and develop new ones
- ✓ have access to social and sporting events offered by the school
- ✓ develop work habits such as good punctuality which are essential to thrive in the world of employment

Parents will regularly receive Attendance Alerts if their child's absence is close to the government criteria for persistent absence.

Parental Responsibility for Attendance

Parents are legally responsible for ensuring their child's regular attendance at school. The department for Education and Somerset Council automatically monitor pupil attendance daily through the school registers.

The Department for Education informs the Headteacher every two weeks the monitored absence details of pupils. The school will make contact if your child is identified in this monitoring. If you are worried about your child/children's attendance the first person to contact is to discuss your concerns with the school PFSA Angie Bristow.

CLASS ACTIVITIES

SWIMMING

Thames & Fowey (Tuesday) 15.9.26 – 08.12.26

Medway (Thursday) 17.09.26 – 10.12.26

CLASS	PE DAYS <i>Children to come into school dressed in their PE Kits</i>	READ ALONGSIDE <i>Start: 2:45pm End: 3.10pm Arrive 5 mins early to check in</i>	BOARDGAMES <i>Start: 2:45pm End: 3.10pm Arrive 5 mins early to check in</i>	WOODLANDS <i>Children to come to school dressed in clothing /footwear which can get muddy and coats to keep warm.</i>
EDEN	Friday Indoor PE	N/A	N/A	Pls ensure waterproofs & wellies are in school daily
DOVE	Friday Indoor PE	N/A	N/A	Pls ensure waterproofs & wellies are in school daily
TWEED	Tuesday - Outdoor PE Friday - Indoor PE	21.10.2026	01.10.2026	22.9.2026 08.11.2026
MEDWAY	Wed - Outdoor PE Thursday - Indoor PE	16.9.2026	15.10.2026	01.10.2026 19.11.2026
TAMAR	Thursday – Outdoor PE Monday – Indoor PE	07.10.2026 09.11.2026	19.11.2026	17.9.2026 06.10.2026 03.12.2026 08.12.2026
CLYDE	Friday - Outdoor PE Tuesday – Indoor PE	30.9.2026 18.11.2026	10.11.2026	15.9.2026 03.11.2026
TYNE	Friday - Outdoor PE Tuesday – Indoor PE	23.9.2026 25.11.2026	10.12.2026	29.9.2026 17.11.2026
TRENT	Thursday - Outdoor PE Wed – Indoor PE	14.10.2026	22.10.2026	13.10.2026 24.11.2026
FOWEY	Wed - Outdoor PE Tuesday - Swimming	09.12.2026	03.12.2026	15.10.2026 10.11.2026
THAMES	Wed - Outdoor PE Tuesday - Swimming	04.11.2026	16.11.2026	08.10.2026 10.12.2026



There are some changes being introduced to Free School Meals (FSM) which will enable **more children** to qualify for FSM

NEW!

TARGETED FSM

AUTUMN TERM 2026

Targeted FSM will continue to support children in households experiencing the greatest financial hardship.



For families receiving Universal Credit with household earning below £7,400 per year



Pupils will receive a free school meal



Eligible for the HHH program



The child's school will also receive Pupil Premium Funding

NEW!

EXPANDED FSM

AUTUMN TERM 2026

Expanded FSM will help more children by removing the current link to benefits and using a simpler, fairer way to identify those who need support.



For families receiving Universal Credit with earnings above £7,400 per year



Pupils will be entitled to free meals only



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

- If your child currently receives FSM, their eligibility will be re-checked before the new school year.
- You may be asked to provide updated information to confirm whether your child qualifies.
- Households that no longer meet the criteria will not automatically continue to receive FSM, as previous transitional protections in place since April 2018 will end when the current school term finishes.



NEXT STEPS

- Somerset Council will automatically recheck all current existing eligible claims for FSM eligibility under the new criteria before the end of term and will contact all families who are no longer eligible, following these rechecks.
- Parents and families who are not entitled under the current criteria and believe they may be entitled under the new expanded criteria, we ask that parents apply from August 2026 onwards.



IF YOUR CHILD (FROM YEAR 3 UPWARDS) CURRENTLY RECEIVES FSM, AND AFTER RE-CHECKING IS NOT ENTITLED TO FREE MEALS FROM SEPTEMBER, PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PAYING FOR SCHOOL MEALS OR PROVIDING A PACKED LUNCH FROM HOME.



Applications can be made at:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/school-life/free-school-meals/>



GOOD FOOD.



BETTER LEARNING.



STRONGER FUTURES FOR ALL.



PARK SMART

KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE



A POLITE REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS & CARERS

We kindly ask all parents and carers to park **considerately** during school drop-off and pick-up times.



Residents have reported concerns about **illegal, inconsiderate** and sometimes **dangerous** parking before and after school.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK:



On yellow 'School Keep Clear' zigzag markings



Near a school entrance



Opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction



Where the kerb has been lowered for wheelchair users or mobility vehicles



In front of driveways or property entrances



On a bend

SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR ZIGZAGS



Yellow zigzag markings outside schools indicate areas where **motorists must not wait, stop or park**. They help ensure that children and other road users can see clearly when crossing the road.

PLEASE KEEP THESE AREAS CLEAR AT ALL TIMES.

PARKING IRRESPONSIBLY CAN:



Put children at risk



Obstruct pedestrians and traffic



Result in a parking fine



PLEASE FOLLOW THE HIGHWAY CODE

Parking restrictions outside schools are there to keep you and your children safe.

Our School

Thank you for your cooperation and support!



Safety First - Park Smart, Keep Children Safe