

St. Stephen's C of E First School

Happy New School Year September 2026

Dear Parents,

We welcome to St Stephen's C of E First School our new community of parents. We are looking forward to getting to know your children and seeing them settled into their Reception class. Welcome back to our existing parents, we are looking forward to seeing you all again. The teachers have been busy getting their rooms ready, now it is time for the learning and the fun to begin!

Each class will be sending home their own curriculum newsletter. This is to let parents know which days the children are having PE and information about the topics that they will be learning across the term. If you have any questions or concerns about your child, or need to pass on information about your child; the teachers are usually available at the end of the school day.

Just a few reminders. Please send your children into school with a healthy snack. We are also a nut free school and we have children in school with other food allergies, so we try to keep snack times healthy to protect these children.

Please try to get your child/children into school on time. Classroom doors open at 8:40am. Being on time is so important as learning starts straight away. There is a math's session at 8:50 am, for the first twenty minutes of the day in each class. This is followed by a reading lesson. These early lessons are crucial for your child to learn to read fluently and also to be able to carry out mathematical problems more easily.

Please look at the two posters attached about being on time and more importantly having good attendance. It is concerning to see how many lessons are missed when attendance dips. It would be a fantastic achievement if we could raise our attendance percentages this year. Remember every day counts! Only keep your child off sick if she or he has a high temperature, infection, or has a severe stomach upset. Children can cope well in school with colds and coughs, it is not a reason to keep them off school.

We appreciate your support in these matters. On the reverse of this letter are dates for the Autumn term, including our Harvest Festival dates, Christmas dates and other events that we have planned in school. We look forwards to seeing you all in the next few weeks.

Mrs. Callanan, Mrs. Barrett and the St Stephen's team.



Minutes lost per day

5 minutes 10 minutes 15 minutes 20 minutes 25 minutes

equates to a yearly loss of:

3
days lost

6.5
days lost

10
days lost

13
days lost

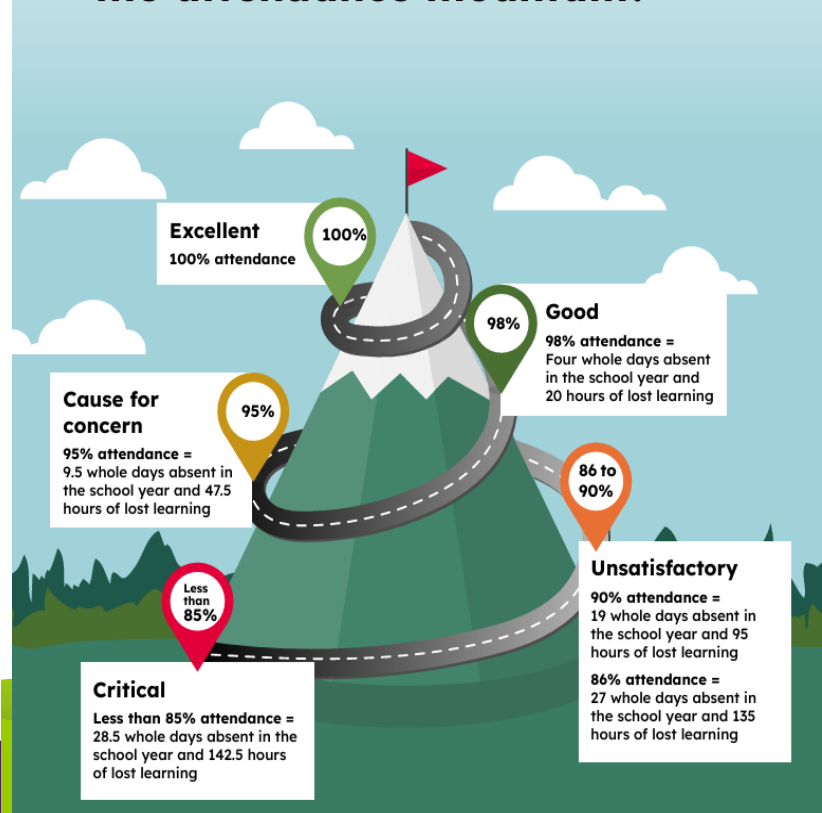
19
days lost

Five minutes late per day adds up to three learning days lost in a school year

If 15 minutes late each day you will miss two full weeks of school in one year

Poor timekeeping means less chance of success!

Where does your child sit on the attendance mountain?



School Lunches

We have changed our School Lunch Provider. We are now using Arbor Meals. If you have ordered school dinners for your child through the app, please check each week that the order is still there. There seem to be some glitches with the system and some orders have disappeared. We appreciate that this is frustrating so please bare with us whilst we try to resolve these issues.

Dates for the Academic Year 2026-2027

More dates will follow as
further events are booked.

Autumn Term 2026	25th September: Spectacular Sports 13th October: Parents Evening, 3:30-5:30pm 15th October: Parents evening 5:00-7:30pm 19th October: SEND Parents Workshop 1:30-3:00pm. 22nd October: Harvest Festival 10:00am 22nd October: School closes for Half term. 23rd October: School closed for staff training. 2nd November: School opens. 11 th November: Flue Vaccinations. 13th November: School Photo's 20th November: Children in Need 4th December : Early Years Nativity, Reception and Nursery. 8 th December: Early years stay and play. 16th December: School Christmas Parties. 17th December: Church Christmas Service 18th December: Father Christmas and Raffle. 18th December: School closes for Christmas . 21st December - 5th January: School Opens for Spring term.
Spring Term 2027	5th January: School opens for Spring term. 20th January: Snuggle Up with a Book, Reception and Nursery 11 th February: Year 3 and 4 Residential Trip 13th February: Residential Trip return. 15th February: Half term. 22nd February: School opens. 4th March: World Book Day, fancy dress. 16th March: Parents Evening 3:30-5:30pm 23rd March: Parents Evening 5:00-7:30pm 25 th March: Easter Service at St Stephen's Church 10:00am 25th March: Last day of Spring term 26th March -12th April: Easter Holidays.
Summer Term 2027	12th April: School opens for Summer term 3rd May: Bank Holiday Monday 24th May: Sports Day. KS1 and KS2 26 th May: Eid Celebrations. 31st May: Half term 7th June: School opens. 7th June: Reserve Sport Day KS1 and KS2 11th June: EYFS Sport Day 2nd July: Reports to parents 13 th July: Leavers assembly. Year 4. Am 14 th July: Leavers Church Service. 15 th July: Leavers Party. 16th July: Last day of academic year. 19th July- Summer Holidays.