

GOSBERTON HOUSE ACADEMY

Summer Term 2026
- Edition 59

NEWSLETTER



Working Together, Learning Together Willow House is Open!



Willow House, our new teaching facility at Gosberton House Academy has officially opened, giving pupils access to modern classrooms, therapy spaces and sensory learning areas.

The development replaces two temporary mobile classrooms and adds two new classrooms alongside dedicated therapy rooms, staff workspaces and specialist areas for sensory exploration.

It has been designed around the needs of local children and funded by Lincolnshire County Council as part of its Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy.

Pupils played a central role in the opening celebrations, giving guided tours of the new building and showcasing the facilities they helped to shape. They were also involved in choosing elements such as floor colours, paint and resources throughout the project.

Guests from Lincolnshire County Council joined staff, governors and colleagues from the University of Lincoln Academy Trust and Lincoln University for the occasion, which included the unveiling of the building's name, Willow House, chosen following a school community vote.

Cllr Natalie Oliver, executive member for children's services, said: "One of my highest priorities is ensuring that all children are able to access high-quality SEND provision within their own community. This incredible new facility will make a massive difference to local families, ensuring their children can get the support they need, without having to travel long distances."

The project was delivered by construction company Wates.

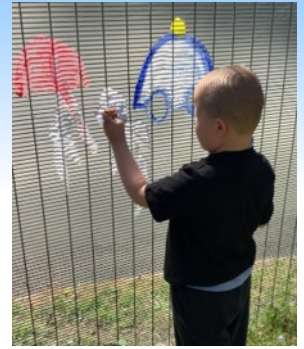
Article 23 - You have the right to special education and care if you have a disability, as well as all the rights in this Convention, so that you can live a full life. Article 28 - You have the right to a good quality education.



Owl Class



Summer 1 -
I can sing a rainbow



What a fantastic first term we all had! Owl class had lots of fun exploring colours. Some of us really enjoyed walking to the church to look at the colourful displays at the flower festival and we all enjoyed looking at the photos we took.

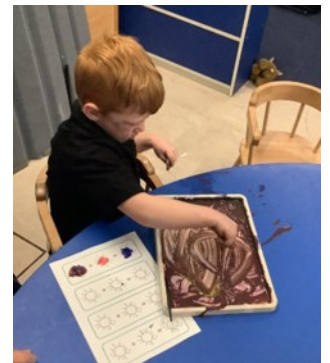
In maths we ordered, matched, counted and sorted colourful objects. We have discovered lots of different textures in our sensory tuff trays and enjoyed scooping and splatting Gelli baff.

We have listened to the sounds rainbow rice makes when falling onto different musical instruments.

In art we have been ripping and tearing different materials to make colourful collages and had fun printing with different objects. We've also really enjoyed mixing colours together to observe the changes.

One of our favourite stories was Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what a great way to learn about different colours.

We have enjoyed learning songs about the rainbow and finding different colours in our scrunchie.



Owl Class

Summer Term 2 Splish Splash?

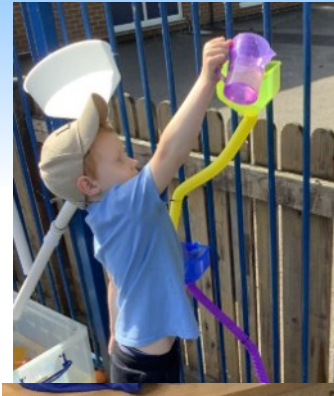


This term Owl Class have been getting wet and sandy exploring all things wet and wonderful. We've filled and emptied containers, sprayed and squirted water and explored lots of different sea creatures. We have been keeping our vegetables healthy making sure they have water.

In singing we have enjoyed learning new songs about a wibbly wobbly jelly fish and a big wide star fish. To cool down in the hot weather we have had fun splashing and splashing in our paddling pool and learning how to keep safe in the sun.

We have been learning about the octopus, shark, jellyfish and starfish. We've sang songs and played instruments to make the sounds of the sea.

We've made fun fish with playdough, painted shells and used bubble wrap to make big puffa fish. In our Attention Autism sessions we've explored big and small by making different sized sand castles, blown up puffa fish balloons and watched to see which objects would float or sink in the sea.



Article 28 You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.



Owls New Topic



Autumn Term 1 topic:
'You have a friend in me.'

Do you want to be friends? Would you like to be friends with me? We will explore these questions and more during this topic.

We will work on playing lots of friendships games and songs e.g. 'Row Row Row Your Boat'. We will focus on interacting with each other and naming, matching and sorting peers and teachers in Owl Class. We will also spend time looking at photos of special people in our lives.

We will practise our sharing skills by engaging with interactive toys, taking turns to find ways to make things work. What toys do we need to push or pull to make them move?

We will create a large friendship tree and focus on turn taking, sharing and playing simple games.

We will take time to say hello and goodbye to our friends and teachers.



World Ocean Day!

We had a very exciting surprise for World Ocean Day – an ocean life virtual reality experience! We put on VR headsets and went on an underwater adventure, learning all about the animals who live in the ocean. We also explored lots of ocean-related toys and resources and learnt how important it is to keep the oceans clean.

We all had a fantastic time!



Swan Class



Swan Class

A Walk along the Beach

This half term, we have thoroughly enjoyed our Walk Along the Beach topic. The children have loved exploring the seaside through stories, songs, investigations and lots of hands-on learning.

We shared a range of wonderful stories, including *Sharing a Shell*, *Tiddler*, *The Snail and the Whale*, *What the Ladybird Heard at the Seaside*, *A Hole in the Bottom of the Sea*. These books inspired our learning and encouraged the children to use their imagination, develop their language skills and foster a love of reading.

Throughout the topic, we explored a variety of sea creatures and their habitats, learning about what lives beneath the waves and along the shoreline. The children investigated shells and other beach treasures, created seaside-inspired artwork and built sandcastles.

We also enjoyed singing lots of seaside songs and action rhymes and explored instruments.

During the warm weather, the children had great fun taking part in water play to help keep cool safely. They enjoyed pouring, splashing, exploring and working together through a range of exciting water activities.



Article 27 You have the right to food, clothing, a safe place to live and to have your basic needs met. You should not be disadvantaged so that you can't do many of the things other kids can do.



Blackbird Class



Minibeasts!

During Term 5 we were learning all about Minibeasts!

We engaged with a range of different activities related to minibeasts, such as ladybirds, bees, caterpillars and butterflies! We made our own bug hotels, explored our outdoor area with magnifying glasses and made our own ladybird sun catchers! We explored different sensory tuff trays, such as yellow and black rice, strawberry jelly and raisins ladybirds and made caterpillars out of playdough!

We explored the life cycle of a Butterfly through our story sack 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. We listened to our teachers reading the story, as well as exploring the props. We sequenced the story and made/ traced words. We also answered what and where questions related to the story. We explored the different fruits and food that the hungry caterpillar ate, often chopping and mixing them together!

At the end of term, we enjoyed a WOW afternoon with families, engaging in activities such as making butterfly sun catchers, scooping soil into pots and engaging with flower sensory bags!

A Walk Along the Beach

During Term 6, we have learned all about A Walk Along the Beach!

Our story sacks this term have been 'Sharing a Shell' and 'Find spot at the Beach'. We have enjoyed listening to the story and engaging with props, such as the beach ball, buckets and spades and sunglasses! We have answered questions related to the story, as well as explored beach themed tuff trays!

We have enjoyed some lovely warm weather, engaging in water play and using buckets and spades to make sandcastles! In PSHE we have practiced some incredible sun safety, ensuring we stay in the shade, drink plenty of water and wear our sun hats! We have used different containers to fill and empty and shared the water trays and pools with our friends!

At the end of term, we enjoyed our very own Beach Day! We engaged in the pool, used moulds and buckets in the sand and ate some delicious ice cream!



Blackbird Class



Next terms' topics will be 'Superheroes' and 'Wonderful Weathers'.

We will be learning about the people who helps us, such as teachers, doctors, nurses, dentists and firefighters! We will be learning about these people through role play, dress up and sensory activities.

We will also be learning about the weather. We will explore a range of sensory activities and story sacks related to the sun, rain, clouds, wind, snow and thunderstorms!

Otter Class

Summer Term 1 - Stone Age!

We enjoyed creating and exploring caves in the topic. We found out what Stone Age people wore and enjoyed dressing up. We hunted our food and gathered berries and other food. We then enjoyed exploring berries and creating natural colours to use for our cave painting. We had lots of fun finding out about Woolly Mammoths and Sabre Tooth Cats.

Summer Term 2 - Deep Blue Oceans

We have all really enjoyed this topic. We have had lots of opportunities for water exploration and fishing! We have enjoyed naming different sea creatures and finding out what lives in the ocean. We have listened to several stories about the Ocean and have explored these using story sacks. We have enjoyed Attention Autism sessions with 'popping' fish! We have been exploring lots of floating and sinking.



Otter Class



We're learning to ride horses!

Some of our children have had the chance to visit a local riding stable. The children played with some pretend horses, tried on helmets and saw some of the equipment needed for horse riding. Next, they will have a go at riding some of the ponies!



Rabbit Class

What a fantastic couple of terms of learning Rabbit Class has enjoyed! We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved as they have explored two exciting topics: Stone Age and Deep Blue Oceans.

During our Stone Age topic, the children travelled back in time to discover what life was like thousands of years ago. Through stories such as Dave's Cave, How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth and Cave Baby, they learned about caves, shelters, prehistoric animals, hunting and gathering and the tools used by early humans. The children loved building shelters, creating cave paintings, exploring rocks and soils, making Stone Age-inspired foods and investigating light and shadows. They also developed their writing by describing, labelling and writing simple sentences linked to our stories, while in maths they enjoyed counting, sorting, measuring and exploring shapes through practical activities.

Our Deep Blue Oceans topic took us on an underwater adventure as we explored the fascinating world beneath the waves. Using stories including Commotion in the Ocean, Rainbow Fish and Finding Nemo, the children discovered a wide variety of sea creatures and their habitats, explored beaches and oceans around the world and learned why our oceans are so important. They investigated floating and sinking, created beautiful ocean artwork, composed music inspired by the sea and enjoyed making a variety of ocean-themed snacks. The children also thought carefully about how plastic pollution affects marine life and discussed simple ways we can all help to protect our oceans.

Throughout both topics, the children have shown great enthusiasm for learning and have loved exploring new ideas together. They have become more confident when talking about their learning, listening to others, mark making and writing and working alongside their friends. We have really enjoyed seeing them use their imaginations through role play, creative activities, music, outdoor learning and lots of hands-on experiences.

Thank you for your continued support at home. Whether reading stories together, collecting natural objects, talking about our weekly learning or encouraging your child's curiosity, your involvement makes a real difference to their learning journey.



Rabbit Class



Otters, Rabbits, Dolphins & Seals

Dear parent(s)/carer(s),



Next term, we are excited to be exploring the topic "Munch! Crunch!" - discover the delicious tastes and exciting textures of fruits and vegetables - a fun healthy eating adventure!

We will support your child with lots of hands-on activities and visual aids to help them understand new ideas. Your child will be encouraged to take initiative, explore new challenges and deepen their understanding through creative tasks.

Thank you for your continued support,
The Teaching Team



Important Changes to Free School Meals



National Autistic Society
Autism Specialist Award Advanced 2025



Principal: Miss K Saywell

GOSBERTON
HOUSE ACADEMY



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN
ACADEMY TRUST

Dear Parent/Carer,

Subject: Changes to Free School Meals

We are writing to let you know about important changes to Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility that will take effect from September 2026.

Going forward, schools will record FSM eligibility under one of two categories:

Targeted FSM – for families receiving Universal Credit with household earnings below £7,400 per year. These pupils will receive a free school meal and are eligible for the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme. The child's school will also receive Pupil Premium funding.

Expanded FSM – for families receiving Universal Credit with earnings above £7,400 per year. These pupils will be entitled to free meals only.
(Please note: ALL pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to receive a free meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme.)

What this means for you

If your child currently receives FSM, their eligibility will be re-checked before the new school year. If Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) do not hold the relevant information you may be asked to provide updated information to confirm whether your child qualifies.

As re-checks are processed, if you have previously applied and LCC hold your email address, you will receive an email notifying you of updated eligibilities. 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

If you have previously applied for Free School Meals via the LCC website and your details remain the same, you do not need to do anything else at the moment. If you have not previously applied, even if your child is currently receiving free meals in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, please apply by visiting <https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/SynergyWeb/PortalHome/>

Please note, once your child has their updated status this will last for a full school year. The status will only be changed if a re-check is requested by a parent/carers or school. 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 lunches upon their return in September. Thank you for your attention to this important update and for your continued support.

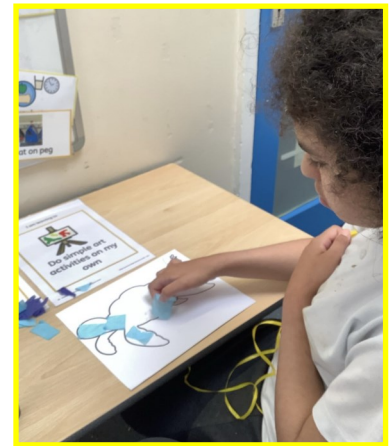
Kind regards, Education Support, Lincolnshire County Council

Seal Class

During our stone age topic, Seal class children have enjoyed exploring what life was like in the stone age. We enjoyed sensory story sack such as Daves Cave, Cave baby and Caveman Dave, we enjoyed making cave paintings, exploring rocks, learning all about the stone age animals and people and making stone age inspired food!

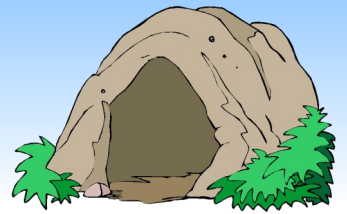


For our Deep blue ocean's topic, we have enjoyed learning all about the different animals found in the sea through lots of water play, we explored beaches and oceans around the world, engaged with sensory story sacks such as Rainbow Fish, Commotion in the Ocean and The Fish with the Deep-Sea Smile. In maths we enjoyed using water, rice and other objects to fill and empty containers.





Dolphin Class



Summer Term 1 – Stone Age

In Summer 1, we enjoyed our topic 'Stone Age'. We learned that the Stone Age was a long time ago and that things were very different to today. We enjoyed cave painting under our tables, painting a cardboard box cave and learning all about Stone Age animals, such as woolly mammoths and sabre-tooth tigers. In Learning Outside the Classroom, we had fun spear painting a woolly mammoth, making Stone Age tools and mixing our own mud paint to make cave art with. In science, we looked at and sorted rocks into different categories. We thoroughly enjoyed our Stone Age family engagement afternoon to finish off our topic!

Spring Term 2 – Deep Blue Oceans

This term, we had great fun with our topic 'Deep Blue Oceans'. We learned all about oceans around the world and found out about the different layers of the ocean. In cookery, art and Learning Outside the Classroom, we made a variety of ocean themed creations, such as Rice Krispie starfish, jellyfish salt paintings and rock crabs. In science we learned about habitats, focusing on plants and animals that live in the ocean, and we also investigated floating and sinking. We also enjoyed a wonderful ocean life VR memorable experience. Our favourite part of the topic was of course lots of fun water play!



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Dolphin Class

Information on Attendance

At Gosberton House Academy, we want all of our pupils to benefit from the opportunities we provide. Good attendance supports positive wellbeing and helps children to achieve. We aim for an attendance rate of a minimum of 95%, in line with Government targets. We do of course understand that our children require a more bespoke approach at times and always want to support our families with this. We also understand that the additional needs of your children can mean more appointments to attend. We want to work with your child, and with you, to understand and support your child to attend as much as they possibly can, and work together to help provide reassurance and support. We also believe that school is a familiar, supportive environment where your children learn life skills, communication and independence skills and take part in a huge range of social learning opportunities. Should there be exceptional circumstances for which you need to ask for authorisation to take your child out of school, please contact us via Tapestry or phone and complete a request form.

Please ensure that when you do report your child's absence you leave a reason for this.

GHA Breakfast Club!

Don't forget, even if your child has had breakfast they are welcome to attend Breakfast Club at school for a top up/snack after their taxi journey!





Badger Class



Summer 1:

During Summer term 1, Badger Class learnt about 'Pharaohs and Mummies' for our topic. The children have been able to listen to dress up as mummies, wrapping ourselves in lots of white material. We then got to make our own mummy using masking tape!

We focused a lot on where Pharaohs and Mummies lived – in Egypt! We learnt what it was like to live in Egypt; we played the tabla (a drum) and made our very own pyramids out of clay. We particularly enjoyed our story sacks this term; 'The Boy Who Stole the Pharaoh's Lunch', 'The Mystery of the Golden Pyramid' and 'Our World: Egypt', looking at everything we can see in Egypt!

For our WOW afternoon this term, we engaged in a bucket in the hall with families, we then moved on to look at tuff trays all about Egypt. We had so much fun!

During this term, we had our community visit to the flower festival, we all walked down to the Methodist church to look at all the pretty displays of flowers, we even spotted our school flower display.

Summer 2:

During Summer term 2, Badger Class learnt all about 'Colour Quest' as our topic.

At the beginning of this term, we focused on recognising and naming each colour, and then we moved on to identifying an object of each of these colours e.g. the ocean is blue. Our story sacks particularly helped us with this! We looked the books 'The Crayons Book of Colours', 'Roahl Dahl's Colours' and 'Joseph and His Coat of Many Colours'.

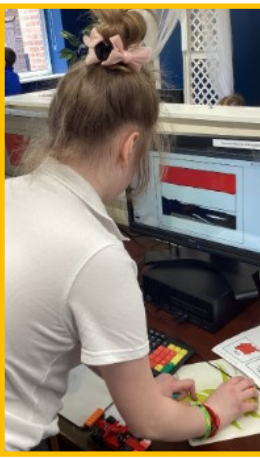
We then switched our focus to learn about mixing different colours together, looking at what colours we could mix to make a new colour, we then identified the change that we had seen! We have worked a lot on our art skills this term, improving our skills with holding a paintbrush and ensuring we paint in the lines! We were learning about painting objects the appropriate colours.

During computers, we looked at digital art. We have looked at drawing different colours onto the computer to see what we can make.

Finally, we had a VR experience this term, where we got the opportunity to use a VR headset to go on an ocean adventure! We have had so much fun this term!



Badger Class



Badger Class & Squirrel Class New Topic

Badger Class presents 'Space Explorers' for our first topic this year. We will learn all about what different planets we can see in space, including our very own Earth!

During this topic, we will look at lots of different story sacks, including 'Meet the Planets', where we will look at specific features of each planet e.g. the rings around Saturn.

We will then shift our focus to look at the sun and the moon. We will look at what we do in the daytime, when the sun is out and what we do at nighttime, when the moon is out.

We will have so much fun!



As part of their English work, Squirrel Class wrote poems about an object of their choice using their five senses. They followed a simple poetry structure and used descriptive language to explain what they could see, hear, smell, taste and feel.

The poems were submitted to the Senses Poetry competition, and we were delighted to learn that the children in Squirrels class had their poems selected for publication in the anthology. A number of families chose to purchase copies of the book, and one copy was kindly delivered to school for the children to share and enjoy together. The children were very excited to see their work in print and to celebrate becoming published authors. We are all very proud of them!

Gosberton Flower Festival

GHA is always happy to be involved in village events. Each year we create a themed display to be shared with the community at one of our local churches, as part of the Flower Festival over the May Day bank holiday weekend. This year, the church's theme was 'Celebrations' and they asked us to make a display to celebrate Mother's Day.



Lots of GHA's children visited with their friends and teachers and looked at and talked about all of the different displays. Badger Class managed to find GHA's display and decided it was their favourite! Many of the children contributed work to the display; it was a team effort. Our 'Celebrations' display was the perfect place to share our poems, pictures, painting, collage bunting and printing with the community. Walking to the church was also a good opportunity to practise life skills like road safety, find out about our local environment and to take turns when looking at each display. We look forward to joining in again next year!

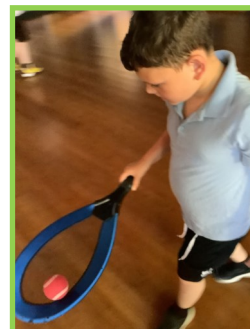


Squirrel Class



Term 5 – Pharaohs and Mummies

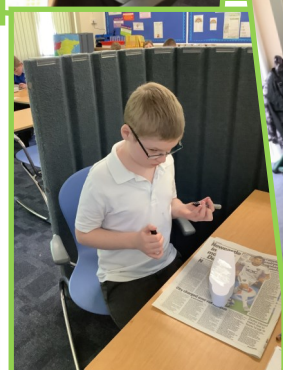
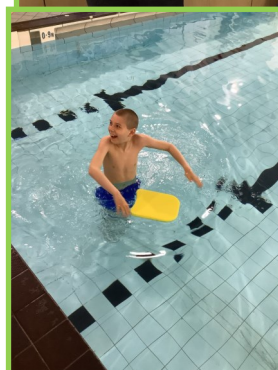
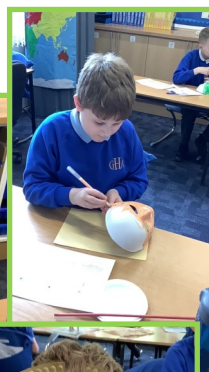
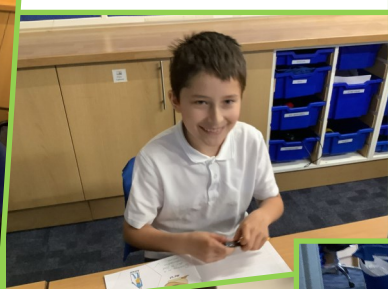
In Term 5, Squirrels learned all about '*Pharaohs and Mummies*'. We learned all about Ancient Egypt and how people at the time believed in many gods and goddesses, as well as the importance of the Afterlife. We discovered how Pharaohs ruled Egypt and were often buried in impressive pyramids. We also explored the River Nile and found out how important it was for farming and transport. A key part of our learning was mummification and how it was used to preserve bodies for the Afterlife – we even had a go at preserving a tomato! We also looked at hieroglyphics and practised writing like the Ancient Egyptians.



Term 6 – Art Through the Ages

In Term 6, our topic was *Art Through the Ages*. The children explored how art reflects life in different historical periods and how we can learn about artists through historical sources. They discovered the artistic traditions of different European countries and used maps to locate where famous artists lived and worked.

We studied a range of influential artists, including Leonardo da Vinci, Claude Monet, Vincent van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, Wassily Kandinsky and Henri Matisse, and explored how their work reflected their time and place. The children created their own artistic responses using a variety of media, including digital tools. Each week, they produced their own digital version of a famous artwork, developing their skills in editing, creating and sharing art using technology.



A message from Miss Saywell

At the end of a wonderful year at GHA, I want to say another huge thank you to all of you for your support and partnership.

To our newest starters; we are delighted with how happy and settled you are - we're glad you're with us!

And to our increasingly grown up Year 6s as you move on to your next schools; we will miss your big smiles, enthusiasm and helpfulness around school, but you are ready for your next challenge - you are superstars and we're very proud of you!

We feel very privileged to be a part of your child's journey and we love celebrating all of their successes, big and small, with them and with you. It has been brilliant to see so many children take on and enjoy new experiences both inside and outside of school this year, including tennis, horse-riding, theatre performances, virtual reality experiences and visits to the garden centre and cafes.

I would also like to thank our incredible staff team, who work with dedication and creativity to ensure all of the children feel valued and ready to learn every day.

We hope that you all have a brilliant summer break however you spend it, please do share any updates on Tapestry.

Take care

Miss Saywell

If you think your child may be ill, please do not send them into school.

Illnesses can spread very rapidly through school to other children and staff.

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea they have to be clear of any symptoms for 48 hours before returning to school.



Please could all parents and taxi drivers remember that the speed limit at GHA is 5mph. Please could this be respected at all times. Thank you.



Many thanks for
engaging in ParentPay

We really appreciate your co-operation.
Please remember the deadline for ordering meals is the **Tuesday** before the week you wish to order.

Polite Reminders Hot Lunches



As part of Universal Free School Meals in Key Stage one we do offer all children school meals to try.

Hot lunches can only be kept until 12.30pm. If your child has a morning appointment, he/she will need to be in school prior to 12.30pm to access his/ her meal. We are sorry if this causes any inconvenience but this is health and safety guidance. Please could you ensure that all school menus are sent back to us by

the date on the menu. We try and give as much notice as possible to give plenty of time to fill in your child's choices.

Polite Reminder!

If you are planning on moving house in the near future, please remember to let school know your new address as soon as possible. If your child accesses school transport, please also remember to inform the SEND Transport Team at Lincolnshire County Council on 01522 782020 or schooltransportapplications@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Free School Meal Eligibility

If you believe that your child is entitled to Free School Meals, please copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/parentportal>

Wednesday 22nd July 2026 - End of Term
Thursday 3rd September 2026 - Return to School

Don't forget to check the website for news and events!

Article 24 You have the right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help you stay well.