



Teaching and Learning
in a supportive environment
where all
feel valued, happy and
successful.

Blaydon West Primary School
Blaydon Bank
Blaydon on Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE214PY
Tel: 01914143286

www.blaydonwestprimary.org

Dear Parents and Carers,

Dream Big, Start Small

Careers Week: This week, our school has been buzzing with excitement as we focused on our careers and aspirations theme: "Dream Big, Start Small."

Throughout the week, children across the school have been exploring the wide range of opportunities available to them in the future and learning about the steps they can take to achieve their ambitions.

Our youngest children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 explored different jobs and professions, while pupils in Lower Key Stage 2 considered the skills and pathways needed for a variety of careers. In Upper Key Stage 2, children delved deeper into career pathways, employability skills and their own personal aspirations for the future.

To bring this learning to life, we were incredibly fortunate to welcome a huge number of visitors into school. These visitors generously gave their time to talk to our children about their careers, answer questions and inspire future ambitions. Across the week, children met professionals from an amazing range of sectors including healthcare, education, the arts, railways, construction, technology, cyber security, water services, public relations, retail, community services and many more.

Previous to this week we were also delighted that Year 6 took part in a Northumbria University Maths Workshop and that Key Stage 2 enjoyed a fascinating Parliament Assembly delivered by the Parliament Outreach Team.

The week culminated in our fantastic Careers Dress-Up Day on Friday. It was wonderful to see children dressed as the careers they aspire to pursue in the future, from teachers and nurses to engineers, artists, scientists, athletes, ice skaters, pilots and many more. The enthusiasm, creativity and ambition on display was truly inspiring.

A huge thank you must go to all of our parents, family members, volunteers and visiting professionals who supported this week. Without your generosity and willingness to share your experiences, this opportunity simply would not have been possible. Your contributions have helped broaden our children's horizons, spark their curiosity and show them that with hard work, determination and the right support, they really can dream big and start small.

Thank you for helping to inspire the next generation.

Head Teacher - Simon Brown

Chair of Governors - Chris Robson

PSHE and Relationships Education Curriculum Review

Over the past year, we have been reviewing our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) and Relationships Education curriculum to ensure it continues to meet the needs of our pupils and reflects the latest government guidance.

As part of this process, we have updated our PSHE and Relationships Education Policy and reviewed our curriculum content from Reception through to Year 6. The curriculum focuses on helping children develop the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to stay safe, healthy and prepared for life in modern Britain.

We value the views of parents and carers and would welcome any feedback on our updated policy and curriculum. The policy is now available to view on our school website:

<https://www.blaydonwestprimary.org/page/?title=School+Policies&pid=87>

If you would like to share your views, please complete our short feedback form:

<https://forms.gle/pr1PGYPtSLSpLoyd9>

The consultation will remain open until Friday 3rd July 2026. All feedback received will be reviewed and considered before the policy is presented to the Full Governing Body for approval later in July. Thank you for taking the time to engage with this process and for your continued support in helping us provide the very best education for all of our children.

Earrings: As we approach the summer holidays, I would like to remind families that if children are having their ears pierced, this should be done at the start of the summer break to allow sufficient time for healing before returning to school in September.

For health and safety reasons, children are not permitted to wear earrings. We are also unable to allow retainers or plastic studs in place of earrings. If a child arrives at school unable to remove their earrings independently, they will be unable to take part in PE activities and may also face restrictions during playtimes where there is a risk of injury.

These rules are in place to protect children. Even seemingly harmless retainers can cause serious injuries. In schools, accidents can occur during normal play and movement around the building. In a previous incident in this school, a child suffered a significant injury behind the ear after being accidentally knocked while walking in a group, with the plastic retainer causing the damage.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep all children safe.

Holidays in term Time: As we approach the summer holiday period, I would like to remind families that schools are unable to authorise holidays taken during term time except in genuinely exceptional circumstances.

The law is very clear on this matter, and schools do not have discretion to approve family holidays simply because they are cheaper or more convenient during term time. Any request for leave of absence is considered carefully, but holidays will not be authorised unless the circumstances meet the legal threshold for exceptional leave.

Every day in school matters. Even a short absence can result in children missing important learning, disrupting progress and making it more difficult for them to keep up with their peers. Regular attendance remains one of the most significant factors in supporting children's achievement and wellbeing.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that holidays are taken during the published school holiday periods wherever possible.



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Breakfast Club Price Increase from September 2026

I would like to give parents advance notice that, from September 2026, the cost of Breakfast Club will increase from £1.50 per session to £2.50 per session.

This is the first increase in around ten years. During that time, the school has worked hard to keep costs as low as possible for families and has absorbed significant increases in staffing, food and utility costs. Unfortunately, these costs have continued to rise substantially, and the school is no longer able to sustain the provision at the current price without diverting funding from other areas of the school.

I appreciate that this represents a notable increase, and it is not a decision that has been taken lightly. However, even at £2.50 per session, Breakfast Club continues to offer excellent value, providing children with a safe, supervised start to the day, a healthy breakfast and opportunities to socialise with their friends before school.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support. We remain committed to ensuring that Breakfast Club remains an affordable and high-quality provision for our families.

Classes for Academic Year 2026-2026 are as follows:

Year Group Staffing September 2026 Autumn Term	
Nur	Mrs R Wright
Rec	Miss N Simpson
Y 1	Mrs L Roffe
Y 2	Miss R Stevenson
Y 3	Miss K McNally
Y 4	Mrs Z Brown
Y 5	Mrs R Bell
Y 6	Mrs A Bowdler

EVENTS

22nd June	Year 1 – Gibside
23rd June	Nursery Sports Day
24th June	Reception – Hall Hill Farm
26th June	2.00pm – Summer Fair
29th June	Year 5 – Kielder
1st July	Year 1 – Whitley Bay
2nd July	Year 3 – Gibside
6th July	Year 5 – Corbridge and Tynemouth
7th July	Year 4 – Marsden Beach
7th July	2.00pm – Nursery Graduation
8th July	1.30pm – Sports Day – Shibdon Fields
9th July	Year 3 – Durham Botanic Gardens
10th July	New Reception Intake morning followed by lunch with parents/carers
15th July	1.45pm – Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
16 th July	School closes for the summer



Raffle Prizes

Friday 26th June 2:30-4:00pm

- 2 x NUFC shirts
- family ticket for Alnwick Garden
- £50 voucher for Cakeaholics by Claire
- £15 voucher for Emma's
- 12 cupcakes from Little Crumb Lane
- £20 voucher for Luxe Lounge
- Pumphrey's coffee treats
- £10 voucher for Hilton's butchers
- Fruit and veg hamper
- Summer hamper

Tickets £1 per strip