



Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

Thank you to parents and carers for joining our Harvest Assembly last Friday; it was great to have a full house! Weren't the children wonderful! I was so impressed with their outstanding public speaking; even our youngest children showed so much confidence. They delivered a strong message about the importance of buying British and of valuing our farmers, many of whom are families within our school, as well as the importance of staying safe on the farm. Well done to the staff for teaching the children so well. Thank you for your generous donations which will be sent to the food bank.



School Council

Thank you to the outgoing representatives of School Council for their valuable contributions.

Congratulations to the following children who have been elected to the new School Council for 2024/25. The School Council is a great opportunity to support children's understanding of the British Value of Democracy. It is also a great vehicle for us to hear the pupil voice.

Class 1: Charlie V, Elina

Class 2: George G, William and Gemma

Congratulations!



Applying for a Primary School Place – Reception 2025

If your child was born between **1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021** they are due to start primary school in September 2025.

Applications for starting primary school in September 2025 open on 15 November 2024 and close on 15 January 2025.

The date that all allocations of school places are announced in England is known as **'Offer day'**. For September 2025 primary school starters this will be on **16 April 2025**.

For more information: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/>

Every Day is Open Day

If you or someone you know is looking for a September 2025 primary school place or to join at another point, please do contact the office and arrange a visit. We would love to show you all the wonderful things we do. We don't have a particular open day as we love you to see the school in action on a regular day. We offer personalised tours that give you the opportunity to ask questions and meet our fantastic staff and children.

Year 6 Parents - Applying for a Secondary School Place

Has your child recently started in Year 6 and due to join secondary school in September 2025? If so, please remember that applications must be submitted by the **31st October 2024**.

Applications received after this date will be classed as late and they will be considered after all those who applied on time.

You can apply online by visiting:

https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAR2fKBEZQk8ku_4djGvFF1o66dNAQtvie1_yNrdPpLMH9Y8BqXb7msI3tso_aem_0ZynRI9C17JgOI7NgZ6huA

Medical Conditions

At the start of each academic year, we want to review and check our records of medical conditions. Please complete this form, even if you have already told us about your child's medical condition as well as anything that is new. Please include allergies, asthma and anything else we need to know. <https://forms.gle/SxipVWumwsViziXw6>



Breakfast Club



I would like to thank all parents who use the Breakfast Club for booking by 1:30 pm of the previous day. This is really helping us because the office print the register for the Breakfast Club staff at this time; so it has been really clear who we are expecting each day and enables us to safeguard the children and ensure we have enough provisions. We cannot accommodate anyone who wants to book after this time.

Wild Tribe Change of Sessions

Some Class 2 children will be out at the Stephen Shields Cross Country on **Friday 18th October** so **Class 1 will have Wild Tribe together with the remaining Class 2 children.**

Class 2 are on a trip to Kents Cavern on **Friday 25th October** so **Class 1 will have Wildtribe.**



Craft Fair in Village Hall, Sunday 20th October, 1:30 – 4:00

A huge thank you to Heidi Edworthy, who is putting on a craft fair and donating all proceeds to the school's PTFA. Please do go along and support; the PTFA will be putting on refreshments.



Cary Curriculum Activities

'In the Carey Federation, we are aspirational learners who build

Relationships by being Resilient, Resourceful, Reflective and Respectful'

In the Carey Federation we believe that our "Aim High Curriculum" enables all pupils to have the skills to be resourceful, independent, motivated and resilient learners in preparation for the next stage of their education.

We extend a breadth and depth in our curriculum by giving the children the opportunity to try new things and develop new skills. We know that this will help children to grow in confidence, expand their understanding of the world around them, or introduce a hobby or passion that could last for years to come. The impact of trying new activities is so positive.

A list of ten exciting activities will be shared during the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms. The list of activities are inspired by our Carey Qualities and are relevant to the curriculum, foster collaboration and build an understanding the benefits of trying new things.

We want to encourage a genuine interest and zest for the exciting world, both locally, nationally and even internationally, in which we live.

We hope your child will have a fantastic time working through the activity list, both in school and at home with you, as a family.

When the children complete an activity, they can share their thoughts on a post it note and add to our Federation display. We would also love the children to share photographs on Class Dojo!

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other



Every Piece Matters

THE CAREY FEDERATION



We extend a breadth and depth of our curriculum by giving the children the opportunity to try new things and develop new skills.

Tell a friend about different faiths.



Try something new.



How do our Carey Qualities reflect the British Values?

Wrap a Christmas present.



How are you resilient in school? Can you give examples from this week?



Play a board or card game.

Lay the table ready for a family meal.

Explore your family history. Think about the questions you could ask.

Catch a falling leaf and make a wish.



Find out about Christmas celebrations around the World.

Say something kind.



Explain how the SMART rules help to keep us safe on the Internet.



How do you keep safe in the countryside?

What would you like to do in the future?

Safeguarding at Ashwater

The Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs R Alford

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs Gee

Miss Frayn

Mrs R Cawsey—SENDCo

Attendance Officer:

Miss S Revers

Safeguarding Governor:

Mrs A Clark

Safeguarding

Remember if you have any issues regarding Safeguarding that you wish to raise, please email:

safeguarding@halwill.devon.sch.uk These will come directly to a safeguarding lead.

This week we have been reminding children about safe adults. In school, staff wear blue lanyards, Governors wear black lanyards and visitors wear red lanyards or visitor stickers. This shows us that we know these adults are allowed to be in school.



We have also been talking about how to keep safe when walking or travelling alone or if they get lost when out with parents. It's important for children to know which adults are safe to approach for help.

Some Basic Things to Teach Your Child to Do if They Get Lost

- STOP! Stand as tall as possible.
- If you're outside, get to the nearest, safe spot. E.g. go to the nearest pavement, shop or stall.
- If in the woods – teach your child to STOP and try to stay in an open area.
- Look for a police officer or someone in uniform
- When there isn't a police officer or other uniformed person in sight, teach them to look for a parent with children.
- Plan a Meeting Place – especially when in a larger location, such as a shopping centre, amusement park, sports arena or country fair. Be proactive and plan an easy to get to location to meet in case everyone gets separated.
- It's Okay to Yell!! – Teach your child that shouting, even in libraries, or other quiet places, is okay if they're lost or even if they simply can't see you.
- Teach them Your Real Name and Phone Number – When a lost child can tell an adult that her Mummy's name is Jessica and not just Mummy, this will help locate you quicker.
- Reassure them they are not in trouble. Some children believe that they're going to be in trouble because it's their fault they are 'lost' and they then might hide in fear. Reassure them how grateful and not cross you're going to be when you are reunited.
- Whoever they ask for help, teach your child to insist on staying in the same building or area, rather than going with someone somewhere else, unless there is a large emergency that makes it unsafe to stay in that location. A child might think they can walk home and that only compounds the problem because emergency personnel will be looking for the child in the area they were last seen

Dates for your diary:

October

- 18th Cross Country Torrington
20th Ashwater Craft Fair Village Hall - 1.30pm - 4pm
23rd Tempest Individual Photos
25th Class 2 Kents Cavern trip
28th to 1st Nov Half Term

November

- 4th Non-pupil day
12th Flu Immunisations
13th Vision Screening YR
27th Parent Consultation - 2pm - 6pm

December

- 6th Ashwater Christmas Fair - 3.30pm-4.30pm
18th Church Service - 9.15 am and 5pm
19th End of term

January

- 6th Start of term

February

- 14th to 25th Half Term

March

- 26th Mary Poppins

Term dates: <https://www.thecarey federation.co.uk/ashwater-primary-school/parents/term-dates/>



Holiday Requests

Please see the following message which we have been asked to share with you by Devon County Council:

We believe that in order for a pupil to fully benefit from their education, good attendance is crucial. It is the policy of our school to celebrate achievement and full attendance is a critical factor to a productive and successful school career.

In September 2013, an amendment to the Education (Pupil Registration)(England) Regulations 2006 came in to force and greater clarity was introduced to the issue of schools authorising absence requests. In addition on 19 August 2024, an amendment to the Education (Penalty Notices) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 came into force and set out a new National Framework for issuing penalty notices. These changes reinforced the Government's view that every minute of every school day is vital and that pupils should only be granted authorised absences by the school in 'exceptional circumstances'.

A family holiday is not normally considered by the Government to be an 'exceptional circumstance' and therefore will not be authorised by this school.

I must take this opportunity to remind you, that should you choose to take your child out of school without the authorisation of the school, then Parental Responsibility Measures could be instigated. This could mean receiving any of the following;

- A Penalty Notice
- A summons to the Magistrate Court which could result in a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment for up to 3 months.

Schools are required to notify the Local Authority if a pupil has a number of unauthorised absences. Unauthorised absences can be acquired when;

- 1) Leave has been requested, but the circumstances are such that the school is unable to authorise the leave and it is taken anyway.
- 2) Leave is not requested and/or the school has grounds to believe that the child has been taken out of school for an avoidable reason (example – a family holiday). Only the Head teacher can authorise an absence. This year there have been occasions when schools have been notified that the pupil is sick, but the school later discovers and reasonably believes that the reason given for the absence is not genuine.
- 3) A child continually arrives late after the registration period has closed.

This school will be notifying the Local Authority in all of the circumstances listed above.

Should a Penalty Notice be issued as a result of unauthorised absence then one notice will be issued to each parent/carer for each child involved. In addition to natural parents and any person with parental responsibility, any person considered to have day to day care and control of a young person is deemed to be a parent in matters relating to education and school nonattendance (s576 Education Act 1996).

From 19th August 2024, following changes to secondary legislation, the amount charged in a penalty notice was increased.

The first penalty notice issued will be charged at £160 if paid within 28 days. This is reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

The second penalty notice issued will be charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days. If a Penalty Notice goes unpaid after 28 days, then court proceedings will be initiated.

We understand the disappointment that the refusal of a leave request may cause and we apologise, but as you can appreciate this policy represents the schools responsibility and commitment towards providing your child's education and supporting their future life opportunities. We hope you will support us by ensuring that your son/daughter obtains the maximum benefit from their time at school by attending punctually for the 190 days each year that the law requires (unless prevented from doing so by an unavoidable circumstances).

Attendance

We want your child to thrive in The Carey Federation, every day. We build strong and enduring relationships because we believe this is the foundation pupils need to fully engage in our community, to feel a sense of belonging and succeed.

Every child has a right to access education, and everyone is responsible for supporting and promoting excellent school attendance and punctuality. The Carey Federation are committed to providing the highest quality of education to our pupils and we recognise the clear link between attendance and the attainment of our pupils.

Thank you for supporting this. Our attendance is good because you make every effort to send your child to school, unless they are not well enough to be here.

Whilst we understand holidays can be beneficial; this has to be weighed up against the loss of learning. In addition, children can be adversely affected emotionally when they return to school having missed fun activities their peers are discussing, feel confused or unsure when faced with lessons that follow on from those they have missed and find that friendship groups have changed in their absence. For these reasons, we will not authorise holidays unless for compassionate or extenuating circumstances. If unauthorised holidays are taken, Devon County Council is likely to fine you.

We have updated our Attendance Policy, based on the latest DfE guidance, which you can read on our website: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/parents/attendance/>

Here are some key points from it:

Absence for illness must be reported by phone, voicemail, email or in person to the school office by 9:00 am

Absence requests for medical / dental appointments, religious / cultural observances and exceptional circumstances, must be requested by completing an S2 form and submitting it to the office with as much notice as practically possible.

An unauthorised absence is defined as one where we are not satisfied with the reasons given.

Reasons may include:

- Parents keeping children from attending unnecessarily or without reason
- Missing sessions before or during the school day
- Absences which have never been properly explained
- Arrival after the register has closed
- Day trips and holidays in term time that have not been agreed
- Leaving our school without authorisation during the day

Persistent Absence is defined as: 10% or more of sessions missed (based on each pupil's possible sessions). Absences may be authorised or unauthorised.

Persistent lateness is defined as pupils who have five or more late marks recorded in a single half-term.

On the following page is information shared by Devon County Council.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS – NEW WORKING ENTITLEMENTS!

Dear Parents,

The new entitlements for eligible working parents, or those with caring responsibilities, will be extended to children from 9 months from September 2024. It is your responsibility to check if you are entitled, make an application before 31st August, and reconfirm every 3 months.

[Check you're eligible for free childcare if you're working - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

It is important that if you have a child who will be 9 months old, on or before 31st August 2024, that you apply to HMRC (Childcare Service) in good time.

Please set-up or visit your [Gateway Account](#) immediately to apply.

Please note that you may not be able to apply for the working entitlement funding immediately if you have a Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) account. We have been advised that you will be able to apply when you receive your TFC reconfirmation reminder or HMRC will issue a temporary code.

If you have recently reconfirmed your TFC and not made an application, please ensure that you are due to reconfirm again before the 31st of August deadline.

It is important that you allow time for any queries with new applications or reconfirmations to avoid delays. Any codes issued by HMRC in September 2024 **will not be funded** in Autumn 2024 (1st September – 31st December). A code with an 'eligible from' date of 1st September 2024 will not be funded until Spring 2025 and only then if you reconfirm by 31st December 2024.

The dates of your code are important, and you must reconfirm every 3 months to confirm eligibility and continue to access your funded childcare!

If you have a previous application for an older sibling, please check the eligibility dates of any new codes for a younger child as the reconfirmation dates can be aligned to the older child which could mean you need to reconfirm before the normal 3-month reconfirmation period.

If you have a code for an older child that needs to be reconfirmed, this should also be completed **now**, and if you are unsure, it is your responsibility to log into your [Gateway Account](#) and check. If you are newly eligible or are given a new code at reconfirmation, you need to take your 11-digit code to your provider who will complete a verification check and then confirm your funded space.

When eligibility ends, children who have accessed the working entitlements can continue to access their entitlement in the next funding period when in the Grace Period. However, children, who are newly eligible in September and using the working entitlements for the first time, or start at a new setting, cannot start to use the funding if their eligibility has ended. The Grace Period does not apply to children that have not used the working entitlements with the provider in the previous funding period.

If the Grace period does not apply, or your Grace period ends, the working entitlement will also end. If you continue to use childcare, you will be charged.

If you are registering for a new Gateway account with HMRC, you will be asked if you would like to register for Tax Free Childcare. If you are in receipt of Tax Credits these may be stopped, and it can take several weeks to reapply and for Tax Credits to be reinstated.

If you have problems accessing the system or completing your check, please call the HMRC Helpdesk on 0300 1234 097 (your provider and Devon County Council cannot assist with new applications or reconfirmations for the Working Entitlements).

Devon Early Years are running some online sessions for parents in July to give an overview on what funding is available, how you apply for different funding streams and how your child can access funded time. Please save the links below to join a session that suits you:

Kind regards,

Devon Early Years Funding

Childcare
Choices

All the government
childcare offers in one place

childcarechoices.gov.uk



 HM Government



Hatherleigh U10 girls

Did you know Hatherleigh has a girl's football team?

Do you have a girl in Year 3, 4 or 5 who wants to play football?

- Have fun
- Make friends
- Get active
- Belong to a team



We are actively looking for new players—all abilities and experiences welcome!

Weekly training and regular North Devon Youth League Matches.

Get in touch for more information:

Email: lioness-under-10s@hatherleighyouthfc.co.uk



**LJD COACHING
LIMITED**



FOOTBALL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

**Come and enjoy fun games,
matches, penalty shoot outs
and much more!**

4 YEAR OLDS TO 11 YEAR OLDS

**WEDNESDAY 30TH OCTOBER
9:00AM - 3:00PM
BUDE FOOTBALL CLUB**

£15

Bring a packed lunch and drink

COULD YOUR CHILD BE ENTITLED TO A SUBSIDY TOWARDS THE COST OF RESIDENTIAL OR DAY TRIPS, SPORTING EVENTS, SCHOOL UNIFORM, EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, BREAKFAST CLUB, AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS AS WELL AS FREE SCHOOL MEALS IN KS2?

If you are in receipt of any of the following, your child could be entitled to a subsidy towards the cost of the above:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income that does not exceed £16,190).

Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

Please apply even if your child is in Foundation, Year 1 or Year 2 and receives a meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme. As well as financially benefiting as described above, your child may receive additional learning support where appropriate because of the additional funding that school receives from Government for known free school meals pupils.

How to apply

Through the Citizen Portal (https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live) which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision.

Parents and carers can also ring the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



1. Protect your child

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia

2. Protect you, your family and friends

Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family

3. No injection needed

The nasal spray is painless and easy to have

4. It's better than having flu

The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record

5. Avoid costs

If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

For more information visit
www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Flu  **mmunisation**

Helping to protect children, every winter