

Brockley Primary School Newsletter 23/25**Friday 14th March 2025****Attendance Update**

Our whole school attendance this week is **94%** This is below both National average. The lower than usual percentage is due to illness and **19** families were absent for a day or more at the end of last term and the beginning of this term. We want to remind you that we are unable to grant any holiday leave a duty to refer unauthorised leave of over 10 sessions (5 days) to the Local Authority who may pursue a fine.

Why does attendance matter so much?

Research by the Department for Education (DfE) shows a direct relationship between school attendance rates and GCSE performance.

Pupils who attend school regularly are more likely to perform better academically.

This is because consistent attendance ensures greater exposure to instruction, classroom interactions, and learning resources.

Studies show that even a small amount of missed school can negatively impact a pupil's performance. Persistent absenteeism (missing 10% or more of school days) is particularly harmful.

Please make sure you send your child in every day for the rest of term.

Attendance**Week Ending 14/03/2025**

School attendance is a legal requirement and with the new Penalty Notice Fine Procedures in place it is vitally important that your child attends school on time daily.

Each week in the newsletter we'll report on the attendance for each class so as a community you can see how well our children attend school.

The national attendance target for all schools in England is at least 96%

90% + below	In-between 90% & 96%	96% + above
Zebra	91.5%	
Monkey	96%	
Giraffe	94%	
Elephant	93%	
Lion	94%	

Number for reporting absences and for any queries

01246-823344

Social MediaFollow us Facebook: [Facebook](#)**School website for all policies and information**www.brockley.derbyshire.sch.uk**School email address**info@brockley.derbyshire.sch.uk**Headteacher's direct email address**headteacher@brockley.derbyshire.sch.uk**Safeguarding Reports and Queries**safeguarding@brockley.derbyshire.sch.uk[Derby Safeguarding Children Partnership \(ddscp.org.uk\)](http://Derby Safeguarding Children Partnership (ddscp.org.uk))

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION-FUNDED

HOLIDAY CLUBS IN DERBYSHIRE

it's about me

Derbyshire's Holiday Activity and
Food Programme

2025/26

MORE INFORMATION

Did you know that as well as free school meals during term time, your child can also benefit from Department for Education-funded spaces at holiday clubs in your local area?

Thanks to the Holiday Activity and Food Programme, known in Derbyshire as 'It's About Me', your child can experience holiday clubs filled with fun, learning and healthy meals at no cost to you!

If your child is aged between 4-16 years old* and is eligible to receive benefits-related free school meals, they're entitled to access It's About Me holiday clubs.

With a wide range of activities such as sports, arts and crafts, cooking, dance, music and more, there's something for everyone! Plus, every session includes a nutritious meal to keep them energised and happy throughout the day.

Each club offers a unique programme depending on its location and type—there's so much to explore!

Not eligible? Many clubs also offer paid places, so every child has the chance to join the fun.

*See website for full eligibility criteria.




Department
for Education

IMPORTANT DATES

SPRING

Bookings open: 17th March 2025

Holiday clubs open: 7th April 2025 -
17th April 2025

SUMMER

Bookings open: 30th June 2025

Holiday clubs open: 28th July 2025 -
3rd September 2025

WINTER

Bookings open: 1st December 2025

Holiday clubs open: 22nd December 2025-
2nd January 2026

All dates exclude bank holidays and weekends.

HOW TO BOOK

1

Get your unique IAM/ HAF code from your child's school

2

Go to our website
itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk

3

Follow our handy
[How to Book Guide](#)

4

Sign-up to receive It's
About Me updates



MORE INFORMATION:

itsaboutmederbyshire.co.uk





200 new trees for Shuttlewood

Children from Brockley Primary School pay close attention as the Bolsover area's Community Woodlands Officer, John Ramsey, demonstrates how to plant the saplings

OLD Bolsover Town Council and Bolsover District Council are supporting biodiversity and developing green spaces by planting trees in Shuttlewood Park, thanks to funding from The Tree Council's Branching Out Fund.

Branching Out provides grants ranging from £250 to £2,500 to community groups, schools, small registered charities and Tree Warden Networks seeking to establish trees, hedgerows and orchards throughout the winter planting season.

This year, Old Bolsover Town Council successfully secured grant support through the Branching Out Fund, with support from John Ramsey, Bolsover Community Woodlands Project Officer at the District Council.

We were delighted to welcome children from Brockley Primary School on 25th February to help complete the planting programme. They planted 200 saplings and are looking forward to seeing them grow into strong, healthy trees.



The planting site is just across the road from Brockley Primary School and pupils are looking forward to watching the growth of their trees

Now in its 18th year, Branching Out has supported hundreds of projects in communities throughout England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, delivering new habitats for wildlife, and a green living legacy for residents and visitors to enjoy, from Cornwall to Carmarthenshire, and Fife to Fermanagh.

The focus is on planting a variety of tree species, bare root, with cardboard or bioplastic protection.

Comprehensive advice around the types of trees to plant and the



Lending a hand are Old Bolsover Town Council Leader, Coun Cathy Jeffery, and Coun Ashley Taylor

tree protection needed is provided by The Tree Council as part of the application process.

Tree Council grants officer, Geraldine Creaven, said: "Branching Out presents a fantastic opportunity for schools and community groups, large and small, to get their spades in the ground and start establishing life-enhancing and biodiversity boosting trees, hedgerows, and orchards in their neighbourhoods.

"We're so thrilled for all our successful applicants, especially Old Bolsover Town Council!"

To find out more about The Tree Council's Branching Out Fund, visit treecouncil.org.uk/grants-and-guidance/our-grants/branching-out-fund/

Online Safety: Creating the Right Environment for Our Children

In today's digital age, online safety is more important than ever. As our children become increasingly connected to the internet, it's crucial to ensure they have a safe and positive online experience. Here are some tips and guidelines to help create the right environment for our children:

1. Educate About Online Safety

Start by educating your children about the importance of online safety. Discuss the potential risks and dangers they might encounter online, such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content, and privacy issues. Encourage them to talk to you if they come across anything that makes them uncomfortable.

2. Set Clear Rules and Boundaries

Establish clear rules and boundaries for internet use. Set limits on screen time and specify which websites and apps are appropriate for them to use. Make sure they understand the importance of following these rules to stay safe online.

3. Use Parental Controls

Utilize parental control features on devices and apps to monitor and restrict your child's online activity. These tools can help block inappropriate content, limit screen time, and track their online behaviour.

4. Encourage Open Communication

Create an environment where your children feel comfortable discussing their online experiences with you. Encourage them to share any concerns or issues they encounter. Open communication is key to identifying and addressing potential problems early.

5. Teach Responsible Online Behaviour

Guide your children on how to behave responsibly online. Teach them to be respectful and kind to others, avoid sharing personal information, and think before they post or share anything. Responsible online behaviour helps create a positive and safe digital environment.

6. Stay Informed

Stay informed about the latest trends and developments in online safety. Regularly update yourself on new apps, games, and social media platforms that your children might be using. Being knowledgeable about the digital world helps you better protect your children.

7. Lead by Example

Model good online behaviour for your children. Show them how to use the internet responsibly and safely. Your actions will set a positive example for them to follow.

8. Promote Healthy Screen Time Habits

Encourage healthy screen time habits by balancing online activities with offline ones. Promote outdoor play, reading, and family time to ensure your children have a well-rounded lifestyle.

Click the links to find out more:

[Online safety leaflets & resources - Internet Matters](#)

[Conversation starters for your child's online life | Internet Matters](#)