



School Vision - 'Be the best you can be'



COALWAY COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL

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Website: www.coalway-inf.gloucs.sch.uk

Newsletter: January 2025

Welcome back to school for the Spring term.



Curriculum Overviews for Parents

These will be added to the class page of the website, to give parents an outline of the work, which their child will be covering in class this term. We hope that you will find this informative and helpful.

Please can we remind you that we encourage all children to read or share a book, at least four times per week at home. The more children read, the better reader they will become. We would love children to read for pleasure. Please support us by encouraging your child to read or look at a broad range of books, at home, every day if possible.



Attendance

Thank you to all parents who telephone or email to let us know of their child's absence. This is a significant help to the staff and ensures that appropriate absence records are kept for your child. If your child is unwell and cannot attend school please could you inform the School Office as early as possible (preferably by 9.00 a.m.). As part of our attendance procedures Mrs. Edwards or Mrs. Cornes will contact you via telephone or ParentMail if we are unsure of a reason for absence.

Good school attendance and being in school on time is vital for children's success in the future. Attending every day is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and their wider development. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care.

To raise parents' awareness of their child's attendance to date, we will shortly be sending home a printout of their attendance. This identifies their percentage attendance since September and the number of authorised and unauthorised absences. Also listed is the number of sessions your child has attended - remember that there are two sessions per day, a morning and an afternoon session.

We will continue to monitor reasons for absence and regularity of lateness and absence throughout the year. For parent's information, the Government figure for persistent absence is an attendance rate of below 90%.

Core Values: Kindness, Respect, Support, Wellbeing, Success

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

MINUTES LATE PER DAY	EQUIVALENT OF MISSING	HOW MANY LESSONS THIS IS MISSED
5 MINUTES	3.4 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	17 LESSONS
10 MINUTES	6.9 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	35 LESSONS
15 MINUTES	10.3 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	51 LESSONS
20 MINUTES	13.8 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	69 LESSONS
30 MINUTES	20.7 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	104 LESSONS



Please ensure that we have two, up to date, contacts to ensure that we are able to contact you in an emergency, such as if your child becomes ill during the school day.

School Intake and Junior Transfer September 2025



Reminder... applications for admission to the Infants and Junior School for September 2025 should be completed on-line by midnight Wednesday 15th January 2025.

School Lunches Menu



School menu remains the same until after the Easter holiday.

Christmas

We were very proud of our Reception children for producing such a fantastic concert for their parents and families last term, and also to Years 1 and 2 for their Carol singing. Well done children!

Thank you! We raised £30 through our end of term Christmas Jumper Day for 'Save the Children'.

Adverse Weather Conditions



As winter approaches, please can we remind you about our general procedures regarding possible school closure in the event of severe weather:

1. Closure of the school will be posted on the school website www.coalway-inf.gloucs.sch.uk
2. If there is heavy snowfall overnight you will be contacted by ParentMail by 8.15 a.m. the next day informing you of closure of the school.
3. If you have not received a ParentMail message you may check by telephoning the school after 8.30 a.m. to check if the school is open.
4. Listen to Radio Gloucestershire - FM 104.7 and/or Heart Gloucestershire - FM 102.4; AM 774. They will give news about school closures.
5. Access the Gloucestershire website to view the list of schools that are closed www.glosclosedschools.com
6. It may be necessary for the school to close during the course of the day. In that case, it is very important that we have an emergency contact number as a ParentMail message will be sent in the first instance.



Head Lice

Information on Head Lice is published in the newsletter at the beginning of every second term in line with the advice issued by the Gloucestershire Health Protection Unit. It is each parent's responsibility to check hair at least once a week and to treat if necessary. Please find below Local Authority information, which we advise parents to read carefully. The advice, briefly, is as follows:-

- An attempt should be made to remove the head lice by repeated combing of wet hair using a plastic head louse detector comb. Combs are available from pharmacies. Plastic head louse detector combs must be used.
- If this fails to clean the headlice infestations, parents should contact the Health Centre (0300 4218850) for a recommended lotion or further advice can be obtained from the school nurse via the same number.

It is most important that ...

- you check your child(ren)'s hair on a regular basis and follow this advice
- long, loose hair should be tied back to reduce the risk.

The school gates/classroom doors will open at 8.35 a.m. and will close at 8.45. Please ensure that your child is in class by 8.45 am. Registers are taken at 8.45. Lunch lists are also completed at 8.45 am. If your child is late they will have a disrupted start to the day. This can cause your child to worry.

Please support your child by helping them arrive on time. Late attenders need to go to the school office. Parents will be asked to record the reason for late attendance.

If your child has any appointments i.e. Dentist, Doctor, Hospital please complete an 'absence from learning request form'. These can be obtained from the school office, prior to the appointment. Please return the completed form to the school office.

Term dates

School finishes for the holiday on Friday 14th February at 3.15 pm.

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Half Term – Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

Term 4 starts **Monday 24th February**.

Term dates for the remainder of this academic year are available on the school website.

Site Notices

To maximise safety, security and safeguarding across the school site we have automated entrance gates on Coalway and Holcot Roads. To ensure the safety of everyone on site the entrance gates are locked throughout the school day and unlocked for a period of time at the beginning and end of the school day to ensure authorised access only.

Coalway Road & Holcot Road gates: The site entrance gates are closed throughout the day, with the pedestrian gates opened **10 minutes** before either end of the day to enable parents to collect their children, i.e. 8.35 a.m. and 3.05 p.m.

Should anyone need to collect their child or access the site during the school day, the main entrance gates on Coalway Road have an intercom system. Please press the button for the provider you require (Coalway Early Years, Coalway Infant, Coalway Junior, Coalway Kids Club or the Junior School Canteen). When leaving the site, there is a grey press pad - please 'press pad to exit' and the gate should automatically open and close behind you.





Parking on site is restricted to staff only. Parents should park outside the school site to drop off and collect children, ensuring that they do not park on the double yellow lines or drop their children off in the school gateway. We would also ask that parents help us to continue our good relationships with our neighbours by not parking in front of driveways or on grass verges on Coalway or Holcot Roads or the Eskimarket's mobile home park.

Parents are asked to closely supervise their children at the beginning and end of the school day, whilst waiting for staff to open the classroom doors. Staff cars may also be arriving/leaving site at these times.



Children coming in to school on scooters or bikes should dismount whilst on the school grounds and pavements.

Dogs: May we also remind parents that we do not allow dogs on site for health and safety reasons. 

No Smoking or Vaping In accordance with the Local Authority policy the school site is a non-smoking area. 

Please could parents inform other family members who collect the children from school of the above notices. Thank you.