

NEWSLETTER



Friday 11th September 2026



DUDLEY NEWS

WELCOME BACK TO DUDLEY!

Welcome back to a new school year at Dudley Infant Academy! We do hope you all had a wonderful summer and enjoyed spending time with family and friends. It has been fantastic to welcome the children back to school last week. They have returned with huge smiles, lots of enthusiasm and a real eagerness to learn. It has been lovely to see them settling into their new classrooms and getting to know their new teachers and support staff. A particularly warm welcome goes to all the children and families who are joining us this year, especially those starting their Dudley journey in Lions and Tigers. We are delighted to have you as part of our school community and look forward to supporting your children as they begin this exciting new chapter. We know that returning to school after the summer break can bring a mixture of emotions. Whilst many children are excited to be back, for some, adjusting to a new routine, a new classroom, and new expectations can feel a little challenging. Please be reassured that our staff are here to help support them as they settle back into school life. As always, we value the strong partnership between home and school. If you have any questions, concerns, or information you would like to share, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff. In Year 1 and Year 2 there will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's new class teacher on Tuesday 15th September and Friday 18th September - do take a look at the calendar in today's newsletter for details of timings. We are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead and all the opportunities it will bring for our children and school community.

CONTACT DETAILS

We are aware that some families have moved house during the holidays or parents may have changed their telephone numbers. If your contact details have changed please can you advise the academy office so that your child's details can be updated. Thank you.

NUT FREE ENVIRONMENT

Just a reminder that at Dudley we continue to be a **nut free** environment. This is part of our safeguarding duties as we have children in the academy who have severe nut allergies. Please can we ask that if your child brings in a packed lunch that you check items are nut free and do not contain traces of nuts. This particularly applies to certain types of chocolate spread. Thank you for your continued support with this.

MEDICINES IN SCHOOL

If your child requires an inhaler or other medicine on a regular basis in school, please ensure that you take it to the academy office and complete an Individual Health Care Plan (IHCP). Staff are unable to administer medicines without this plan in place. If you have any questions relating to this matter, please do speak with Mrs Froude in our academy office.

GOLD AWARDS

Each week, on a Friday afternoon, we hold our Gold Award and celebratory assembly. We are so proud of the children here at Dudley and this is a wonderful opportunity to recognise their achievements and celebrate the behaviour and values they uphold each and every day. If your child is receiving an award, a member of our office team will contact you in the week. We of course completely appreciate that taking time off from work and other commitments you have may be a challenge, but we do hope that you will be able to join us. The assembly will start at 3pm and last for approximately 25 minutes. We look forward to sharing the celebrations with you.

SAFEGUARDING

Our academy's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy have been updated in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 and all staff received training focusing on the updates during our September inset day. Our key safeguarding policies can be found shortly on our academy website and a reminder of our Safeguarding Officers has been added to the final page of today's newsletter.



SAFEGUARDING CONTACT

INFORMATION

Designated Safeguarding team (for Dudley

Infant Academy) -

DSL@dudleyinfantacademy.org.uk

David Marks (Chair of Local Board)

d.marks@brightonacademiestrust.org.uk



LUNCH ORDERING

It has been wonderful to see so many children enjoying a school dinner since the introduction of our new catering provider, Relish. We would like to thank all parents and carers for their patience as we work through the introduction of the new ordering system. As with any new system, there are always a few teething problems, and we are grateful for your understanding and support whilst we get everything running as smoothly as possible.

To help our lunchtime arrangements run efficiently, we kindly ask that all meals are ordered online from home wherever possible. This helps ensure that meal choices are recorded accurately and supports a smooth service for the children.

If you are experiencing any difficulties accessing the Relish ordering system, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of our office team, who will be happy to help. Alternatively, you can contact Relish directly for support.

DUDLEY DIARY DATES

Tuesday 15th Sept - Year 1 Meet the Teacher 3-3.30pm

Friday 18th Sept - Year 2 Meet the Teacher 3-3.30pm

Thursday 17th Sept - Zumba after school club starts

Tuesday 22nd Sept - School Photographs

Friday 9th Oct - POD AGM 9am

Friday 23rd Oct - INSET DAY

26th Oct - 30th Oct HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 2nd Nov - INSET DAY

Tuesday 3rd Nov - Start of Term 2

More dates to follow soon.



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic week we have had and a great start to the new academic year. The children have returned with a positive and determined attitude and it has been a pleasure to watch them settle in so quickly and happily to their new year groups. We are looking forward to a great year ahead and having the opportunity to work with our Dudley community.

Have a great weekend.

Mr Maclean & Mrs Luke

East Sussex School Term and Holiday Dates 2026-2027

Calendar view

The below table may not be accessible to screen readers. You can find the same information in text form on page 2.

	SEPTEMBER 2026	OCTOBER 2026	NOVEMBER 2026	DECEMBER 2026
Monday	31 7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Wednesday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Thursday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Friday	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Saturday	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Sunday	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
	JANUARY 2027	FEBRUARY 2027	MARCH 2027	APRIL 2027
Monday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Tuesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Wednesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Thursday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Friday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Sunday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
	MAY 2027	JUNE 2027	JULY 2027	AUGUST 2027
Monday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Tuesday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Wednesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Thursday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Friday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Saturday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Sunday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29

Key

- Staff training (INSET day)
- Start of term for pupils
- End of term for pupils
- Public holidays
- School holidays

Dudley Safeguarding Officers



Mr Maclean



Mrs Luke



Mrs Froude



Mrs Sankey



Mr Wilkinson

Academy Safeguarding Team - DSL@dudleyinfantacademy.org.uk

Chair of Local Board - Mr David Marks dmarks@dcac.academy

DCAT Trustee Safeguarding Lead - Mr Nick Wilkinson - n.wilkinson@dcac.academy