



Welcome to 2026/2027

A very warm welcome back to a new academic year! I hope you have all had a wonderful summer and that the children have enjoyed a well-deserved break. It has been fantastic to welcome everyone back to school, and there is already such a positive energy and excitement across our school community.

As we begin this new academic year, our first focus is **Belonging**.

We want every child, every family and every member of staff to feel that they belong to our school community – that they are valued, listened to, supported and able to make a positive difference.

Our school motto sits at the heart of this:

Living, Learning, Growing Together

We are not separate parts of a school; we are one community. We live our values together, learn from one another and grow together. Throughout the year, we will continue to develop opportunities for everyone to play an active role in school life, building a strong sense of community, pride and belonging.

Our school values of Hope, Love, Integrity, Curiosity and Unity will continue to underpin everything we do. We want our children to understand what these values look and feel like in everyday life and to have opportunities to demonstrate them, both in school and beyond.

Building a Community Where Everyone Belongs

This year, we are placing an even greater emphasis on working together with parents and families. We believe that parents are partners in their child's education and that the strongest outcomes for children happen when home and school work together.

You will see more opportunities throughout the year to be part of school life, including our new Class Newsletters, Parent Information Mornings and 'Celebration Friday' weekly announcements. These will give you greater insight into what your child is learning, provide opportunities to come into school and ask questions, and allow us to celebrate the wonderful achievements of our children together. There will be a Whole School Newsletter at the beginning and end of each term as well as updates via Parent Hub in between.

We will also be creating more opportunities for families to come into school and be part of our community, alongside increased enrichment opportunities for our children.

These developments have been shaped by your feedback through our parent survey. Thank you for taking the time to share your views with us. We really do listen, and we are committed to responding to your feedback and continuing to improve together.

Please remember that our door is always open. If you have a problem, a concern or something you would like to talk to us about, please come and speak to us. We may not always be able to provide the answer you are hoping for, but we will always listen and do our very best to support you. We want the very best for your children too.

Giving Children a Voice

Belonging is also about giving our children opportunities to have responsibility, to lead and to make a difference.

We will continue to develop our pupil leadership opportunities, including GBA Champions, Play Leaders, Junior Online Safety Officers, Junior Road Safety Officers and Wellbeing Champions. These roles give children the opportunity to represent their peers, support

others, develop confidence and leadership skills, and play an active role in making our school an even better place to be.

We want every child to discover their strengths, find their voice and know that their contribution matters.

Introducing GBA Houses

We are also incredibly excited to launch our new GBA Houses this year!

The children have been placed into Houses alongside their family members, creating another opportunity for children across the school to build friendships, work together and develop a strong sense of belonging to the wider GBA family.

Throughout the year, we will hold a range of House events and activities, where children will work together, demonstrate our school values, develop teamwork and celebrate their achievements.

We hope that the GBA Houses will become a really special part of school life and give our children even more opportunities to connect with one another across the school.

Parents – You Belong Too!

Belonging isn't just about the children. We want our parents and families to feel that they are a valued part of our school community too.

One of the best ways to become more involved is through our PTFA. The PTFA provides a fantastic opportunity to meet other families, support school events and help raise additional funds that directly benefit our children.

Whether you can give lots of time or simply help occasionally, every contribution makes a difference. We would love to see more of our families getting involved and becoming an even bigger part of our school community.

More Experiences, More Opportunities

Alongside our focus on belonging, we will continue to provide our children with a wide range of enrichment experiences. We want school to be a place where children not only learn, but also discover new interests, develop talents, try something different and create memories that they will carry with them.

We will continue our after-school club provision with JB Sports, as well as looking at further opportunities throughout the year.

There is lots to look forward to, and I am incredibly excited about what we can achieve together.

We are one community.

Living. Learning. Growing Together.

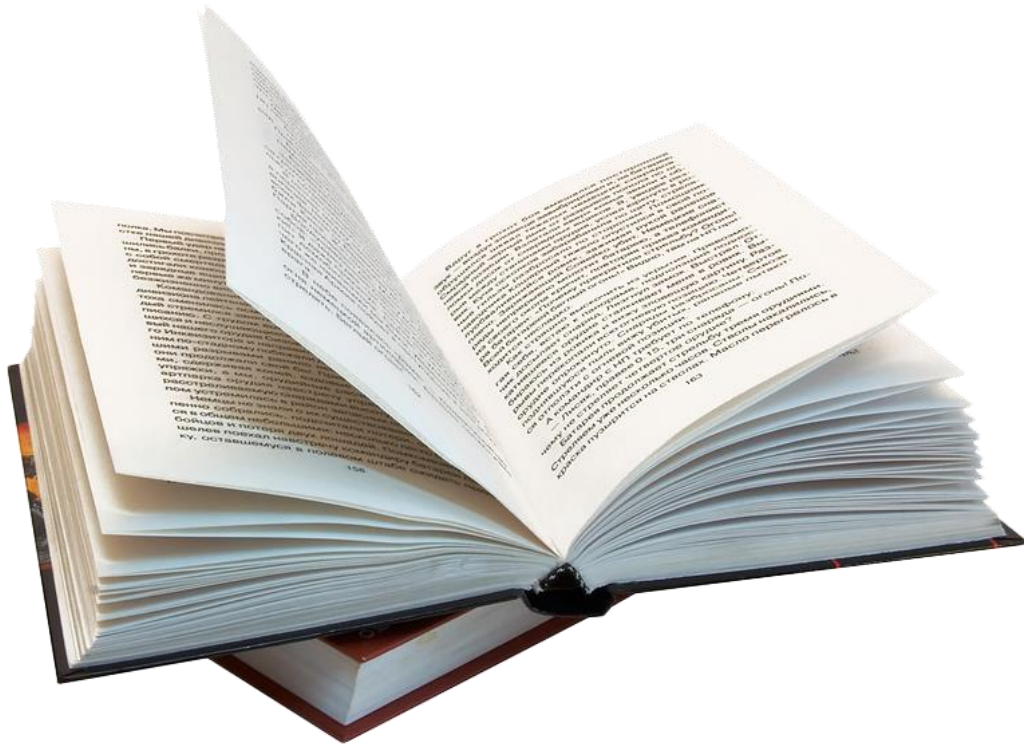
Let's make this a year where every child, every family and every member of our school community truly feels that they belong.

Mrs Case

Headteacher



Our New Library



Our Library has moved into the mini classroom and has been transformed into a calm, welcoming space for reading.

We want our children to develop a genuine love of books and reading, and this new space will give them somewhere special to explore stories, discover new authors and enjoy time with books.

We can't wait to see the children making the most of it!



School Uniform



A huge **thank you** to all of our families. The children have returned looking incredibly smart in their school uniform! Just a reminder about earrings and jewellery.

Our uniform policy is on the school website.

[Gipsey Bridge Academy - Uniform](#)

We also have a large selection of **pre-loved uniform** available in the school hall, including:

- Jumpers
- Trousers
- Skirts
- Shorts
- Other uniform items

If you need an additional item or your child has outgrown something, please come and have a look. There is absolutely no need to purchase new uniform when there may be something suitable available from our pre-loved collection.

The pre-loved uniform will also be available during our **Parent Information Mornings**.

Attendance



We understand that attendance can sometimes be a difficult and frustrating area for families. However, as a school, we must follow the latest Department for Education (DfE) guidance and Lincolnshire County Council policy.

Attendance is also an important part of Ofsted's work because of its links to children's education, wellbeing and safeguarding.

Please therefore:

- Try to arrange medical and other appointments outside of school hours wherever possible.
- Be aware that **term-time holidays cannot be authorised** unless they meet the very specific exceptional circumstances outlined in the relevant guidance.
- Continue to contact school when your child is unwell. We completely understand that children will, of course, become ill and their wellbeing remains our utmost priority.

We appreciate that families may sometimes find the guidance frustrating. However, these requirements are a national directive from the DfE and are not something that schools have discretion to change.

The latest attendance documents and information were shared via **Parent Hub on Wednesday 9 September**.

Safer Eating Guidance – Keeping Our Children Safe



We would like to remind families about the Government's safer eating guidance for children. These recommendations are in place to reduce the risk of choking and form part of our wider responsibility to keep children safe and promote their health and wellbeing.

Please ensure that food brought into school is prepared appropriately. **In particular, fruit such as grapes must be cut lengthways into quarters**, rather than being sent in whole or simply cut in half. Other foods should also be prepared in a way that is appropriate for your child's age and ability to eat safely.

For **Key Stage 2**, children may have a healthy snack during the morning if they feel they need one. This should be a piece of fruit or a vegetable.

We also ask families to consider healthy choices when preparing packed lunches. The Government's School Food Standards promote a balanced diet containing plenty of fruit and vegetables, starchy foods, protein and dairy, while limiting foods high in fat, sugar and salt. The Government also specifically recommends that schools promote healthy packed lunches as part of a whole-school culture of healthy eating.

The School Food Standards Regulations 2014 provide the legislative framework for food provided in schools. Compliance with these standards is mandatory for maintained schools, academies and free schools in England.

Please take a moment to read the Government guidance and support us in helping our children develop safe and healthy eating habits for life.

Further information:

[GOV.UK – School Food Standards: Practical Guide](#)

[GOV.UK – Standards for School Food in England and relevant legislation](#)

More information was shared on Parent Hub on Thursday 3rd September 2026.

Medications & Allergies



The safety and wellbeing of our children is always our highest priority. To ensure that we can provide the right support and respond appropriately in an emergency, it is essential that school is kept up to date with any allergies, medical conditions or medications your child may have.

Please ensure that you have completed the relevant school medical and medication paperwork and that our school team is aware of any new or recently changed allergies, medical needs or prescribed medication.

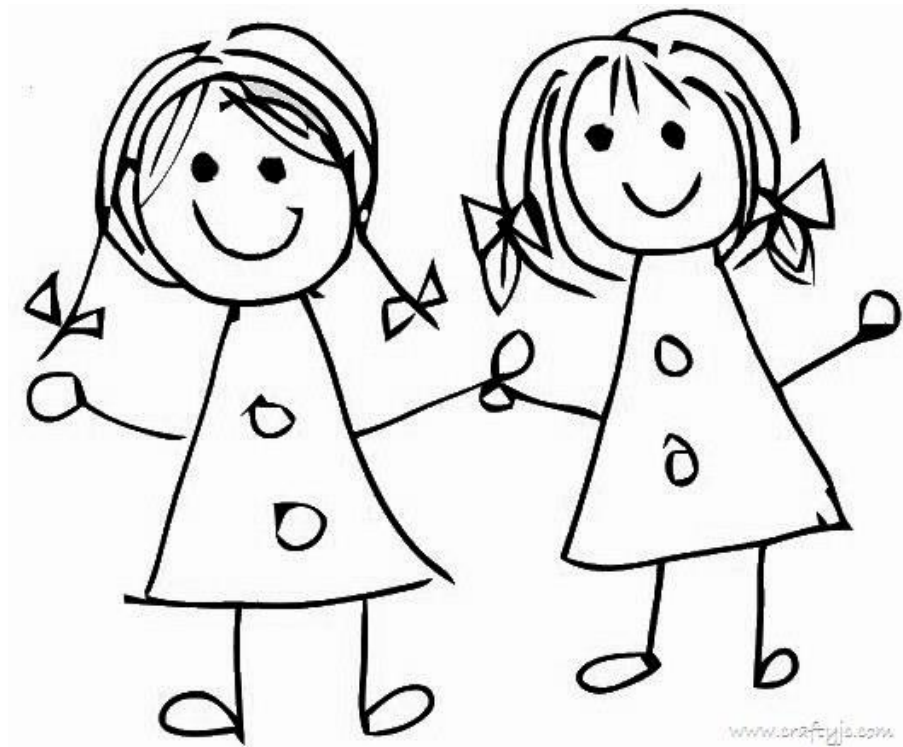
If your child has been prescribed medication (please ensure it has the prescription label on it with the dosage) that needs to be administered in school, please speak to the office so that

the appropriate arrangements and documentation can be put in place. Medication should **not be sent into school without the required paperwork being completed.**

If anything has changed over the summer, including a new allergy, change in medication or updated medical advice, please let us know as soon as possible.

Thank you for helping us to ensure that we have the most accurate and up-to-date information so that we can keep your child safe, supported and well cared for while they are in school.

Pick-Up Arrangements



At the end of the school day, it is important that we know who is collecting your child and what their arrangements are. This helps us to ensure that every child is dismissed safely and to maintain our safeguarding procedures.

If there is a change to your child's usual pick-up arrangements, please let your child's class team or the school office know as soon as possible.

This includes if your child is:

- Being collected by someone other than a parent or their usual adult.
- Going to The Nest Night-Owls.
- Going home on the school bus.
- Returning to a different after-school or childcare arrangement.

Please don't rely on your child telling us about a change themselves. **Parents/carers must inform the school**, so that the class team and office have the correct information before the end of the school day.

Thank you for helping us to keep our dismissal arrangements safe, clear and consistent for everyone.

 PTFA – We Need You!



Our **PTFA needs you!**

The Annual General Meeting will take place on:

Thursday 17 September at 7:00pm

The PTFA plays a really important role in supporting our school to raise additional funds that directly benefit **your children**.

Being part of the PTFA is a fantastic way to:

- Meet other parents and families.
- Become more involved in our school community.

- Help support exciting opportunities for our children.
- Share ideas and get involved in events and fundraising.

we need you

We would particularly love to see some of our new parents at the meeting. There are lots of exciting things planned, and remember:

Many hands make light work!

Please come along and play your part in our school community.

 Welcome, Mr Graves!



We are delighted to welcome Mr Graves to our school as our new Caretaker.

Mr Graves will be in school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, supported by our Central Team at the Infinity Trust office.

Please do say hello and give him a warm welcome when you see him around school!

💕 Congratulations, Miss Drury!



We would like to send our **huge congratulations to Miss Drury** on the safe arrival of her beautiful baby girl, **Tallulah Summer Wood**.

Tallulah is absolutely beautiful, and Miss Drury is enjoying lots of precious baby cuddles.

I know you will all join me in sending our very best wishes and congratulations to Miss Drury and her family at this very special time.

Congratulations, Miss Drury! 💕

Dates for your diary

GIPSEY BRIDGE ACADEMY

Living, Learning, Growing together

Term Dates

2026 – 2027

Term 1

Date	Event
Friday 11 th September	11+ Verbal Reasoning Paper (Year 6)
Thursday 17 th September	Road Safety Day PTFA AGM 7pm
Friday 18 th September	11+ Non Verbal Reasoning Paper (Year 6)
Wednesday 23 rd September	Parent Information Morning – English
Tuesday 29 th September	Parent Information Morning – Maths
Wednesday 7 th October	Parent Information Morning – Personal Development
Monday 12 th October	Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 13 th October	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 14 th October	Parent Consultations
Monday 19 th October	Individual Photographs
Wednesday 21 st October	Halloween Disco
Friday 23 rd October	Term 1 Celebration Afternoon

Live
Learn
Grow

A successful year ahead, together!

Where children are loved, feel loved and love back

GIPSEY BRIDGE ACADEMY



*The PTFA
needs you!*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

We will discuss future events and plans
to support the children in the school.



Share
ideas



Meet
new people



Plan
future events



Help raise
vital funds



Make a
difference



The PTFA has raised a considerable amount
to support the school.

Many hands make light work!



Date:
Thursday 17th
September



Time:
7:00pm



Location:
Class 3



English Parent Information Morning

Living,
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Together



Wednesday 23rd September
8:45 – 9:30



Gipsey Bridge
Academy

Phonics



Find out how we
teach phonics at
Gipsey Bridge Academy
and how you can
support at home.

Reading



Discover how we
encourage a love of
reading, the books
we use and ideas to
support reading
at home.

Writing



(Spelling and Handwriting)

Learn how we teach
spelling and handwriting,
and how you can
support your child
to become a confident
writer.



Useful Websites

Explore recommended
websites to support learning
at home.



Useful Resources

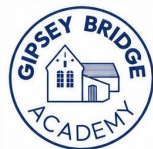
See a range of practical
resources and ideas to
support phonics, reading,
spelling and writing at home.

All year groups welcome!



Together we can create confident,
enthusiastic readers and writers!





Maths

Parent Information Morning

Living,
Learning,
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Together



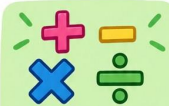
Tuesday 29th September
8:45 – 9:30



Gipsey Bridge
Academy



Find out how we teach maths in school and how you can support at home.



Learn about our approaches, resources and how we build confidence and problem-solving skills in all year groups.



Discover how we support fluency in times tables and how you can help at home using fun and engaging tools.



Useful Websites

Explore recommended websites to support maths learning at home.



Useful Resources

See a range of practical resources and ideas to support maths at home.



All year groups welcome!

Together we can build confident and enthusiastic mathematicians!

Small
Steps
Big
Futures!



Personal Development

Parent Information Morning

Living,
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Together



Wednesday 7th October
8:45 – 9:30



Gipsey Bridge
Academy



Find out how we support children here at Gipsey Bridge Academy with different strategies to help them feel safe, confident and thrive.



Learn more about our PSHE curriculum, including how we use the SCARF programme to support children's personal, social and emotional development across all year groups.



Relationships



Friendship



Growing and Changing



Keeping Safe



Respect



Health and Wellbeing



coram
Life Education

Consulting on the statutory RSE guidance

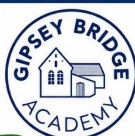
We will also be sharing information about the Department for Education's statutory Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education guidance, and seeking your views as part of our consultation.



All parents and carers welcome!

Together we can help every child be the best they can be.

Safe
Happy
Successful



Living,
Learning,
Growing
Together
♡

Term 1 Celebration Afternoon

Join us for the launch of our House Teams!



Celebrate
Term 1 learning.



See the
new Library.



See the new
Administration area



Friday 23rd October 2026
2pm

Celebrate all things
Gipsey Bridge Academy!

Living, Learning, Growing together
through term 1.

