

## NEWSLETTER 1

14<sup>th</sup> September 2023



### WELCOME TO THE AUTUMN TERM

Welcome Back! On behalf of all the staff of Battle & Langton, we would like to welcome back our children, parents and carers after the summer break. A special welcome to all Reception children who have started school over the last week.

### HARVEST FESTIVAL CELEBRATION

This year to celebrate Harvest Festival we will be holding traditional Harvest Festival assemblies for the children on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September. Children are invited to bring to school harvest gifts which will be donated to Battle Food Bank. Financial donations can also be made to the Food Bank - details are:



Bexhill Food Bank (Battle Branch). Sort Code 40-23-18. Account No 42315114.

#### Dates for your Diary

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September**

Current Year 6 PGL visit to Windmill Hill

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

Last Day of Term 1

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October**

Autumn break

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October**

Staff Training/Inset Day

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

First day of Term 2

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Last day of Term 2

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January**

Christmas break

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January**

Staff Training/Inset Day

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January**

First day of Term 3

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

Last day of Term 3

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**

February break

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February**

First day of Term 4

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Last day of Term 4

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

Easter (April) break

#### Welcome to New Staff Members

This term we have several new members of staff who have joined us. We are pleased to welcome Miss Miah, Mrs Downey, Miss Bambrough and Mr Walter as class teachers, Mrs Lovick as a higher level teaching assistant and Mrs Wisbey and Mrs Wright as teaching assistants.

#### Year 6 Transfer to Secondary School in September 2024

All Year 6 pupils were given a leaflet to bring home earlier this week (on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September) from East Sussex County Council explaining the admissions procedure for transferring to secondary school in September 2024. The ESCC online registration website is now open and the closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023. A further copy of the leaflet is attached to this Newsletter.

#### Year 6 Pupils Change of Address

The Admissions and Transport Team at County Hall require us to request documentary evidence of new addresses for Year 6 pupils who have a change of home address during the 2023/2024 academic year.

#### Secondary School Open Mornings/Evenings

Attached to this newsletter is a list of open morning/evening dates for various local schools for children starting secondary school in September 2024. Please note that for many of these, booking is essential.

If your child will be attending an open morning, please can you let the School Office know in advance.

## BATTLE & LANGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.battlelangton.e-sussex.sch.uk

### **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

First day of Term 5

### **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

Last day of Term 5

### **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May**

Whitsun (May) holiday

### **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

First day of Term 6

### **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

Last day of Term 6 for pupils

### **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

Staff Training/Inset Day.

*Please note there is one further Staff Training/Inset Days to be allocated this academic year.*

### **Breakfast Club and After School**

#### **Club Contact Information**

Contact details for Breakfast Club and After School Club are below. If you would like to book your child into Breakfast Club or After School Club for the first time, please contact them on the relevant email. If your child already attends the Breakfast Club or After School Club please ensure you complete the booking form which will be sent out via Parentmail each

Monday. [breakfast@battlelangton.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:breakfast@battlelangton.e-sussex.sch.uk)

[afterschool@battlelangton.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:afterschool@battlelangton.e-sussex.sch.uk)

### **Staff Training/Inset Days**

Below are the staff training/inset days for this academic year. Please note that there is one further staff training/inset day to be allocated.

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024.

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024.

### **Parent/Teacher Consultations**

Parent/Teacher consultations will take place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 for all classes except Mr Noakes' Class 3RN, whose consultations will take place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> and Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October. Appointments will take place in school face to face.

You will be able to make an appointment using the paper appointment sheets which will be outside the School Office during school drop off and pick up times from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October. If you are unable to sign up in person, please call the School Office to book an appointment between 9.45am and 2.45pm. We are unable to book appointments prior to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Please note that we will be unable to book appointments over the phone while the appointment sheets are outside for signing during school drop off and pick up times.

If your child is in the POD, please speak to Miss Reeves directly to arrange an appointment.

### **Autumn School Census 2023-2024**

It will soon be time for the completion of the Department for Education's annual School Census (collection of data and statistics). As part of this process, please could we ask parents/carers of children who have been adopted from care, or are being looked after under Special Guardianship Orders (where we have not been previously advised) to let us know. If you would prefer to discuss the matter in person, please contact Mrs Crocker (Deputy Head and SENCO) in confidence. In addition, please notify the School Office if either parent of a pupil at this school is currently a serving member of the British armed forces.

### **Medication and Inhalers in School**

Thank you to those parents/carers who have returned their child's medication and relevant paperwork to the school as requested at the end of last term. For those not yet returned, if we have not received your child's medication and paperwork by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, we will assume that your child no longer requires it.

### School Library Books

Please could we ask parents/carers and children to see if they have any school library books at home and to return them to school as soon as possible.

### Walking Alone

If your child walks to or from school without you on a regular basis please let the class teacher and School Office know in writing. Please note that as mentioned in the Parentmail sent on 1<sup>st</sup> September, giving permission for your child to leave their class teacher without an adult at the end of the day means that they will be able to leave the school site alone.

### When Other People Collect Your Child

On those occasions when other people collect your child, please remember to let their class teacher or the School Office know. Please be aware that without direct contact from you, we will not let your child leave with anyone who is not a named contact on their records.

### Tell us by Ten

Sometimes your child cannot be at school or is going to arrive late. On these occasions it is vital that we know. For safety's sake, please tell us by 10.00am if your child is going to be absent or late. You should leave a message on the school absence line before 10.00am for each day of the absence, giving the reason for the absence. This should be followed up with a letter to your child's class teacher on your child's return confirming why they were absent.

### Illness, Late Arrivals and Early Leavers

We would like to make parents/carers aware that we may ask for medical evidence when your child is away from school due to illness and may ask for proof of appointments - doctor/dentist/hospital appointments etc when children are late in to school or leave early for appointments.

### Diarrhoea and Vomiting

Parents and carers are reminded that the Health Protection Agency's recommendation is for children not to return to school for 48 hours after the last episode for any diarrhoea or vomiting. We ask that parents/carers please keep to this recommendation to help us prevent the spread of infection to other pupils and staff.

### PE Kit

Children should come in to school in their PE kit on the days they have PE. PE kit consists of white round neck t-shirt, black shorts/tracksuit bottoms and black tracksuit top with trainers.

**On the Days your Child has PE**

For health and safety reasons, children are not allowed to wear earrings or watches during PE lessons. We would ask that on the days they have PE children do not wear earrings or watches to school. If they do come to school with these items, they will be asked to remove them before the PE lesson (earrings may sometimes be covered by tape during the PE lessons).

**Naming School Uniform and Personal Items**

Please can parents/carers ensure that all items of clothing and personal items are clearly named - thank you.

**Walking to School Superstars**

Information with regard to Walking to School challenges is attached to this Newsletter. Each week the winning class will receive a trophy in Friday's assembly to keep for the week. To get a badge, children need to choose one of the options that counts towards active travel to school, and complete this at least once every week for the month - see attached poster for more information.

This week's Walking to School Superstars are 5GE.

**After School Sports and Activity Clubs**

**Pass & Move After School Clubs**

The following After School Sports Clubs will take place during Term 1

Tuesday - KS1 Multisports;

Wednesday - KS1 and KS2 Gymnastics;

Thursday - KS2 Multisports;

Friday - KS1 Football;

Friday - KS2 Football.

Please see letter from Pass & Move attached to this Newsletter.

Please book place direct with Pass & Move via their website at

<https://pass-move.com/>

If your child has school PE on the day of their club, they should continue to come to school in their PE kit and will be ready for the club after school. If your child will be attending a club on a day they do not have school PE lessons, they should come to school in their uniform and bring their PE kit to change in to at the end of the day.

Clubs will finish at 4.15pm and children will be brought to the main gate for collection.

**Science Club**

This Club will be taking place from today, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September for five weeks. The Club is full and there are no further places available. The Club finishes at 4.00pm when the children will be taken to the main school gates for collection.

**Mrs Fletcher's Choir Club - Years 3-6**

This Club will be taking place on Thursdays from today, 14<sup>th</sup> September. There are still currently places available. Please let the School Office know if your child would like to join this club - the remaining places will be given on a first come, first served basis. The Club finishes at 4.15pm when the children will be taken to the main school gates for collection.

If you would like your child to walk home alone after a club, please confirm this in writing to the School Office (please note that if you have already given permission for your child to walk home alone at 3.15pm, another letter will be required to cover the situation following an after school club). Please also let the School Office know if your child will be attending the After School Club following one of the clubs above.

**East Sussex Music Service - Music Lessons in School**

We are pleased to be working with East Sussex Music to support pupils to learn a musical instrument. Visit their website for more information <https://www.eastsussexmusic.org>

**Reminders**

**Year 6** - Secondary School admission application by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.

**Year 6** - Please pay outstanding PGL payments urgently.

**Sent home since beginning of Term 1**

**All Years** - Parentmail re PE days and walking home from school.

**All years** - Parentmail re information from Department of Education re measles.

**Year 6** - Parentmail re change to PE days.

**Year 6** - Parentmail re PGL.

**Year 6** - Parentmail re Going up to Secondary School 2024.

**Year 6** - Parentmail re National Childhood Measurement Programme.

**Years 4-6** - Parentmail re Time to Dance.

**Years 3-6** - Parentmail re Choir Club.

**Years 3-6** - Parentmail re spaces at Choir Club.

**Years 3-6** - Parentmail re Battle Baptist Church After School Club.

**Year 3** - Parentmail re Google Classroom.

**Year 3** - Parentmail re passwords.

**Science Club** - Parentmail re reminded of start date of club.

**Choir Club** - Parentmail confirming places on club.

**Attached to this week's Newsletter**

East Sussex County Council School Admission going up to Secondary School Leaflet.

Secondary School open mornings/evenings.

Walk to School Challenge poster.

**BATTLE & LANGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

[www.battlelangton.e-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.battlelangton.e-sussex.sch.uk)

Pass & Move Letter.

2023-2024 School Term and Holiday Dates.

East Sussex Healthcare Battle Baby Group.

National Online Safety - Settling Boundaries Around Gaming poster.

## What happens when...

### September 2023

Apply online or call 0300 33 09 472 for a form  
31 October 2023 (closing date)

Online applications – midnight 31 October 2023  
Paper forms must be received by the  
Admissions Team by 31 October 2023

*Please note: ensuring applications are returned  
in time is the responsibility of parents and  
carers.*

### March 2024 – Decision day

Decisions are sent by email on the offer day  
If we are unable to email you, we will post you  
the decision letter. Online applicants have the  
ability to view the decision online.

### April to June 2024

Appeals for parents who are unhappy with  
the decision.

### September 2024

Children start at their new school.



## Need more information?

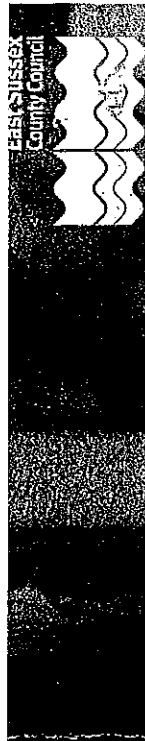
In addition to applying for a place, you  
can also find out about school life such  
as transport, meals, term dates, uniform  
etc at: [eastsussex.gov.uk/schools](http://eastsussex.gov.uk/schools)

If you need specific advice on applying  
for a school place email the Admissions  
Team who will be able to answer  
detailed enquiries on the admissions  
process.

Email: [admissions@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@eastsussex.gov.uk)

You can find independent advice online  
by visiting Ace Education Advice  
[www.ace-ed.org.uk](http://www.ace-ed.org.uk)

September 2024 • 2024-24 044



# School Admissions

## Going up to Secondary school?

If your child is in Year 6 you  
must apply by 31 October 2023

Apply online – don't miss the deadline!  
[eastsussex.gov.uk/schools](http://eastsussex.gov.uk/schools)

## Step 1 – Find out about schools

You can find out about schools by:

- Visiting schools - most will have open days or virtual tours
- Looking at school websites
- Reading the most up-to-date Ofsted reports and school performance data.

Our website has details of all schools available to your child including data relating to how places were allocated last year. There's a searchable map for you to find out which school(s) serve your area. We also have links to league tables and Ofsted reports. Please visit [eastsussex.gov.uk/schools](http://eastsussex.gov.uk/schools)

You can also get information about schools on the GOV.UK website [www.get-information-schools.service.gov.uk](http://www.get-information-schools.service.gov.uk)

You can use the internet at your local library.



## Step 2 – Understand the admissions system

You should put up to three school preferences when you apply. It is important to put a second and third preference in case we cannot give you your first preference. If you don't apply for any school place your child will not be allocated a school.

- If a school has enough places, then everyone who applied will be given a place.
- If there are not enough places for everyone the admissions criteria will decide which children will be given the places.
- Criteria change from school to school so you will need to understand the rules for the schools you prefer.
- Please note that most secondary schools do not take into account where your child goes to primary school.
- If you do not name a school local to your home as one of your preferences and your preferences cannot be offered, the school offered to your child may be a considerable distance from your home and you may not qualify for assistance with transport.

The criteria for all schools can be found on our website [eastsussex.gov.uk/schools](http://eastsussex.gov.uk/schools)

If your child has a Education, Health and Care plan the school application process is different. Please contact your Assessment and Planning Officer or school SENCO for more information.

## Step 3 – Apply by 31 October 2023

Please apply online at [eastsussex.gov.uk](http://eastsussex.gov.uk) even if you're applying for schools in another council area.

Step-by-step instructions will guide you through your online application.

Applying online means:

- your application is safe;
- you can be sure your application has been received; and
- a decision will be emailed to you.

You can access the internet at your local library.

If you prefer a paper form please email:

[admissions@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@eastsussex.gov.uk)

Use this space to record your online details

Email:

Password:

TEACH



## SECONDARY TRANSFER 2023 - DETAILS OF OPEN DAYS FOR YEAR 6

### CLAVERHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Open Evening

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October

Check information to follow in due course on Claverham Community College website as to times and booking requirement

Open Morning Tours

Check information to follow in due course on Claverham Community College website as to dates, times and booking requirement

Further info [www.claverham.e-sussex.sch.uk/](http://www.claverham.e-sussex.sch.uk/)

### ROBERTSBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Open Evening 6.00pm - 8.00pm

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October

Open Morning Tours - 9.10am and 10.10am

Mon 9<sup>th</sup>/Tues 10<sup>th</sup>/Weds 11<sup>th</sup> October  
Mon 16<sup>th</sup>/Tues 17<sup>th</sup> October  
**PRE BOOKING ESSENTIAL**  
Call Reception on 01580 880360

Further info [www.robertsbridge.org.uk](http://www.robertsbridge.org.uk)

### THE ST LEONARDS ACADEMY

Open Evening 6.00pm-7.00pm

Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> October

**PRE BOOKING ESSENTIAL**  
via website

Open Morning Tours 9.00pm - 10.00pm

Fri 6<sup>th</sup>/Weds 11<sup>th</sup>/Fri 13<sup>th</sup> October  
**PRE BOOKING ESSENTIAL**  
via website

Further info [www.thestleonardsacademy.org.uk/](http://www.thestleonardsacademy.org.uk/)

### ARK ALEXANDRA ACADEMY

Open Evening 4.30pm - 7.30pm

Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> September

Open Morning Tours 9.15am - 9.50am

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>/Tues 3<sup>rd</sup>/Weds 4<sup>th</sup> October  
Thurs 5<sup>th</sup>/Fri 6<sup>th</sup> October  
**PRE BOOKING ESSENTIAL**  
via website/call 01424 439888

[www.arkalexandra.org/](http://www.arkalexandra.org/)

Please advise the school office if your child will be absent to attend an Open Morning

LIVING

STREETS

LET'S  
WALK TO  
SCHOOL

2023/24

# WOW

the WALK  
TO SCHOOL  
challenge

## THE BRITISH NATURE WALK

[livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch](http://livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch)

WALK TO SCHOOL,  
EARN BADGES,  
PROTECT THE PLANET.



This poster is produced with vegetable-based inks and made of material from well-managed FSC®-certified forests and from recycled materials.

Get involved on social media: #WALKTOSCHOOL



@LIVINGSTREETS



LIVINGSTREETSUK



LIVINGSTREETS

# EXPLANATION OF TRAVEL MODES ON THE WOW TRAVEL TRACKER

**WOW** the WALK TO SCHOOL challenge

LIVING STREETS  
LET'S WALK TO SCHOOL



**Walk/Wheel:** Select this icon if you have walked or wheeled all the way to school. We support disabled pupils and those with special educational needs to enjoy walking. This icon includes pupils walking with the use of mobility aids, including wheelchairs or wheeled walkers. 'Walk/ Wheel' counts as an active journey and contributes towards earning a badge.



**Park and Stride:** Park and Stride is a great way for pupils who live too far away from school to still earn a badge. Simply park the car at least 10 minutes away from school and complete the journey by foot, wheelchair, bike or scooter (any active mode of travel used to complete the journey counts!). 'Park and Stride' counts as an active journey and contributes towards earning a badge.



**Bus:** Select this icon if you took the bus (including school bus) or used public transport to get to school. 'Bus' does not count as an active journey, so it will not contribute towards earning a badge. If you choose to use public transport but still want to earn a badge, you can hop off at least 10 minutes from school and walk the rest of the way. If you choose to do so, instead of 'Bus' select 'Other'.



**Scooter/Skate:** Select this icon if you came all the way to school by scooter, skateboard, etc. 'Scooter/Skate' counts as an active journey and contributes towards earning a badge.



**Absent:** Select this icon for any pupils who are absent (for every day of their absence). It is important absences are recorded correctly to give pupils a fair chance to earn a badge.

**Driven:** Select this icon if you drove all the way to school. 'Driven' does not count as an active journey so it will not contribute towards earning a badge.

**Delete:** If you accidentally select the wrong travel mode, use the delete icon to clear it and start again.



**Taxi:** Select this icon if you travel by taxi the whole way to school. 'Taxi' does not count as an active journey so it will not contribute towards earning a badge.





**Cycle:** Select this icon if you have cycled all the way to school. 'Cycle' counts as an active journey and contributes towards earning a badge.

**Other:** This icon counts as an active travel trip and will contribute towards earning a badge. Choose this for any active journey that does not fit into the other categories.





Pass+Move Ltd  
07974 223 478  
passmove@outlook.com  
pass-move.com

 /PassMoveFootball  
 @PassMoveFC

## PASS+MOVE AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Dear Parent,

We are pleased to inform you that from Tuesday 5th September Pass+Move will be running after school clubs at Battle and Langton Church of England Primary School.

Sessions will be running from 15.15 until 16.15. Below is our schedule, which can be booked via our ONLINE PORTAL. Each is payable in a block and a term in advance.

Tuesday - KS1 'MULTISPORTS' (Invasion Games)  
Wednesday - KS1/KS2 GYMNASTICS (NO RECEPTION)  
Thursday - KS2 'MULTISPORTS' (Invasion games)  
Friday - KS1 'FOOTBALL' and KS2 'FOOTBALL' (Run as two clubs)

**BOOKING PORTALS WILL BE LIVE FROM MONDAY 24th July.**

Please go to [www.pass-move.com](http://www.pass-move.com) and click on the tab for Booking School Clubs. Under this section you will find a secure online portal with relevant links for your specific school.

Children will need both indoor, and outdoor, footwear and attire, and plenty to drink.

Please note that if your child is not booked on 24 hours in advance to the first session they will not be able to take part and will be returned to the school office, who will in turn contact you. We require every child to be booked on correctly for Health and Safety and Safeguarding reasons. Should you wish to pay in cash please contact [admin@pass-move.com](mailto:admin@pass-move.com) to arrange making payment.

The Pass+Move Family

Please note:

- Bookings must be made and paid for in advance.
- Spaces may be limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis.
- If an outdoor session is not possible an indoor game/quiz session will be offered where facilities are available.
- By booking onto the course you accept that Pass+Move and their representatives shall not have any liability in respect of injuries sustained by your child. And if your child is injured whilst attending the course, and where emergency contact(s) cannot be reached on numbers provided, that you give consent for your child to receive any necessary medical treatment.

## East Sussex School Term and Holiday Dates 2023-2024

	SEPTEMBER 2023	OCTOBER 2023	NOVEMBER 2023	DECEMBER 2023
Monday	28 4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23	30 6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Tuesday	29 5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24	31 7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Wednesday	30 6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Thursday	31 7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Friday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Sunday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
	JANUARY 2024	FEBRUARY 2024	MARCH 2024	APRIL 2024
Monday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Tuesday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Wednesday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Thursday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Friday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Saturday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Sunday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
	MAY 2024	JUNE 2024	JULY 2024	AUGUST 2024
Monday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Friday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Saturday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Sunday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25

### KEY

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

### Bank and Public Holidays 2023-2024

<b>Monday 25 December 2023</b>	Christmas Day	<b>Monday 1 April 2024</b>	Easter Monday
<b>Tuesday 26 December 2023</b>	Boxing Day	<b>Monday 6 May 2024</b>	Early May bank holiday
<b>Monday 1 January 2024</b>	New Years Day	<b>Monday 27 May 2024</b>	Spring bank holiday
<b>Friday 29 March 2024</b>	Good Friday	<b>Monday 26 August 2024</b>	Summer bank holiday

### Term Length

Term	From	To	Number of days
<b>Term 1</b>	<b>1 September 2023</b>	<b>20 October 2023</b>	<b>36</b>
Autumn school holiday	23 October 2023	27 October 2023	
<b>Term 2</b>	<b>30 October 2023</b>	<b>15 December 2023</b>	<b>35</b>
Christmas school holiday	18 December 2023	1 January 2024	
<b>Term 3</b>	<b>2 January 2024</b>	<b>9 February 2024</b>	<b>29</b>
February school holiday	12 February 2024	16 February 2024	
<b>Term 4</b>	<b>19 February 2024</b>	<b>28 March 2024</b>	<b>29</b>
Spring school holiday	29 March 2024	12 April 2024	
<b>Term 5</b>	<b>15 April 2024</b>	<b>24 May 2024</b>	<b>29</b>
May school holiday	27 May 2024	31 May 2024	
<b>Term 6</b>	<b>3 June 2024</b>	<b>23 July 2024</b>	<b>37</b>
	<b>Total</b>		<b>195</b>

*Note*

*There is one further staff training/inset day to be allocated.*

# Battle Baby Group

A group for new parents with babies to pre-walkers.

**Thursdays**

**1pm - 2:30pm**

Starting on the 21<sup>st</sup> September  
(term time only)

Battle Library  
Market Road, Battle TN33 0XB

- Free to attend, just pop in.
- Safe and friendly environment.
- Meet other families in the area while socialising with your child.



 **START4LIFE** Run by our  
Volunteers.

For more information please call: 01424 725995

or email: [ehrother@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:ehrother@eastsussex.gov.uk)

# Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

## PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

## ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

## AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

## DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

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## Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



## FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

## ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

## TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

## BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Source: <https://nipal.app/about/privacy.html>