

# Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 12th January 2024

Follow us on Twitter for regular updates – [@uphillvillage](https://twitter.com/uphillvillage)



Principal:

Mrs Samantha Hodder

Tel: 01934 626 769

Email: [office@uva.clf.uk](mailto:office@uva.clf.uk)

Website: [www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk](http://www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk)

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope all our families managed to spend some quality time with their loved ones over the Christmas break. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year.

Welcome back to term 3, and what an action packed start it has been.

Thank you to the Grandparents who came into EYFS and Year 1 to talk about how technology has changed during their lifetimes. The children were all deeply engaged and loved seeing the old items that were brought in.

We have lots of exciting trips and activities coming up so keep an eye on the dates at the back of the Newsletter.

The weather is definitely getting colder, so please remember coats must be in school for every child.

Wrap up warm and have a great weekend.

Mrs Samantha Hodder, Principal

## Road Closure

We regret to inform you that there will be a road closure for the section of the A370 between the hospital roundabout and Windwhistle Lane which will start on the **15<sup>th</sup> January until the 24<sup>th</sup> January** weekdays, Monday to Friday.

There will be a diversion route in place but it is a long one. The road will be closed from 9.30am and re-opened at 3.30pm each day.

Details of this closure and other works can also be found on this live map here at <https://one.network/>

## Food Allergies

Please be reminded we are a nut and shellfish free school.

This means that products containing nuts or shellfish should not be brought into school, as a snack or packed lunch. This includes raw fish such as sushi, peanut butter sandwiches, nut snack bars or crunchy nut cornflakes.

We have children in school with severe allergies and you we ask you to respect their need for a safe environment.

## Club Dates

Extra-curricular clubs have re-commenced this week. We remind parents that collection from these clubs is from the front playground at 4.15pm promptly.

If your child does not require their space please let us know so we can offer it to another child.

Young Voices Club last session is Tuesday 23rd January. The concert is on Friday 26th January and we hope they have a fabulous time!

Clubs running for terms 3 and 4 are -

Art Club Yr 1&2

Art Club Yr 3&4

Benchball

Dance Club

Reading Club Yr 2 (lunchtime only)

Homework Club Yr 3&4

Homework Club Yr 6

## HANDi App

As winter sets in and common childhood illnesses become more frequent, parents/carers are being encouraged to use a free NHS app to help you decide how best to care for your child.

The HANDi app, which has been developed by a team of specialist children's doctors, is quick and easy to use and gives parents and carers expert advice on a range of childhood illnesses.

The HANDi App is available to download for Apple phones from the app store or iTunes and for Android phones at Google Play.



Working in partnership with



# Good Attendance Improves Attainment

At Uphill Village Academy, we believe that children who attend school regularly are more likely to feel settled in school, maintain friendships, keep up with their learning and gain the greatest life-long benefit from their education. Attending school, on time, every day also helps to form good habits which can stay with them throughout their educational journey and on into the workplace.

However, too many children are missing time from school and this will be affecting their learning. The link between attendance and attainment is well known and irregular attendance impacts a child's academic results, mental health and resilience.

**Those who take an occasional day or more off school miss the building blocks of knowledge.**

The relationship between attendance and educational outcomes can be seen in this simple diagram:

Attendance of between 99 & 100%	Achieved 76% +
Attendance of between 90 & 99%	Achieved 70% +
Attendance of between 90 & 95%	Achieved 57%
Attendance of less than 90%	Achieved 53%

Based on 2023 SAT's results The percentage of children that achieved the national standard in combined (reading, writing & maths)

**We believe in building self esteem by creating a sense of belonging. This is made possible if our children attend school every available day, on time.**

## Reporting Absences

Can we remind ALL parents that if your child is absent from school you MUST telephone the absence line 01934 626769 option 2 and report the reasons for the absence EVERY day by 8.45am.

Messages should include the child's forename and surname and the full reasons for absence. More detail is required than 'under the weather' or 'unwell' please. If they have had a bout of sickness or diarrhoea, please state the day and time the last bout took place.

**The office team and learning mentors are wasting many hours chasing parents regarding their child's absence from school. This time could be more wisely used to benefit our children.**

The academy will follow up any pupil absences where the parent/carer has not contacted us, or where we are unclear about the actual reason for absence.

Section 175 of The Education Act 2002 compels schools to safeguard children and promote their well-being. Therefore, if children are not attending school, we must do something about this and take the appropriate steps to support the child and family. This means we will always follow up and ask questions to find out where a child is or why they are absent.

**Please call every day of an absence & let us know!**

# School Uniform

Uphill Village Academy has a school uniform because, we believe, it helps to set the right learning attitudes in school. It is a leveller of individuals and is good value for money. Your child is required to wear the correct uniform at all times. It has been noted that a number of children, especially in the Year 5 & 6 cohort, are coming to school without the correct uniform on. We would like to remind you of our policy on school uniform which can also be found on our school website

<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/our-academy/uniform/>

## Rules for Wearing School Uniform

- School uniform should be worn with pride at all times. Uniform should be clean and well presented.
- It is essential that all clothes and belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name, this includes bags, PE kits, hats and shoes.
  - Jewellery is not permitted, except plain stud earrings and a wrist watch.
  - Nail varnish and make-up are not permitted. Hair must be tied back from the face.
- Pupils are not allowed to wear trainers, except for PE, unless they are plain black and polishable with no logos. Shoes, including sandals, must strap securely to the feet.
  - Children must have coats in school all year round, except in hot weather.
- Leggings are only to be worn with a skirt over them, they are not suitable as a replacement for trousers.
  - Sun hats are required during the summer months.

## Purchasing of Uniform

Our logo uniform items can be purchased both online & instore from our official uniform supplier, **NKSports in Worle**. Uniform is not available from the school directly. If you prefer to order online visit <https://www.nkgrouppuk.com/>

All other items can be purchased cheaply from supermarkets and general retailers.

Please ensure your child complies with the uniform rules every day.

# Benefit Related Free School Meals

If your income or circumstances have changed and you feel your child(ren) may be eligible for benefit related free school meals, please apply now to check your eligibility. An application should be made for each individual child; as siblings will not automatically qualify.

Even if you have a younger child who is eligible for Universal Infant Free School Meals (Yr R-2), it is important you check if you are eligible for benefit related Free School Meals. This will enable you to receive additional financial support from the school to help cover the cost of school trips, milk, school jumpers/cardigans and KS2 music lessons.

North Somerset Council provides an online application service for free school meals which gives an instant response. Parents are able to apply online by following the link below. If you need any support to access this online service, please contact the school office and we can arrange for you to do this in school. Please note, if you are eligible, this will start from the date of your application and cannot be backdated. Please screenshot or print off your eligibility letter and forward this to the school.

Use the link below to access further information and to apply online:

<https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/local-schools/free-school-meals>

**IMPORTANT** - if your child is already eligible for benefit related free school meals, **do not reapply** as this may lead to the loss of your entitlement.



Working in partnership with



## Breakfast and After School Club

### Breakfast Club Drop Off

Please ensure your child arrives between 7:30am and 8:00am for Breakfast Club.

At 8am the club will play outside or in the hall and therefore it is not easy for the club supervisors to greet late comers or offer breakfast, as they may no longer be in the Community Room.

**Please help us by arriving before 8:00am each morning.**

### After School Club Collection

As the weather turns colder, we would request children are collected promptly at their collection time (4:00pm, 5:00pm, 5:30pm or 6:00pm)

We do not wish for your child to be waiting in the front playground for too long and a late collection results in a member of staff not been available to provide care for the children who remain in club.

If you think you may be late to collect, please call ahead to let the club supervisors know what time you will be arriving. If you regularly find yourself arriving late then please change to the next collection time e.g. 5.30pm instead of 5pm.

Your help in this matter is much appreciated.

## Dates for the Diary

**Don't forget to check out the school website for all our events as well as lots more useful class information and an array of great photos of our children's learning:**

[www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk](http://www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk)

### January

Wednesday 17th	Year 5/6 Caerleon Trip
Thursday 18th	Chandra Class Swimming (1)
Wednesday 24th	Year 4 Give it a try Festival (selected pupils)
Thursday 25th	Chandra Class Swimming (2)
Friday 26th	Young Voices Concert in Birmingham
Monday 29th	Year 3 Inclusive Festival (selected pupils)

### February

Thursday 1st	Chandra Class Swimming (3)
Monday 5th – Friday 9th	Safer Internet Week
Thursday 8th	Year 2 Historical Village Walk Chandra Class Swimming (4)
<b>Friday 9th</b>	<b>END OF TERM 3</b>
<b>Monday 19th</b>	<b>START OF TERM 4</b> Extra-curricular clubs start again this week
Thursday 22nd	Chandra Class Swimming (5)

### Upcoming Bank Holidays

Monday 6th May  
Monday 27th May