



Oakfield Schools

17th October 2025

Gateshead's Guide to SEND support



We are delighted that the new Gateshead Rainbow Guide for parents of SEND children is out now, produced by <https://www.facebook.com/ChoiceWellbeing> and created by parent carers, for parent carers it is designed to empower parents with trusted information and support. This guide covers everything from understanding diagnoses to accessing support in education, health, and beyond.

You can download a copy now from the Choice Wellbeing Service website. Or you can pop along to one of their launch events in October to pick up a printed copy.

- View and share the guide: <https://www.choicewellbeingservice.org/gateshead>

Curricula enrichment activities throughout the year		
Year group	Destination	Date
R	Northern Stage Theatre	11/12/25
	Tynemouth Aquarium	9/07/26
	Trip to the library	tbc
1 / 2	Centre for Life	05/11/25
	Washington Wetlands	2/07/25
	Church and Library	tbc
	Fun run	22/05/26
3	Panto	11/12/25
	Laing Art Gallery – Sketching	21/01/26
	Fun run	22/05/26
	Jewish Community local walk	tbc
	Durham University Oriental Museum– Egypt	03/06/26
4	Sunderland winter Gardens Geography Trip	21/10/25
	Panto	11/12/25
	Jarrow Hall – history trip	20/04/26
	Fun run	22/05/26
5	Panto	11/12/25
	Shipcote Art Gallery – in school workshop	tbc
	Centre for life – Science day	27/01/26
	Shipcote art gallery – Art (awaiting booking window to open)	tbc
	Fun run	22/05/26
6	Lockerbie Manor residential	26-28/11/25
	Panto	11/12/25
	Fun run	22/05/26
	Field work enquiry	tbc
	South shields leavers trip	10/07/26

Diary Dates for 2025-2026		
New / amended events added are highlighted in yellow after week 1		
Date	Event	Time
20/10/25	Individual school photographs	
20/10/25	Prospective reception starter tours	3.30 / 4.30
w/b 20/10/25	Parents evenings	tbc
24/10/25	PD day – school closed to children	All day
w/b 27/10/25	Half term	
03/11/25	Autumn 2 term begins	
03/11/25	Year 1/2 parents meeting – new grouping	16.30 pm
05/11/26	Year 1/2 trip to Centre for Life	All day
13/11/25-20/11/25	Scholastic Book Fair	
26/11/25 – 28/11/25	Year 6 residential	
29/11/25	Christmas Fun Morning for prospective reception starters	
03/12/25	School Christmas Fayre	15.30
8/12/25	Year 1/2 Christmas sing – Year 1 parents viewing	2pm
9/12/25	Year 1/2 Christmas sing - Year 2 parents viewing	2pm
10/12/25	Reception Nativity	2pm
11/12/25	Reception trip to Northern Stage	
15/12/25	Year 4 Christmas party	
16/12/25	Year 5 Christmas party	
17/12/25	Year 3 Christmas party	

17/12/25	Reception Christmas party	
18/12/25	Year 1/2 Christmas party	
18/12/25	Year 6 Christmas party	
19/12/25	Carols under the veranda (KS2)	13.45
20/12/25	Christmas Holidays	
05/01/26	PD day – school closed for children	
06/01/26	Start of Spring Term	
13/01/26	Family learning – year 6	am
14/01/26	Family learning – year 5	am
15/01/26	Family learning – year 4	am
16/01/26	Family learning – year 3	am
19/01/26	Family learning – year 1	am
20/01/26	Family learning- year 2	am
21/01/26	Family learning – reception	am
w/b 9/02/26	Science week	
w/b 16/02/26	Parents evenings – learning plan reviews	tbc
w/b 23/02/26	Half term	
02/03/26	Spring 2 term begins	
05/03/26	World book day	
03/04/26	Easter Holidays (<i>note: Good Friday at start of holidays</i>)	
20/04/26	Summer 1 term begins	
w/b 11/05/26	SATS week	
w/b 18/05/26	Sports week	
22/05/26	Gateshead Saltwell Park fun run	
w/b 01/06/26	Learning plan review week	tbc
Fortnight beginning 01/06/25	Y4 multiplication check	
w/b 09/06/26	Y1 and 2 Phonics screening check	
15/06/26	Class photographs day	
01/07/26	Summer Fair	15.30
08/07/26	Reports out to parents	
13/07/26	Year 6 leavers concert	17.30
14/07/26	Reception summer picnic	pm
15/07/26	Year1/2 summer picnic	pm
17/07/25	Occasional day – School closed	
18/07/26	Start of Summer holidays	

2025 – 2026 Term Dates	
Term	Dates
Autumn 1	02/09/25 – 23/10/25
Autumn 2	03/11/25 – 19/12/25
Spring 1	06/01/26 – 20/02/26
Spring 2	02/03/26 – 02/04/25
Summer 1	20/04/26 – 22/05/26
Summer 2	01/06/26 – 16/07/26
PD days & other non-school days	01/09/25 24/10/25 05/01/26 04/05/26 – bank holiday 17/07/26 – occasional day

PE Days	
Reception	Tuesdays and Thursdays
Year One / Two	Wednesdays (1/2KM) and Fridays (1/2CR, 1/2 BG)
Year Three	Wednesday (Outdoors) Friday (indoor)
Year Four	Tuesday (Outdoors) Thursday (indoor)
Year Five	Monday (Outdoors) Wednesday, 5B Swimming / 5R (indoor) (This will swap during the Spring term)
Year Six	Monday (indoor / outdoors mix) - Friday (outdoors)

Primary School Admissions

Applications for Reception for September 2026 are open until 15th January 2026. Applications can be made using this link [here](#). This link should also be completed by Year 2 parents applying for their child's place at Oakfield Junior School.

Application for Secondary School

Applications for Gateshead secondary schools in September 2026 opened on September 8, 2025, and the closing date is October 31, 2025. You can apply online through the [Gateshead Council website](#). It is crucial to read the "Admission to Secondary School" booklet before applying to understand the process and make informed choices.



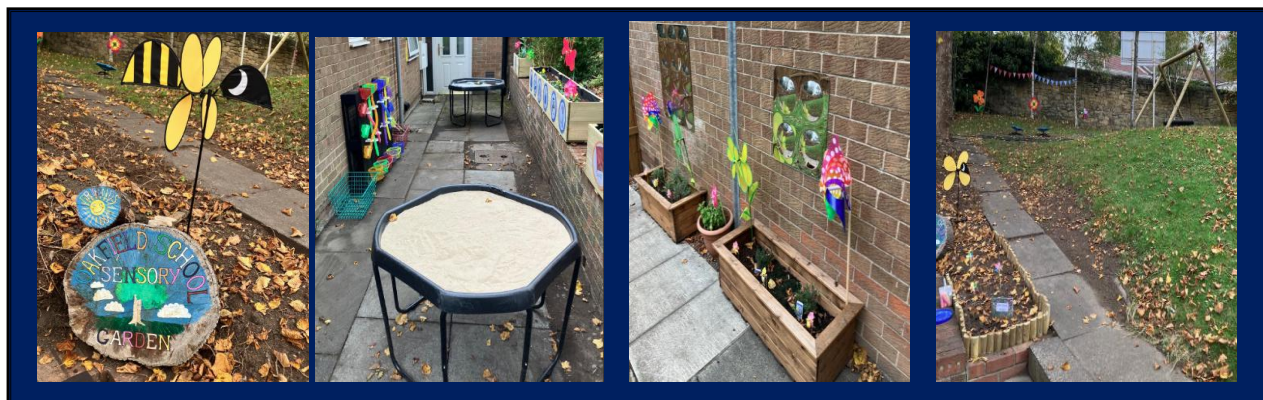
Eating at School

Break Times – Many children do need a mid-morning snack to keep the energy levels up until they reach the lunch break. However, can this be **limited to fruit, dried fruit or cereal bars**; the healthy end of available snacks. These snacks should not include crisps or chocolate. Please follow the school guidance on providing these snacks.

School Meals – We have a growing number of children who are staying for school meals but eating very little, throwing a lot of their meal away. We will of course encourage them to eat more but not force them. Where this is repeated behaviours, we will of course contact parents but would urge all families to look at the weekly menu and decide what will be eaten before making the decision of school meal or packed lunch. This way all children have a good lunchtime meal to keep them going until tea.

Friends of Oakfield Updates

Please see attached information showing how the monies raised by Friends of Oakfield have been spent on all of the children. The sensory garden around the Acorn Hub was opened this week for the children to access and was visited by representatives from the Highways agency who praised the garden for the wonderful experiences the children will have. Friends of Oakfield had sourced a grant from the Highways agency who were keen to see how it had developed. This area will be visited by all children but is designed to support children accessing the nurture space in school.



KS2 Yard

The new sensory garden on the Key Stage 2 yard opened on Friday this week and staff and children are looking forward to using this area. This has been achieved through the invaluable time dedicated by a group of volunteers who have sourced equipment, applied for grants, managed the project, fundraised and worked with school staff to achieve the vision. We are very grateful for their support and know this will make a lasting difference for our children.

Website

As part of our conversion to Academy we have moved our website URL: Please see the new URL below.

<https://oakfield.smartacademies.net/>



Sports hall Athletics



We would like to congratulate our Year 5 and Year 6 athletes for competing in the Sportshall Athletics Competition where they proudly secured silver medals and a place in the Gateshead Finals!

Our athletes showcased remarkable determination, sportsmanship and team spirit throughout the event, giving their all in every race and event. Well done everyone!

Thank you, Gateshead SSP, for a great day.

Year 6 Football

Last night, the second of the Year 6 football teams began their journey in a second Gateshead Felling Schools FA competition. The group stages contained 4 teams with the top team making the final and the runners up having to face a play off. Unfortunately for all 9 players, it was not our night. 2 draws and a defeat meant that we came third overall. It certainly wasn't for a lack of effort, as all put everything into every game; it was just one of those nights of fine margins that meant the ball didn't end up in the oppositions net quite often enough. Well played all and onto the league in the spring.



Tuesday 21st October
4:00-5:00pm
Chowdene Family Hub

**Children under 12 with additional needs - come along
and join a LEGO building session!**
Parents, carers and siblings welcome.

Contact: familyhubs@gateshead.gov.uk
Phone: 0191 433 5052



Gateshead
FAMILY
HUBS

 **Gateshead**
Council

Sharing success

Star points total per week

	w/b 1/9/25	w/b 8/09/25	w/b 15/9/25	w/b 22/9/25	w/b 29/09/25	w/b 6/10/25	w/b 13/10/25
R	children transitioning into school	530	515	310	269	296	527
1	294	213	132	191	82	83	379
2	350	266	222	156	145	151	454
3	335	113	219	103	444	509	193
4	232	159	190	391	143	352	310
5	463	633	307	596	672	739	496
6	576	240	427	659	239	350	178

Safeguarding



For children and young people, low-quality sleep can become a serious issue. It has been theorised that poor sleep can have a significant impact on children's brain development, affecting them for the rest of their lives. A healthy – and consistent – sleeping pattern, therefore, is incredibly important for children and young people's wellbeing.

With the stresses and distractions that can present themselves to youngsters, it can be tricky to ensure they're in the best mindset to wind down in the evenings for the rejuvenating rest that they need. The right approach, however, can give them a better chance of cultivating a healthy sleeping pattern. Our guide has some practical tips on helping them to achieve exactly that.

North East Primary Times Newsletter

Please click on link below to read the North East Primary Times newsletter.

<https://www.round-sun-digital.com/>

School Attendance and Punctuality

School year	Attendance													
	Autumn 1													
	Week 1		Week 2		Week 3		Week 4		Week 5		Week 6		Week 7	
	A	L	A	L	A	L	A	L	A	L	A	L	A	L
Junior Overall	98.0	0.4	98.3	0.6	99.0	0.81	97.0	0.64	97.0	0.61	96.5	0.6	96.1	0.94
Infant Overall	96.0	0.1	98.0	0.14	98.0	0.26	96.5	0.31	96.3	0.51	94.9	0.43	98.3	0.67
6	98.0	0.25	97.8	0.6	99.2	0.78	99.0	0.53	97.6	0.0	98.0	0.39	96.5	0.67
5	97.0	0.9	97.9	0.7	97.7	0.69	93.3	1.25	95.6	1.15	94.7	0.68	93.9	1.51
4	99.0	0.0	99.3	0.4	99.6	1.03	99.0	0.74	96.7	0.82	95.8	0.41	95.7	0.84
3	98.0	0.5	98.3	1.0	97.8	0.74	96.2	0.17	97.2	0.55	97.4	0.91	97.9	0.78
2	98.0	0.4	96.0	0.0	99.0	0.22	94.5	0.0	97.8	0.65	96.9	0.44	98.5	1.01
1	100.0	0.0	98.2	0.4	97.0	0.31	96.2	0.82	91.2	0.6	89.4	0.6	98.8	0.84
R	-	-	98.8	0.3	97.0	0.26	99.0	0.24	98.9	0.26	97.3	0.26	97.6	0.24

Very well done to all children again this week. Attendance continues to be significantly above national average, and this only happens with the fabulous support from all our families.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Chisholm - Executive Head Teacher

Miss Hartness – Executive Deputy Head

Mr Thompson – Executive Deputy Head

