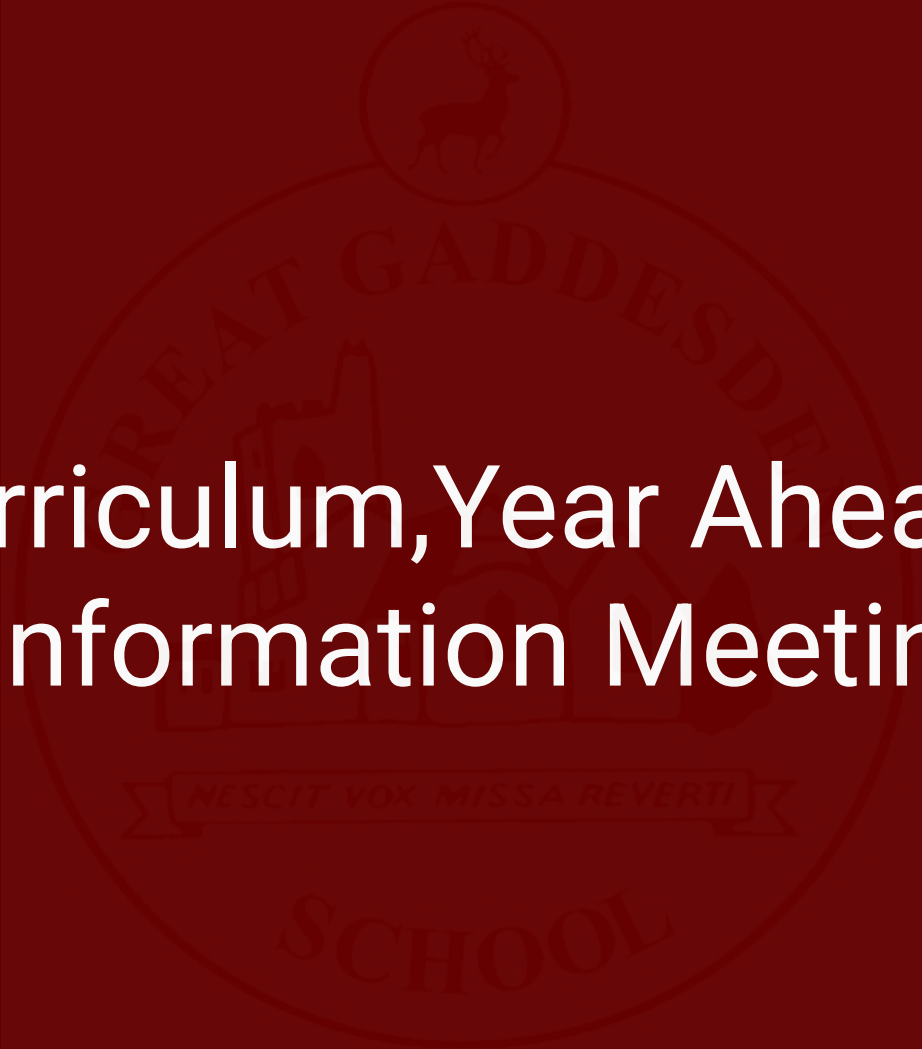




EYFS Curriculum, Year Ahead & General Information Meeting

14.09.2026



Staff Working in Year EYFS



- Mrs Benson - Monday to Thursday
- Mrs Marshall - Tuesday pm & Friday
- Mrs Jeffery - Monday, Wednesday, Thursday



Leadership team

- Mr M. Beach (Headteacher)
- Miss J. Carty (Lower School Senior Teacher)
- Mrs Redman (Pastoral Support)
Working days: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri
- Mrs Curtis (SENDCo)
Working days: Tues (Fortnightly)

Office Team



- Mrs A. Redman (Office Manager) working Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday (main point of contact for queries relating to general queries, dates, dinners, trips, appointments & clubs. You can email her for absence related queries on absence@greatgaddesden.herts.sch.uk
- Ms Baltera is based in the office each Wednesday and is responsible for elements of HR, payroll, Arbor finances, Early Years funding and school banking.

Safeguarding



- At Great Gaddesden, Safeguarding children is **everyone's responsibility**.
- Any concerns about the welfare or safety of children **must** be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mr M. Beach/Headteacher) or a Deputy Safeguarding Lead (Mrs E. Redman & Mrs D. Lilley)
- All visitors **must** sign in at the school office.
- For safeguarding reasons, the school gate(s) will only be open between 8:40-8:45am & 3-3:20pm
- Children can only be released to a parent/carer. Family friends, other parents, grandparents etc can collect but we require a parent with parental responsibility to inform the school office of this. Regular pick up arrangements should be put in writing to the school office.



Attendance

- Attendance lead: Mrs E. Redman
- Under the new Ofsted Framework, attendance has its own judgement and we are expected to have high expectations for attendance and **every day** really counts.
- We understand that from time to time, all children get unwell.
- All absences must be reported by 8:45am to the **absence voicemail or email**

Absence message- Option 1

Emails: absence@greatgaddesden.herts.sch.uk

- Please provide an update for each day if an absence is continued.
- Term time holidays cannot be authorised. Unauthorised absences exceeding 10 sessions within a 10 week period may result in the LA issuing a fixed term penalty fee.
- Each day = 2 sessions (AM & PM)
- If your child's overall attendance falls below 90%, the school will contact you to offer support.
- Any leave of absence requests must be sent to the school office (form is on our website)

Timetable

- 8.40 Arrival and self-registration
 - Busy fingers
 - Phonics
 - Snack
 - Child initiated activities supported by adults
- 11:45 Lunch
- 1.00 Maths
 - Child initiated activities supported by adults
 - Story
- 3.10 Home

Clubs & Bookings



- Please note- if your child is not collected by 3:20, your child will be booked into after school club and charged for the session.
- All clubs should be pre-booked and paid for in advance.
- Wrap around provision has a debt limit of £20. You will receive a polite reminder if this needs topping up. If the debt exceeds £20, future bookings will not be permitted.

Uniform



- Black joggers, polo shirt with school logo, maroon jumper/cardigan/fleece with logo. Black, grey or white socks, black trainers. Details of our uniform can be found in the pack and on the website.
- Bookbag available to buy from our provider (no rucksacks please).
- Please bring **named** wellies to leave at school and spare clothes.
- It is vital that all uniform/coats/spare clothes are **named**. Please check regularly to see if the name is still there.
- Hair to be tied back every day.
- Clothes for cold/warm weather
- Water in a **named** reusable bottle- no juice/squash. Please **DO NOT PUT BOTTLES IN BOOK BAGS**
- Children in EYFS/KS1 are required to use a school book bag or a drawstring bag.
- The only things the children need to bring into school each day are:
A water bottle, reading book & reading record (lunch box/if required)

How will my child learn?



Children learn through play, by adults modelling, by observing each other, and through guided learning and direct teaching.



Curriculum overviews



- Each half term, you will be emailed an overview of the curriculum your child will be learning.
- The aim of this is to support you and your child know what is coming up and to prompt discussion/further learning opportunities at home.
- A copy of Autumn 1 is attached.

Reading



- Phonics is taught daily.
- Library books- your child will regularly visit the school library and take a new book home each week.
- Reading books- by half term we will give your child a reading book each week. Their book will match their reading level. We will regularly read with your child at school, as well as share stories in small groups or as a whole class. Please make sure you fill in the reading record each time you hear your child read.
- It is vital that you support your child with reading at home and please sign the reading record when you have read with your child.



Reception Baseline Assessment

- The reception baseline assessment (RBA) is a short, task-based assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school. It is statutory for all schools from September 2021.
- The assessment can take place at any point in the first 6 weeks of your child starting reception. The assessment will form the start of a new measure of how schools are helping their pupils to progress between reception and year 6.
- Your child does not need to prepare. There is no pass mark or score and your child should not realise they're doing an assessment.
- Once the RBA is fully established, the intention is to make the key stage 1 national curriculum tests and teacher assessments that children currently take at the end of year 2 non-statutory.

Communication



- Our weekly newsletter (sent out on a Friday) is our main communication to parents.
- Trips, events, reminders etc are sent out via email on Arbor.
- Please ensure your details on the Arbor Parent Portal are correct.
- We must have at least **two emergency contacts on Arbor**.
- Messages can be shared on the gates in the morning or an email/phone call to the school office.
- Please allow at least 24 hours for an initial response.

Check on your child from anywhere

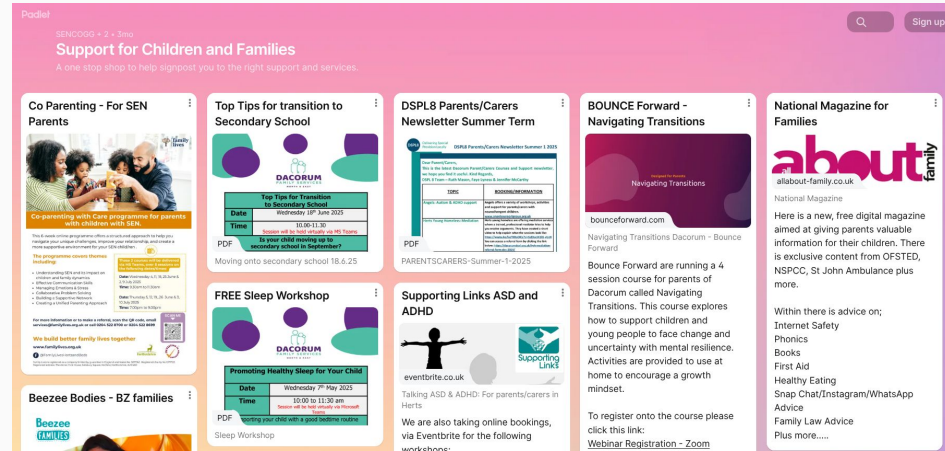
Make payments on the go

- View your child's Timetable, Clubs and Attendance
- Pay for School Meals
- View your child's Guilford Golds!
- Update your details
- Receive instant messages
- Sign up to trips and after-school clubs

Support locally

- Our SENDCo, Mrs Curtis, sends a pamphlet with lots of information about support offered locally. This is updated regularly.
- All parents can access free family support through Dacorum Family Services

<https://padlet.com/SENCOGG/support-for-children-and-families-md2dn9m6u7q5bkcy>



Parent Forum

- At Great Gaddesden school, we have an open parent forum and usually meet once a term.
- The next meeting is 13th October (after drop off).
- These meetings are an opportunity to consult with parents and receive informal feedback on school life.



Questions

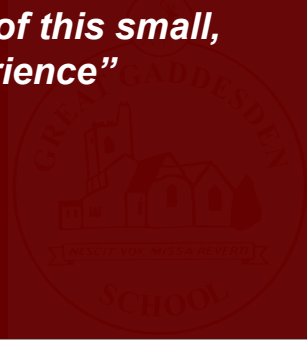


Upcoming coffee morning



26th September (after drop off until 10am)
Cake donations welcome

***“The Christian vision is an imaginative, effective and compelling response to the context of this small, rural school. This means that pupils flourish through a rich and diverse educational experience”
(SIAMS, 2025)***



Our vision and values

Mission statement:

“Treat others exactly as you would like to be treated yourself”

Luke 6:31

Our 3Be's

1. Be observant and thoughtful
2. Be kind and empathetic
3. Be flexible and reflective

Great Gaddesden's Christian vision is deeply embedded and has a profound impact on the life of the school. The more recent addition of the 'three Bes' to the vision has sharpened its focus, enhancing its impact. (SIAMS, 2025)

We have a value for each month (as shown on the yearly overview shared later on)