

Hambridge Community Primary School

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'Being The Best We Can Be'

Happiness
Care
Perseverance
Success

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Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to Hambridge Community Primary School for the 2024/2025 academic year. It has been wonderful to see how well your children have settled back into school life and to welcome our new foundation stage children and new starters in other year groups to our school community. Thank you also for your support on our new uniform policy. The children are looking so smart!

Before our school newsletter next week, I just wanted to write to you about a couple of topics that have been frequently asked about at the office this week.

School Lunches

As you know, our school lunches are provided by Lavendar Country Kitchen. Now with more children attending the school, you can appreciate that different children have different dietary requirements. Some children have been saying to us this week that they don't like the food they have ordered and would prefer something else on offer. While we want to be accommodating and would never see a child hungry, I'm afraid we can only give the children what they have ordered and offer no alternative. **Please can you choose your child's meals carefully.** We will endeavour to communicate with you should your child not like a meal you have chosen.

Lunches must be ordered by midnight on Tuesday, the week before each menu week.

Mrs Allen can not order these for your children on your behalf. You know what your child likes best to eat, along with their dietary requirements.

If you require any advice on how to order lunches via ParentPay, please see Mrs Allen in the office who will help you with your login details.

Attendance

Attendance and punctuality are really important at Hambridge Community Primary School. We want your children in school as much as possible. As you are aware, the rules surrounding pupil attendance changed in August 2024. Under the new framework, all schools are required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons – **this includes family holidays and days out with family.** Any holiday taken during term-time will be unauthorised.



The fine for school absences across the country will be £80 if paid within 21 days – this is per parent and per child (see poster attached). It is important to note that Hambridge Community Primary will not receive any of the money accrued from fines; the money goes directly to the local authority.

I monitor attendance bi-weekly and we have a robust attendance policy in place. One of the main aims of the new guidance is to support parents with their child/ren's attendance. We understand that there may be times when absence is unavoidable, and we are committed to working closely with families to address any issues that may arise.

If you have any questions about this or any other aspect of your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Leanne Hall

Headteacher