EVEN SWINDON SCHOOL

Believe, achieve, inspire



TD days for 2027

School will be closed to pupils on the following days:
Monday 4th January 2027
Monday 22nd February 2027
Friday 25th June 2027
Monday 28th June 2027



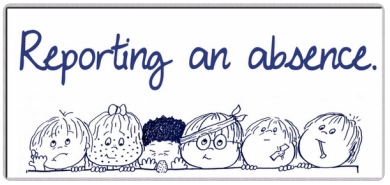
Please click to view our calendar on the school website

Safeguarding Information

Safeguarding Contact Information: safeguarding@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org
Designated Safeguarding Lead: Rachael Smith

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Naomi Sly
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Carol Chard
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Natasha Holmes
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Zoe Pattenden

Absence reporting procedures



Please can we remind you to report **every day your child is absent by 8.30am** either by leaving a message on our absence line - **01793 523041** or by emailing admin@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org with the **specific reason** for their absence.
Thank you for your co-operation.

In this newsletter...



Attendance
Foodbank - Thank You
Children in Need - Thank You
Laser Light Show - Thank You
Longevity Games
Celebration Assembly
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Key Dates
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Christmas Fair
Christmas Magic is coming
Nursery Open Evening
Nursery Enroll 2026-2027
Online safety
Santa v's Rudolph - Fun Run 3k / 5k
Adverts

Attendance

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please ensure you advise us by email or leave a telephone message, on the first day of absence, providing the following information:



- Child's full name
- Class and year group
- Reason for absence, including details of symptoms

You should also advise us on each subsequent day of absence.

Please note that emails notifying the school of a pupil's absence will no longer receive a response or acknowledgement. If we require any further information we will contact you.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Thank you



Children in Need - Thank You



Winter Laser Light Show - Thank you



Longevity Games - What a year! Are you joining us for the finale?

Hi everyone,
What an incredible year for The Longevity Games!
218 people joined us in September, the BBC came along, and now **ITV will be filming our final event of 2026!**
We're back at Delta Tennis Centre on **Sunday 22nd November**, and we'd love you to be part of it.
Three fitness levels. All ages and abilities. One incredible atmosphere.
If you've taken part before, why not come back and bring someone new?
You could be the reason someone changes their future.
🎟️ £26 entry | £36 with finisher's T-shirt
👉 www.thelongevitygames.co.uk
Entries close 8th November at 9pm.
Tim
The Longevity Games
Your Fitness. Your Future.

Celebration Assembly Dates

Celebration Assembly dates for November are as follows:

Term 2

Friday 27th November 2026 - Year 1, Year 2 & Signal Box

Friday 4th December 2026 - Reception

Assemblies will begin at 8.50am in Brunel Hall (located next to main school reception)



Anti-Bullying Policy

It has been anti-bullying week this week and the children started the week coming in with their odd socks on and have worked on 'breaking the silence' around bullying. Please take a look at our anti-bullying poster that shows how we work towards anti bullying at our school.



Reception Open Evening



Key Dates for your Diary

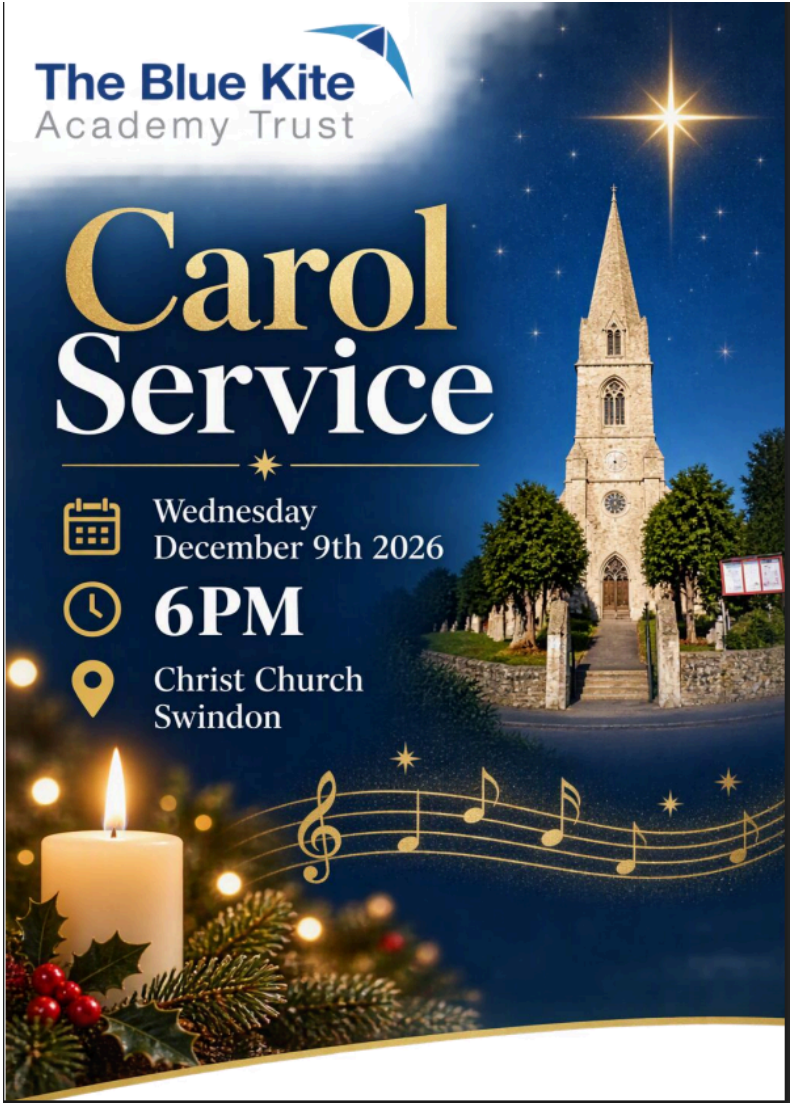
WHOLE SCHOOL KEY DATES THIS TERM

DATE	EVENT
Friday 13th November	Wear yellow for Children in Need.
week commencing 16th November	Anti-bullying and Road Safety Week
Tuesday 17th November	Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 18th November	Last date to return filled shoeboxes for the Christmas Shoebox Appeal
Friday 20th November	Open Classroom event from 2.30pm
Friday 27th November	Non-uniform day in exchange for donations for Chirstmas hampers.

Christmas Key Dates



The Blue Kite Trust - Carol Service



Christmas Fair



🎅 Christmas Magic is Coming to Even Swindon! 🎄

Friends of Even Swindon PTFA are delighted to announce that tickets are now on sale for our two special Christmas events!

We have two opportunities for children to enjoy some festive magic and meet the big man himself! 🎅

🥞 **Breakfast with Santa** 📅 Friday 4th December ⏰ 8:00am – 8:30am

Join us for a magical start to the day for breakfast with a guest appearance from Santa! Each child will also receive a special present from Santa before they leave.

☕ **Afternoon Tea with Santa** 📅 Friday 11th December ⏰ 3:15pm – 3:45pm

Come along after school for a lovely festive afternoon tea with a guest appearance from Santa. A perfect opportunity for the children to enjoy some Christmas magic and receive a special present!

🎟️ **Tickets are on sale now!**

Tickets for both events can be purchased through our PTA Events page:
https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofevenswindonprimary/index.cfm#

Spaces are limited, so make sure you book early to avoid disappointment!

Every penny raised goes straight back into supporting our school and enriching experiences for all our children.

We look forward to seeing lots of festive faces! ❤️

Friends of Even Swindon Primary School PTFA



Spare Clothes - Reception & Year 1



We are currently in need of spare clothing for our Reception Classes & Year 1 children. Donations of trousers, skirts, dresses, socks, and underwear for both boys and girls would be greatly appreciated.

If your child has borrowed any spare clothing from school, please could you return the items once they have been washed, as this helps us maintain our stock for other children who may need them.

Thank you for your kindness and support.

Many Thanks
Reception & Year 1 team

Nursery Open Evening

We accept 2-year-old funding & 30 hours

EVEN SWINDON SCHOOL

Believe, achieve, inspire

2, 3 and 4-year-old spaces available

The Blue Kite Academy Trust

Nursery Open Evening



Tuesday 2nd March 2027

4.00pm – 6.00pm

Even Swindon Primary School
Pasture Close, Swindon, SN2 2UJ

Please join us to have a look around our Nursery and meet the staff. Children and parents welcome

All children on our waiting list will be sent an invitation soon.
If your child is not on our waiting list, please email
admin@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org



Online Safety

MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones have become a huge part of young people's everyday lives, but new restrictions on their use in schools and proposed restrictions on social media are changing how children and young people can use them. This guide explores mobile phones, their use by young people, what the evidence tells us, the current and future legal position, and what parents and educators should do.

What are the risks?

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The relationship between smartphone and social media use and young people's mental health is complex, and evidence does not establish a simple cause-and-effect relationship. Some researchers and commentators, however, including Jonathan Haidt, author of The Anxious Generation, argue that increased smartphone and social media use may be contributing to poorer mental health and wellbeing among young people.

LEARNING AND ATTENTION

Mobile phones can distract pupils from learning and make it harder to maintain attention and concentration. Research suggests that learning and attention have improved in schools that already prohibited mobile phone use, particularly among pupils with lower prior attainment. Now that the DfE's guidance on mobile phones is statutory, schools should ensure that the whole-school community understands and follows their policy, while monitoring how effectively it is implemented.

HARMFUL CONTENT AND BULLYING

Mobile phones can be a means of extending peer conflict from the community into schools and from schools back into the community. They also provide easy access to harmful and inappropriate content, including content that is sexually explicit, promotes self-harm or eating disorders, or is violent in nature. Exposure to this content can negatively affect children's mental health and wellbeing, potentially increasing the support they require from schools, parents, and support services.

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Ofcom research found that 13- to 14-year-olds spend an average of 4 hours 19 minutes online each day across smartphones, tablets, and computers. However, there is considerable variation between children, with some spending significantly more or less time online. Excessive screen time can contribute to disrupted sleep and fragmented attention, both of which can negatively affect children's mental health and wellbeing.

The current and upcoming rules

SCHOOL BANS

As of 1 September 2026, schools are expected to be phone-free environments by default, with any exceptions limited to specific circumstances. Schools can decide how best to implement this. For example, some may provide secure storage or collect phones at the beginning of the school day, while others may prohibit pupils from bringing them onto school premises altogether. Schools can also confiscate mobile phones in line with their behaviour policy, while searches for prohibited phones must follow the relevant legal requirements.

REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS

Schools should make reasonable adjustments where necessary for disabled pupils and may allow exceptions in other circumstances, including where mobile phone use is necessary to support a medical condition or an identified need. For example, a pupil with diabetes may use a continuous glucose monitor linked to their mobile phone to monitor their blood sugar levels. Schools may also make adaptations where mobile phone use provides agreed support for pupils with SEND. Any exceptions should be clearly reflected in the school's policies and procedures.

ONLINE SAFETY ACT 2023 AND 2026 PROPOSALS

Platforms are required to protect children from harmful content and use age checks to prevent children from accessing pornography and certain other types of harmful content. In June 2026, the government announced that it intends to stop social media companies offering services to under-16s. These restrictions are expected to be introduced in spring 2027, but the precise scope and rules have not yet been confirmed.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

While there is ongoing debate about the relationship between smartphones, social media and young people's mental health, there are steps that parents and educators can take to help reduce the potential risks associated with their use:

1. Delay smartphones. Consider waiting until a child is 14 before giving them a smartphone. Where a child needs a device to contact family, a basic phone may be an alternative.
2. Delay social media. Consider delaying access to social media until the age of 16.
3. Support phone-free schools. Parents, pupils, and staff should understand and support the school's approach to mobile phones.
4. Encourage screen-free activities. Promote independent and outdoor play, alongside other activities that give children opportunities to socialise and spend time away from screens.

Meet Our Expert

Mark Emmerson OBE, CEO – City of London Academies Trust. With nearly 45 years' experience in inner-city education, including 26 years in senior leadership roles, Mark was an early advocate for tackling the risks of mobile phones in schools, introducing a ban as headteacher in 2000. He has also served as a national DfE adviser and held local authority roles, consistently driving improvements in pupil outcomes and Ofsted judgements, particularly in disadvantaged communities.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

@wake_up_weds /wuw.thenationalcollege @wake.up.wednesday @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 23.10.2026



Branches Support Group


BRANCHES
SUPPORT GROUP
EVERYONE WELCOME
Tel: 07486 873405
Email: swindonsendfamiliesvoice@outlook.com
BRANCHES
BRANCHES is a support group open to all parents and carers of children and young people with any Special Educational Need or Disability, aged 0-25 years
When?
Tuesday 17th November
Where?
Punjabi Community Centre
Swindon
SN2 7BB
Time:
7pm -8:30pm
Working Together
Strengthening Support
Reaching Out
Guest Speaker:
Nicola Ponton - Head of SEND & Inclusion, a discussion about the Banding review and the SEND Reform Plan for Swindon
Swindon SEND Families Voice
BRANCHES is a free support group, however voluntary donations for refreshments are welcomed

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Fun Run - 3K & 5K



Hati Yoga

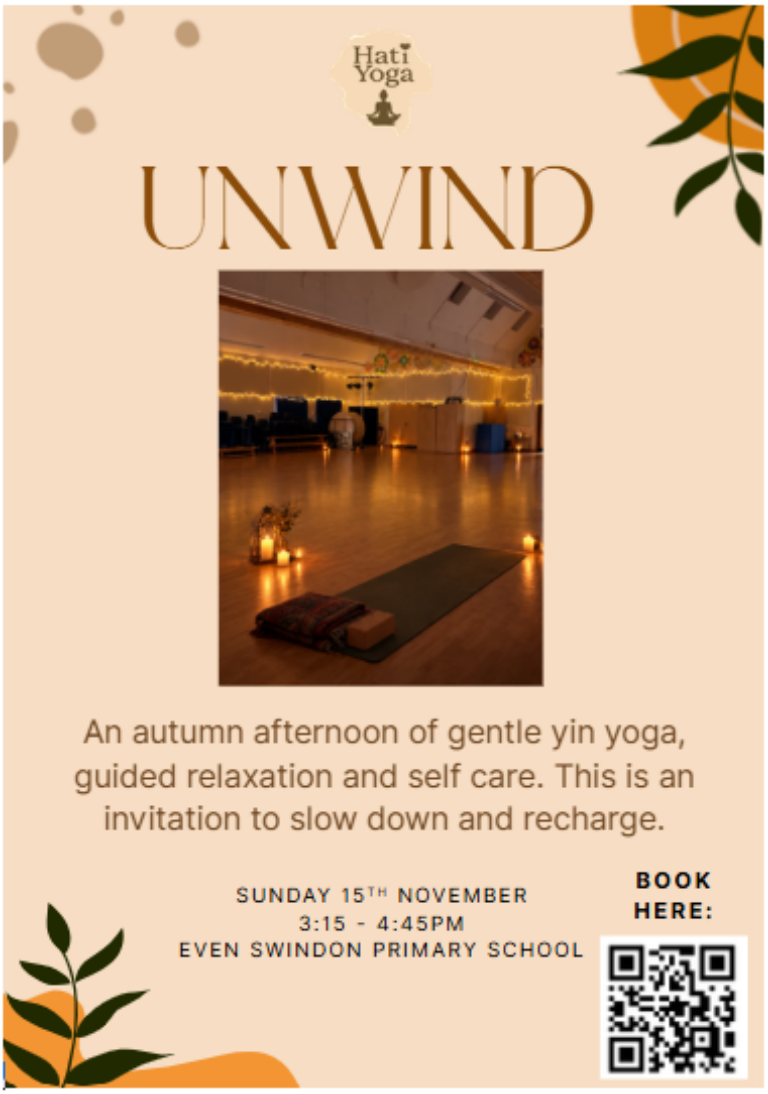
As the days get shorter, take some time to enjoy an afternoon of deep relaxation and self-care. We'll begin with gentle, floor-based yoga, supported by props for comfort. This will be followed by a guided relaxation with heated eye masks and an optional aromatherapy mist. We'll finish with time for a herbal tea and sweet treat or simply more time for stillness. Leave feeling relaxed, refreshed and ready for the week ahead.

If this sounds like just what you need, then I'd love to see you there!

Scan the QR code for more information or to book.

Instagram - @hati.yoga.uk

Facebook - Hati Yoga



Christmas Holiday Club


SWINDON MULTI SPORTS HOLIDAY CLUBS
Swindon HAF Programme
Swindon Holiday Activities and Food Programme
FIND US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM
DECEMBER CHRISTMAS 2026 HOLIDAY CLUB
Book Online
BROOK FIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL
Mon 21st Dec - Thurs 24th Dec 2026
AGES 4-14
FOUR DAYS ONLY
Monday 21st December
Tuesday 22nd December
Wednesday 23rd December
9am - 3pm - All Day
Thursday 24th December
9am - 1pm
MAKE NEW FRIENDS
FUN ACTIVITIES
An exciting holiday club designed for active and fun-loving children. A safe, friendly environment where children stay active, make new friends and have fun.
Please visit our website to secure your place.
www.swindonmultisports.co.uk

Every month on the 3rd Saturday @ 11am

Messy Church is a relaxed, family-friendly time of crafts, story & song, and we usually end with a simple lunch together. All are welcome to come along, and it's free.

Messy CHURCH

Dates for 2026

January 17th	July 18th
February 21st	August – No Session
March 21st	September 19th
April 18th	October 17th
May 16th	November 21st
June 20th	December 19th

The Parish Church of St Augustine of Canterbury Even Swindon

Celebrating Jesus Loving Rodbourne

The Blue Kite Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales,
c/o Ferndale Primary and Nursery School, Wiltshire Avenue,
Swindon SN2 1NX Company Number 09889819

The Blue Kite Academy Trust