

EVEN SWINDON SCHOOL



Believe, achieve, inspire



The Blue Kite
Academy Trust

Even Swindon's Fortnightly Update

Friday 25th September 2026



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

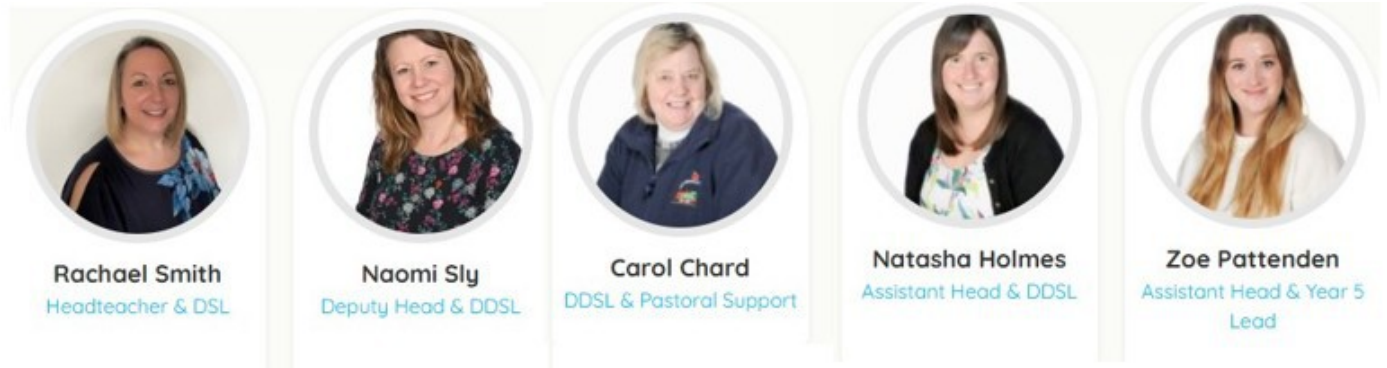
Safeguarding Information

Safeguarding Contact Information:

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Rachael Smith - head@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Naomi Sly - nsly@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Carol Chard - cchard@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Natasha Holmes - nholmes@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Zoe Pattenden - zpattenden@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org



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...

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100 years of Commonwealth
Adverts



Bake Sale to support Macmillan - Friday 25th October - 3pm



Mobile Phones

We are also a no-mobile-phone site, so please do not use your mobile phones on the school site. This includes when you come in for celebration assemblies and while you are waiting for the children to arrive in the assembly hall. Please put your phones away and use this as an opportunity to network with other parents. Our Year Leaders will be sharing information and messages before children arrive for assembly, and the dates for assemblies can be found on the school website calendar.

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.



Celebration Assembly Dates

Celebration Assembly dates for the rest of the year are as follows:

Term 1

Friday 2nd October 2026 - Year 3 & Year 4 - Brunel Hall

Friday 9th October 2026 - Year 1, Year 2 & Signal Box - Brunel Hall

Important Dates

Parents' evenings - Tuesday 29th September & Wednesday 30th September 2026

Individual school photos - Thursday 1st October 2026

School Discos - Monday 19th October 2026



Reminder to Parents

Please be reminded that, after school, children must not use the school's play equipment or gym equipment around the school. This is because these facilities are not supervised after the school day and may present safety risks when used without staff oversight. It also helps to protect the equipment from inappropriate use or damage. If children do use either type of equipment after school, responsibility for their safety and actions rests with their parents.

Reminder: Bikes and Scooters on School Property

For the safety of all members of our school community, children should not ride bikes or scooters on school property. Children should dismount when coming through the school gate and continue on foot while on the premises.

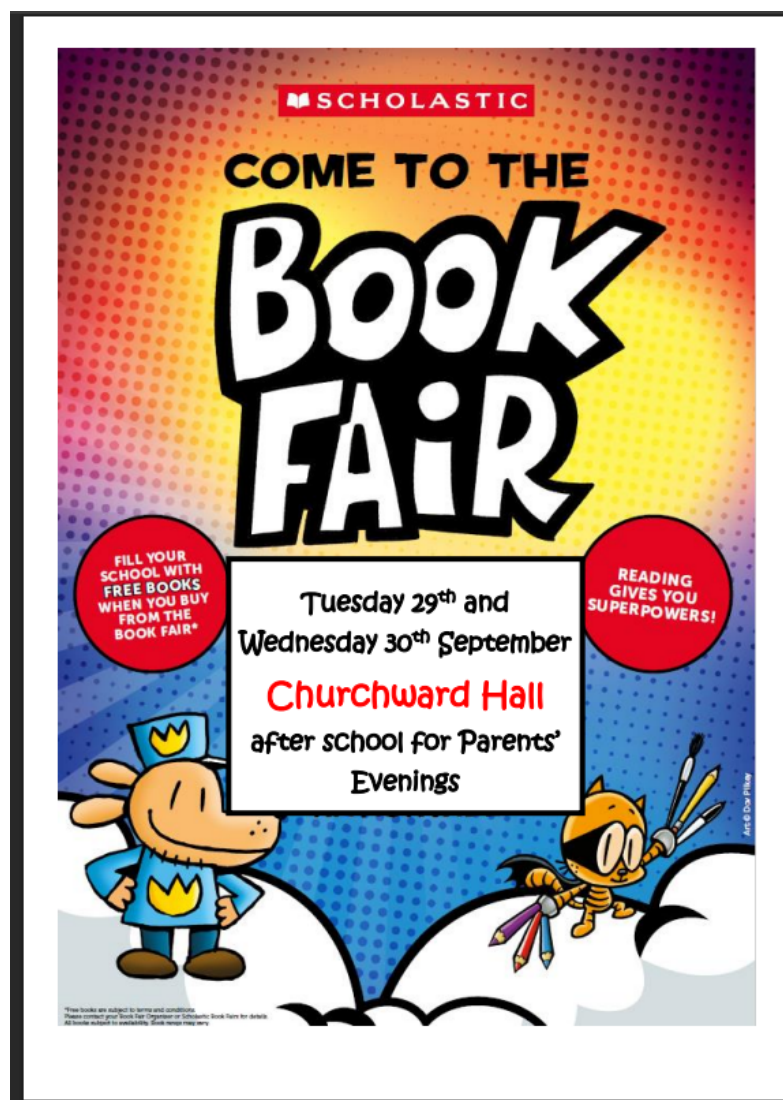
This helps to prevent collisions with pedestrians, reduces the risk of injury, and supports safe, orderly movement at busy arrival and collection times. Parents and carers are asked to remind children of this expectation and to supervise them appropriately when entering the school grounds.

Cutlery

If you are providing your child with a packed lunch in a food flask, please could you ensure that they also bring their own cutlery.

School cutlery has been going missing!

Book Fair - Tues 29th & Wed 30th September 2026



Tuck Shop

Tuck Shop starts on Tuesday 29th September.

All new stock



*All items
50p each*

*No more
than £1.00
to be given
for tuck
please.*



*Tuck shop will be
on a Tuesday for
Years 3 and 4.
Thursday for Years
5 and 6.*

Awards outside of School

Football Achievement

A huge congratulations to PJ - Paddington Class who was recently presented with the **Manager's Award** for football. This award recognises dedication, teamwork, effort and a positive attitude both on and off the pitch. Well done on this fantastic achievement!

Gymnastics Success

We would like to congratulate Luana - Paddington Class who has earned a number of **Gymnastics Awards** through their hard work, determination and commitment.



Thank You

Friends of Even Swindon, thank you to everyone for your support - we have raised a fantastic amount of £232.01



🎉 All Our PTFA Events Are Now on PTA Events! 🎉

We're excited to let families know that all Friends of Even Swindon Primary School events are now managed through PTA Events.

This includes our school discos, as well as all our other exciting fundraising and community events.

🎉 You can use PTA Events to:

- 🎫 Book tickets for school discos and other ticketed events
- 📅 See all our upcoming events in one place
- 🔊 Find out more information about each event
- 👤 Volunteer to help at any event where you can

Every volunteer makes a difference! ❤️

We completely understand that family life is busy, and you may not be able to give hours of your time. Even if you can spare just half an hour, every minute helps us put on these events for our children.

Whether it's helping set up, serving refreshments, running a stall, helping at a disco or tidying up afterwards, your support helps make our events possible and creates lasting memories for the children. 🥰

💖 Fancy helping out?

Visit our PTA Events page, take a look at the upcoming events and sign up to volunteer for anything you can help with.

👉 <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofevenswindonprimary/index.cfm#>

Or contact us on PTA@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org

Together, we can make a BIG difference! ✨

Thank you to everyone who supports Friends of Even Swindon Primary School. Your time, help and support really does mean so much. 💖



Friends of Even Swindon
Primary School
PTFA

Supporting
our school,
creating brighter
futures

ALL PTA EVENTS are now on PTA Events!

From school discos to all our other exciting events,
everything is run through PTA Events.



SCHOOL
DISCOS



EVENT
TICKETS



VIEW ALL OUR
UPCOMING EVENTS



VOLUNTEER
& GET INVOLVED

Book your tickets & find out
more here: ➡

[https://www.pta-events.co.uk/
friendsofevenswindonprimary/index.cfm#](https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofevenswindonprimary/index.cfm#)

See all
our upcoming
events

We need you!

Even if it's
just half an
hour...

You can volunteer for any event
you want to give time to – even if it's
just half an hour. Every minute helps us
out in these events and creates
lasting memories for the children.

Small
amounts
of time
make a
BIG
difference

Book tickets • See what's coming up • Volunteer • Get involved

♥ Together, we can make a BIG difference! ♥

Friends of Even Swindon - Laser Light show

🌈 ✨ FRIENDS OF EVEN SWINDON LASER LIGHT SHOW ✨ 🌈

Get ready for an unforgettable evening of lights, music, and family fun!

Join us for our spectacular Laser Light Show, bringing the school grounds to life with dazzling lasers, fantastic entertainment, and plenty of fun for all ages.

- 🎆 Amazing Laser Light Display
- 🍔 BBQ
- 🍹 Refreshments
- 🍪 Treats & Snacks
- 🛒 A Variety of Outside Stall Holders for Shopping
- 🎡 Fairground Rides
- 👨‍👩‍👧‍👦 Fun for the Whole Family

Bring your friends and family and enjoy a magical evening while helping to raise funds for our school.

Every pound raised helps support exciting opportunities and resources for our children.

📅 Date: 14th November

🕒 Time: Gates open at 3.30pm Show starts at around 5pm. There will be various stalls and fair ground rides to enjoy before the show starts

📍 Location: Even Swindon Primary School

🎫 Tickets: on sale now you can purchase yours using the below link

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofevenswindonprimary/index.cfm#>

💖 We'd also love some volunteers to help with the BBQ, refreshments, and PTA stalls. Even an hour of your time can make a huge difference!

Let's light up the night together and make this our biggest PTA event yet!



Even Swindon Nursery

Enroll for 2026 - 2027! *



We accept
2-year-old
funding &
30 hours

2, 3 and
4-year-old
spaces
available



Why Choose Us?



✓ High quality education

✓ Secure & stimulating environment

✓ Caring, experienced Staff



Email admin@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org to be added to our waiting list.

Check out our website for further information - www.evenswindon.co.uk.

Phone 01793 523041 if you have any questions.

**Even Swindon
Primary School**

Believe . Achieve . Inspire



Online Safety

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CONNECTING CHILDREN WITH NATURE

Spending time outdoors plays a vital role in children's health, happiness, and development. This guide explores why nature matters, the barriers families may face, and practical ways to help children reconnect with wildlife and the outdoors. Here we highlight simple activities, creative ideas, and safe approaches to encourage exploration, confidence, and a lasting love of nature in everyday life.

1 TIME OUTSIDE MATTERS

Evidence shows that time in nature can benefit children's mental and physical health, learning, social development, and overall well-being. Nature does not need to be rare, grand, or far away to matter. Common, small, and local spaces can offer valuable opportunities too. Despite competing demands on children's time, many say being in nature makes them happy.

2 UNDERSTAND THE BARRIERS

Children's outdoor play has reduced significantly in recent generations, with independent play and roaming also becoming less common. Reasons can include alternative play options, worries about safety and risk, fewer suitable play spaces, busier roads, and increasingly structured routines. Understanding these barriers helps adults respond with practical, realistic ways to make outdoor time easier and more appealing.

3 TAKE ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE

Children can benefit from being in natural spaces even when engaging with nature is not the main activity. Think about everyday pursuits that could be moved outdoors, such as reading, playing cards and board games, arts and crafts, hide and seek, exercising, eating, or chatting. Involve children and young people in creating their outdoor space – for example, an upturned box can become a table, while cushions wrapped in strong bags can make temporary outdoor seating.

4 USE TECHNOLOGY POSITIVELY

Too much screen time can be unhelpful, but technology can also support nature connection, particular for older children and young people. They can use a camera to document the wildlife they find, create art projects, or record natural sounds. Apps can help identify birdsong, plants, insects, or stars. Older children and young people may also enjoy citizen science projects, where their observations contribute to real environmental research.

5 CREATE MINI ADVENTURES

Green spaces are brilliant for exploration, adventure, creativity, and problem-solving. Adventures can be small and local, such as hunting for insects, looking for natural colours, or spotting patterns. They can also be bigger, including hill walks, den building, rock pooling, or watching the sunset. These experiences can create moments of awe and leave lasting memories.

6 BUILD NATURE AT HOME

Even small spaces can help children connect with nature through play and creativity. Seeds can be grown in window boxes or hanging baskets, while herbs, strawberries, flowers, and cherry tomatoes often thrive in containers. Bird feeders, nest boxes, and insect hotels can support local wildlife. Indoors, garden magazines, leaves, and natural textures can inspire imaginative art, storytelling, and play.

7 EXPLORE FURTHER AFIELD

Holidays and weekends can offer children and young people the opportunity to visit country parks, nature reserves, waterways, woods, and the coast. These places may create memorable "Wow!" moments, such as rock pooling, exploring forests, pond dipping, or simply visiting somewhere new. Local activity centres may also offer taster sessions in canoeing, climbing, or archery, helping children and young people try outdoor activities safely.

8 ENGAGE OLDER CHILDREN

Teenagers may be less interested in adult-led activities designed for younger children. They often respond better to challenges, independence, skill building, and meaningful responsibility. Wildlife surveys, photography, outdoor cooking, whittling with safe tools, den building, or conservation tasks can feel more purposeful. Allowing controlled risks can support confidence, judgement, and a stronger connection with nature.

9 NOTICE LOCAL NATURE

Natural spaces enable unstructured play and exploration. Adults don't need specialist knowledge to help children enjoy nature and wildlife. Start by noticing what can be heard, smelled, and seen in a garden, school grounds, local park, or on the way to the shops. Encourage walking at a slower pace, looking for birds, leaves, insects, clouds, colours, and patterns, so that nature becomes part of daily living.

10 MANAGE SENSIBLE RISKS

Taking certain small risks in nature can in fact be valuable for children. Getting wet, muddy, or even stung by a nettle can help them understand the consequences of nature, cope with discomfort, build confidence outdoors, and assess situations more safely in future. Adults can support them in these moments by setting clear boundaries, supervising appropriately, teaching safety, and preparing children for all sorts of weather and natural spaces, while still allowing their curiosity, independence, and resilience to grow.

Meet Our Expert

Kate Whitehead leads on Connecting Children with Nature for Natural England, the government's adviser for the natural environment. With a background in ecology and sustainable development, and a passion for education, Kate works to facilitate between the environmental, education, and health sectors, collating research and best practice to support schools to unlock the multitude of benefits nature can offer.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list at www.nationalcollege.org.uk

X @wake_up_weds

f /www.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: 29.07.2026

COMMUNITY BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Do you have a child 0-4 years old who has not started school yet?

Wednesday 7th October 2026
9am-10am



2nd December 2026
3rd February 2027
10th March 2027
21st April 2027
23rd June 2027



Come along to Even Swindon Primary School to enjoy time with your child and other families.



To book in please call: 01793 523041

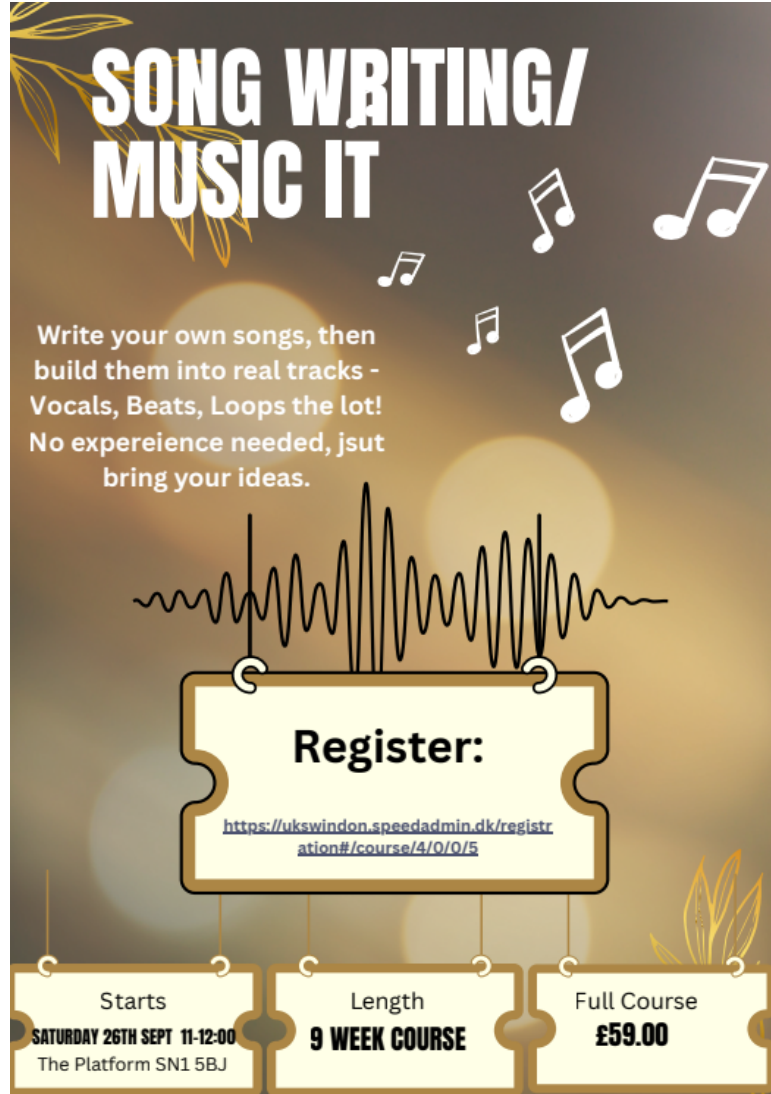
Email: admin@evenswindon.bluekitetrust.org

**Even Swindon
Primary School**

Believe . Achieve . Inspire



KS2 Music Tech Course



A hands-on course for students who want to get behind the desk — recording, mixing, beat-making, and producing their own tracks using industry-standard software and equipment.

📅 When: Saturdays, 19th September – December (10 weeks), 10:00 - 11:00am

📍 Where: The Platform, Faringdon Road, Swindon SN1 5BJ

💷 Cost: Just £59.25 for the full course

🎧 **Who: Open to all Key Stage 2 students — no prior experience needed, just enthusiasm!**

This is a brilliant opportunity for students who love music but want to explore the tech and production side — perfect for anyone interested in careers in music production, sound engineering, or the wider creative industries.

<https://ukswindon.speedadmin.dk/registration#/course/4/0/0/5>

Lighthouse Parent / Carer Sessions

Early Intervention Lighthouse PARENT/CARER SESSIONS



We're
here to
support
you!

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

All parents and carers are welcome!
An opportunity to talk with a
member of our team about any
questions, concerns or support you
may need.

We can talk about:



Behaviour



Anxiety



School



Finances



Screentime



Food

...and much more



SESSION DATES



29th Sept



17th Nov



15th Dec



19th Jan



2nd March



20th April



11th May



15th June



13th July



BOOK IN AT THE OFFICE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



Lighthouse

PLANNED IGNORING

A calm, powerful way to guide behaviour

“What we pay attention to
we get more of.”

- 1 Stay calm**
No eye contact.
No reaction.
No talking about it.
Your calm helps their brain.
- 2 Use distraction**
Redirect to something
positive or something
they can do.
 - Look at that bird over there!
 - Come and get a drink.
 - Where are my other shoes?
 - Would you like to build something or draw?
- 3 Ignore the behaviour
but never the child**
Show warmth and connection
at other times.
Connection fills their cup.
- 4 Prevent escalation**
Notice early signs.
Redirect early.
Keep routines predictable.
*A SMALL STEP EARLY
CAN PREVENT A BIG
REACTION.*



WE IGNORE THE BEHAVIOUR,
BUT NEVER THE CHILD.

Love stays. Boundaries stay. Calm teaches. Connection grows.



Calming and Regulating

Little things can make a BIG difference

- 1 CLOSE EYES**
Close eyes and have
headphones with a
calming frequency such
as white noise can find
these on YouTube or
Spotify or use calming
music.
- 2 BREATHING EXERCISES**
STARFISH BREATHING
Spread all fingers wide and slowly
trace up and down them whilst
breathing in and out very slowly.
Pause at each tip for 2 seconds
then breathe out – repeat x 3-5.
**PISTON THEY HAVE - PLATE OF COOKIES
OR A CUP OF HOT CHOCOLATE**
take a long smell (breathe in
through the nose) then blow
them slowly to cool them
down (breathe out through
their mouth) gently.
- 3 GUIDED MEDITATION**
Listen on YouTube
or Spotify.
- 4 SENSORY PLAY**
Gloop (cornflour and water),
kinetic or regular sand,
shaving foam, water beads
(supervised).
- 5 WEIGHTED BLANKET**
While listening to calming
music or white noise/brown
noise research recommends
binaural beats or 432Hz –
if you look both of these up
on Spotify or YouTube you
can find them on there –
Or watch a light projector.
- 6 LIE ON A BLANKET**
Watch the clouds, spot
pictures you can make
out of them or close
your eyes (inside or out)
and listen for 1 minute
(shorter if needed) and
see what you can hear.
- 7 CROSS THE MIDLINE**
Massage the opposite earlobe with
the opposite hand and pull the ear
gently away from head, all the way
from top to bottom.
Sit in a V position and touching
opposite toes, tapping opposite
shoulders with fingers.
- 8 WATER**
Play with water
outside, pouring
and stringing in
a sink or big bowl.
- 9 A BIG HUG**
- 10 GROUNDING EXERCISES**
Name 3-5 items of a given category
e.g. find and point to:
5 red things 4 shiny things 3 round things

It's okay to take a break. You matter.

FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

With Lighthouse



A SIX WEEK COURSE
HELPING FAMILIES TO
CREATE A MORE
HARMONIOUS HOME

WHERE: BADBURY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL (SN3 6ER)
WHEN: TUESDAYS 13.00-14.45, 15TH SEPTEMBER- 20TH OCT
WHAT: PRACTICAL IDEAS AND STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT
BEHAVIOUR, RELATIONSHIPS AND HAPPINESS AT HOME

TO BOOK A SPACE OR FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT GWOLLEN@BLUEKITETRUST.ORG OR
BBRADLEY@BLUEKITETRUST.ORG

Follow our Instagram page for dates of other courses and
general family life tips on @lighthouse_bluekitetrust

hati yoga

NEED SOME
YOU TIME?

Come and try a Hati Yoga
class this summer. Everyone
welcome - no previous
experience necessary.
First class is free.

classes

GENTLE YOGA
MONDAYS 6PM-
7PM

ALL LEVELS YOGA
SATURDAYS 9:30AM-
10:30AM

YIN YOGA
SATURDAYS
10:40AM-11:40AM

Rodbourne Methodist Hall (next to Aldi)
www.app.ubindi/Wendy.Matthews to book or
message

A solid blue horizontal line spanning the width of the page.

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.



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 ROSSBOURNE

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



Even Swindon Primary School

www.evenswindon.co.uk

