

Dear Parents/Carers,

MP visit to Dean Field

We were very excited today to welcome Kate Dearden MP to Dean Field for a special visit ahead of our Ofsted Report Card being released.

Kate was also very keen to hear about our Breakfast Club initiative success since it started in April—this is an initiative that she has championed and she was pleased to hear how well it is going. It was a pleasure to show Kate around as it was her first time visiting Dean Field and tell her all about our wonderful school!

School Improvement Priorities

As a school we are passionate about continuing to develop and improve. Please see our School Improvement Priorities for this academic year



SIP PRIORITIES 2026-27



QUALITY OF EDUCATION

- To ensure all pupils make at least expected progress from their starting points.
- To streamline interventions across each key stage.
- To further develop Italy SEND Hub focussing on reintegration.
- To launch a targeted intervention class in Canada.
- To develop innovative opportunities for pupils to revisit prior knowledge and maximise the teaching timetable.

BEHAVIOUR & ATTENDANCE

- To raise overall pupil attendance by implementing targeted strategies that reduce persistent absence, strengthen parental engagement and promote a culture of regular school attendance.
- To strengthen understanding around emerging online risks.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- To establish a pastoral support model using existing TA capacity.
- To build on our existing pupil leadership opportunities with a clear link to aspirations and careers.
- To map out and implement a progressive personal development offer for each year group to deepen understanding of British Values and Protected Characteristics.

LEADERSHIP

- To utilise the strong leadership and subject expertise within our school and support wider Trust development.

EYFS

- To ensure the percentage of pupils achieving GLD is at least in line with national.
- To ensure the earliest possible identification of pupils with SEND, EAL and any other barriers to learning.
- To further strengthen the foundations of writing across EYFS.
- To further strengthen transition from reception to year 1.

Our full School Improvement Plan can be found on the link below on our School Website.

deanfieldschool.co.uk/site/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/DFSIP2026-2027.pdf

Mrs Pether

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **CHARACTER.AI**

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Character.AI is an entertainment platform where users create and chat with AI-powered characters. These chatbots can act like existing favourite characters from movies or books, or like friends, mentors, or even romantic partners, responding in an emotional, personally engaging way. Although this can encourage creativity, it can also make a generated conversation feel like a genuine relationship, which is concerning if it takes the place of human relationships.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

AI replies are generated in real time rather than chosen from a fully checked script. Even with safety filters on, conversations can still move into sexual, violent, discriminatory, or self-harm material. These AI characters are often made by users, so a familiar name or child-friendly description does not guarantee that every response from the character will be suitable for a young person.

BLURRED BOUNDARIES

Characters on Character.AI can use the language of friendship, love, and empathy without ever feeling anything. Vulnerable young people may struggle to separate this simulation from genuine understanding. Romantic role-play or a character that demands attention, loyalty, or secrecy could also risk distorting young people's expectations around consent, disagreement, and the give-and-take involved in healthy human relationships.

UNRELIABLE ADVICE

Characters, like other chatbot platforms, are at risk of inventing facts or giving inappropriate advice while sounding completely confident. Characters may also echo a young person's assumptions instead of questioning them. This can become particularly risky when users rely on a character for guidance about health, mental wellbeing, relationships, money, or personal safety instead of checking with a credible source or trusted adult.

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

Character.AI chatbots can appear endlessly attentive, supportive, and affectionate, which is one of the hallmarks of the generative AI models that such companions are built on. A young person may start turning to a character chatbot whenever they feel lonely or upset and believe that it understands them better than the humans in their life. This can become more concerning when chatting starts to replace sleep, schoolwork, hobbies and friendships.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Character.AI chats may feel private, especially when a bot sounds personal and caring, but they take place on a company's online systems. Users could intentionally or unintentionally reveal their name, school, location, routines, images, or intimate concerns. Character.AI says some data may be retained to improve its services and AI models, so young people should never treat a chatbot like a confidential diary.

UNHEALTHY ENGAGEMENT

Be aware of warning signs such as secret accounts, bypassing age restrictions, hiding phone use from adults, chatting late at night, distress when access to the platform or character stops, withdrawal from other people, falling interest in school, or believing the character is conscious. Increased use may also signal that the young person is already lonely, anxious, or seeking help.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Ask what the young person enjoys about Character.AI and invite them to show you how the platform and their favourite characters work. Useful questions include, "Has it ever said something that felt wrong?" and "How can you tell it doesn't have feelings?" Avoid shaming them for using platforms like Character.AI or making them feel there is something wrong with them for doing so.

PAUSE, CHECK AND ASK

Teach young people to pause before accepting an answer from characters on Character.AI. Encourage them to check important claims against a trustworthy source and ask a safe adult when the issue matters. Never use a character as the sole source of medical, mental health, legal, financial, or safeguarding advice. Remind them not to share passwords, contact details, school information, live locations, or private images.

CHECK AGE, SETTINGS & LIMITS

Character.AI's minimum age is 16 in the UK, but open-ended companion chat is restricted to adults aged 18 or over. Users aged 16 to 17 receive a different experience built around guided 'Stories' and other creative or social features. Check their current settings, never help or encourage a young person to give a false age, and apply the same safety rules to other chatbot apps.

NOTICE AND RESPOND

Take action if chats involve sexual content, threats, coercion, abuse, self-harm or danger. Save relevant evidence, report the character and follow the setting's safeguarding process; educators should involve the designated safeguarding lead. If anyone is in immediate danger, contact emergency services. Childline is available on 0800 1111 and the NSPCC Helpline on 0800 800 5000.

Meet Our Expert

Darren Coxon is an educator with almost 30 years' experience across teaching, school leadership and governance. He works internationally supporting schools and colleges with AI leadership and governance and [Insert NC courses I have written].



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®



Mrs Stansfield
Pastoral Manager



Miss Clay
SENDCo

Benedict's Law: Information for Parents and Carers

Keeping Children Safe

The safety and wellbeing of children is everyone's responsibility. **Benedict's Law** is proposed legislation aimed at strengthening child protection by improving the way concerns about abuse and neglect are identified, reported, and acted upon.

What is Benedict's Law?

Benedict's Law has been proposed following the tragic death of a child named Benedict. It seeks to improve safeguarding by ensuring that professionals who work with children are better equipped to recognise and respond to signs that a child may be at risk of harm.

The law focuses on:

- Putting children's safety first.
- Improving communication between agencies.
- Strengthening accountability when safeguarding concerns are raised.
- Encouraging early intervention to protect children.

What Does This Mean for Parents?

Your child's school already has safeguarding procedures in place. Benedict's Law reinforces the importance of these measures and aims to ensure that concerns about children's welfare are taken seriously and acted upon promptly.

You can help by:

- Keeping your contact details up to date.
- Informing the school of any significant changes affecting your child.
- Talking openly with your child about their feelings and wellbeing.
- Working with school staff if they raise any concerns.

What Should You Do if You Are Worried About a Child?

If you are concerned that a child may be at risk of abuse or neglect:

- Speak to your child's class teacher or the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- If you believe a child is in immediate danger, contact the police by calling **999**.

No concern is too small when it comes to keeping children safe.

Working Together

Schools, families, health professionals, and social care services all have an important role in protecting children. By working together, we can help ensure every child grows up in a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment.

Need More Information?

If you have any questions about safeguarding procedures at school, please contact the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead. They will be happy to explain how safeguarding works and how concerns are managed.

Together, we can help keep every child safe.

Advance Notice

Please note that there will be no after school clubs on **Friday 18th December 2026**, **Friday 9th April 2027** and **Friday 16th July 2027**. School will close to all children at 1.10pm on these days.

Please see 2026/27 term dates below.



Dean Field Community Primary School

School Term Dates 2026/2027

2026 Autumn Term	Re-open	Tuesday 1 September	74 school days
Half Term	Close	Friday 23 October	
	Re-open	Monday 2 November	
Christmas Holiday	Close	Friday 18 December	
2027 Spring Term	Re-open	Monday 4 January	54 school days
Half Term	Close	Friday 12 February	
	Re-open	Monday 22 February	
Easter Holiday	Close	Thursday 25 March	
2027 Summer Term	Re-open	Thursday 8 April	62 school days
May day	Closed	Monday 3 May	
Half Term/Training week	Close	Friday 28 May	
Mid-Summer	Re-open	Monday 14 June	
	Close	Friday 16 July	
			Total 190 days

Training Days

Monday 7 June 2027

To

Friday 11 June 2027

- (disaggregated)

Daily Uniform



Dean Field Community Primary School School Uniform



Grey or black
trousers/skirts/dresses

Pale blue summer
dresses or short suit



A pale blue polo shirt
or pale blue collared
shirt



Grey or black
tights with
skirts and
dresses



A royal blue jumper or
cardigan (this can be
with or without the
school's logo on it,
rounded or V neck)



Black school shoes



Grey or black
smart
shorts for boys in
warmer months



Optional blue tie



PE Uniform



Dean Field Community Primary School PE Uniform

Royal blue, navy blue
or black joggers



Royal blue or black
shorts



Plain white Polo shirt
or crew neck T - shirt



Black leggings and
cycling shorts



Black pumps or black
trainers

Not allowed

In order to achieve our aims and to provide clarity for parents, we have also outlined items of clothing that are **not** an acceptable part of our school uniform. We request that you **do not** send children in the following items of clothing/ footwear:

- Leggings and jogging bottoms / sports shorts / cycling shorts (these are permitted to be worn under skirts.)
- Footwear of any colour other than black. (no crocs or sandals) High heels and back-less shoes are NOT permitted for safety reasons.
- Jewellery (apart from stud earrings, 1 in each ear)
- Smart Watches
- Large Hair Accessories / headbands



Dean Field
Community Primary School

**15 & 30 HOUR
PLACES AVAILABLE!**

APPLY FOR A NURSERY SCHOOL PLACE

A safe and nurturing start to school life!

- ★ Fun indoor & outdoor learning
- ★ Caring, qualified staff
- ★ Healthy meals, free fruit & milk
- ★ Trips, clubs & animal workshops
- ★ Smooth transition into Reception

When to Apply

When your child turns 2 years old.

Children start nursery in the term after their 3rd birthday:

- ★ Turns 3 between 1 Sep – 31 Dec → Start January
- ★ Turns 3 between 1 Jan – 31 Mar → Start April
- ★ Turns 3 between 1 Apr – 31 Aug → Start September



**APPLY NOW FOR
A SEPTEMBER
PLACE**

**APPLY AT THE SCHOOL
OFFICE OR CALL 01422**

258258

**ATTENDING OUR NURSERY PROVISION
HELPS TOWARDS SECURING A PLACE
IN OUR RECEPTION COHORT**





Free Breakfast *Club*



**MONDAY TO
FRIDAY 8-8:30AM
RECEPTION TO
YEAR 6**

**LAST ENTRY 8:20AM
NO NEED TO PREBOOK -
JUST TURN UP!**

*'Staff are amazing,
caring and attentive'*

*'Supports the children and
the transition in to class'*

*'It's great for children to
socialise and
eat breakfast together before
going to class'*

*'Great selection of different
foods'*

*'It's good for parents that need to
attend work'*



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BOOK YOUR N-Y6
CHILD ONTO THE PAID BREAKFAST CLUB
FROM 7:30AM PLEASE CONTACT THE
SCHOOL OFFICE ON 01422 258 258.**

Week Commencing Monday 14th September 2026

 School Meals Menu - Week 3 					
3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hot Meal Option	Southern Fried Chicken Goujons 1, 5	Homemade Chicken & Sweetcorn Pie 5, 10, 12	Jumbo Fish Fingers 2, 5	Homemade Mexican Chicken	Burger in a Bun Burger 5, 8 Bun 5, 14
	Vegan Meatballs in Tomato Sauce 4	Quorn Sausages 5	Homemade Cheese & Onion Pie 5, 10, 12	Homemade Mediterranean Halloumi Traybake 10	Tomato Pasta 5
Vegetables	Wedges Mixed Veg Cauliflower	Mashed Potato 10 Peas Carrots	Chips Mushy Peas Sweetcorn	Wholemeal Pitta 5 Carrots Green Beans	Chips Peas Sweetcorn
Served Daily	Jacket Potatoes with various fillings (Tuna Mayo, Beans, Cheese) Selection of Wraps & Sandwiches Salad Bar Fresh Fruit, Yoghurts & Fruit Cocktail				
Dessert	Chocolate Arctic Roll 4, 5, 10, 12	Homemade Iced Cake 5, 10, 12	Homemade Chocolate Sponge 5, 10, 12 Custard 10	Fresh Fruit Selection	Chocolate Milkshake 5, Homemade Cookie 5, 10, 12
	Sweet Waffles 4, 5, 10, 12	Choobs 10	Raspberry Jelly	Assorted Ice Cream 10	Cornflake Buns 4, 5, 10



YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 30th September 2026

5:15pm until 7pm

School tours & lesson demonstrations

Opportunity to talk to staff & students

Headteacher Talks at 5:30pm & 6pm



For more information call 01422 301080 or email office@thehalifaxacademy.org

THE
MILL
BOX

📍 NETHERTON MILL,
HALIFAX,
HX3 6SN



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FREE
FRUIT &
JUICE
INCLUDED!

£3
PER TICKET

ONE ADULT
FREE
PER CHILD!



BOARD GAMES & LOTS MORE!



THURSDAY
17TH OF SEPTEMBER



3.30
TILL 5 P.M.



GREAT PLACE FOR KIDS TO BLOW OFF STEAM,
UNWIND, HAVE FUN, BURN ENERGY AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS!



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
THE_MILL_BOX



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM
_THE_MILL_BOX

Calderdale and
Huddersfield
NHS Charity



NHS

Calderdale and Huddersfield
NHS Foundation Trust

YOU ARE INVITED TO A FAMILY

HALLOWEEN PARTY

IN AID OF THE RAY OF SUNSHINE CAMPAIGN

Tickets include a hot dog, cordial, and a small packet of
sweets for every child.

£6.99 per child | Adults go FREE

Family discounts available

OCTOBER

FRIDAY **23** 6-9PM

BAINES HALL, ELLAND CRICKET
CLUB, HX5 0QY

For more information contact:
CHFTFundraising@cht.nhs.uk



BOOK NOW



DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT
Monday 14th September	School Council Elections Y1-6
Monday 21st September	Stay + Read N, Y1, 3 + 5
Tuesday 22nd September	Stay + Read R, Y2, 4 + 6

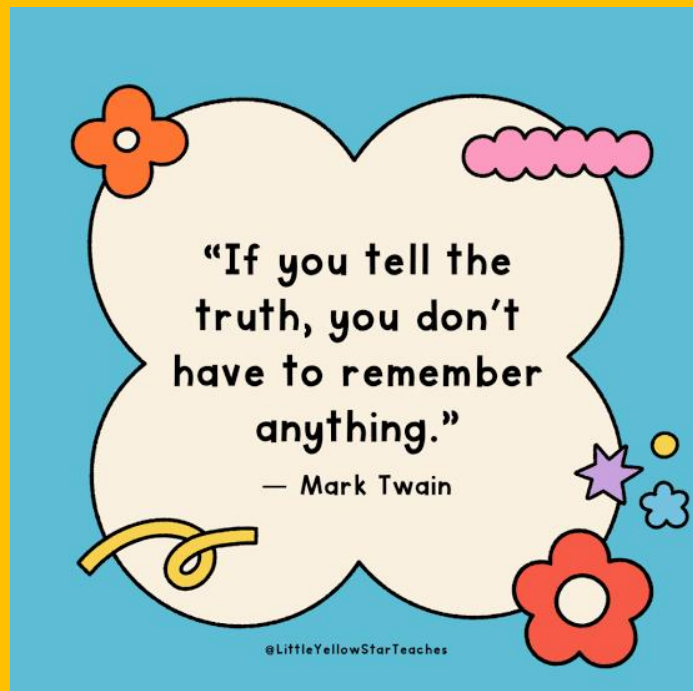
REMINDER: All school fees, dinner money, extended provision and Nursery fees need to be paid in advance.
We do not offer any credit and there are no exceptions.

REMINDER: We are a nut free school and we would appreciate that any lunchboxes do not include nut products to protect the children in school with nut allergies.



REMINDER: If your child has asthma please ensure they have an inhaler in school and you have filled out a medical form at the school office. Thank you.

This half term's focus value is ...



Accelerated Reader – Reading Achievements this week



Australia	82%
Poland	90%
Kenya	81%
Brazil	67%
Ireland	80%

You could help increase your class percentage by doing some extra reading on myON! There are thousands of books for you to choose from! If you need a reminder of your login details, please speak to your teacher. Visit <https://www.myon.co.uk/login/> to start reading!

TTRS and Numbots Stars of the Week



Group	% Attendance
Mexico	97.5%
China	93.1%
Australia	97.1%
Poland	97.9%
Kenya	93.6%
Brazil	99.3%
Ireland	96.1%
Total	96.4%

This Week's Attendance

Congratulations to **Brazil** class who had the highest attendance in school this week. Well done to **Poland** class for coming second. **All classes above 96% continue to receive £5 for their jars; well done Mexico, Australia, Poland, Brazil and Ireland!** We have fallen just below 96% this week in some classes and we need to get back there or above! I am seriously concerned of classes who are below 96%. Meetings with parents of children who are of concern will occur.

If your child is absent from school please contact the school office on **01422 258258** before 9.00am.

It is important we are aware of the reason for your child/children's absence. It becomes a safeguarding concern if parents do not inform school when their child/children are absent. Please contact the school office on the first day of absence before 9am stating reasons for any absence. This will avoid absences being recorded as unauthorised.

If you have any concerns or questions surrounding your child/children's attendance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,
Loraine Stansfield, Pastoral Manager

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Mexico Reception	Lachlan G	For throwing himself into learning and trying his best.
	Billy O	For a fantastic first week—settled so well and using his language skills.
China Year 1	Archie W	For being kind and helpful in phonics.
	Heidi K	For settling in well to Y1 routine and growing in confidence.
Australia Year 2	Christina M	For great engagement and being a super scientist!
	Ada F	For showing resilience and perseverance with maths challenges!
Poland Year 3	Mason W	For your outstanding effort in everything you do!
	Mia O	For your super maths work and always trying your best.
Kenya Year 4	Rocco S	For beautiful manners and great contributions.
	Posy B	For great effort in your afternoon lessons.
Brazil Year 5	Riley B	For a fabulous first fortnight at Dean Field School.
	Alexander Z	For amazing work in maths this week with numbers to 1,000,000.
Ireland Year 6	Leo B	For amazing maths on number and place value.
	Kaiden N	For superb efforts in writing and working independently.