



BOURNES GREEN SCHOOLS

Executive Headteacher: Mr Travis Martinson

BOURNES GREEN INFANT SCHOOL

Burlescombe Road, Thorpe Bay, Essex, SS1 3PS ☎ 01702 587 099

🌐 www.bournesgreeninfant.secat.co.uk ✉ infants@bournesgreen.secat.co.uk

BOURNES GREEN JUNIOR SCHOOL

Ladram Road, Thorpe Bay, Essex, SS1 3PX ☎ 01702 587 913

🌐 www.bournesgreenjunior.secat.co.uk ✉ juniors@bournesgreen.secat.co.uk

Weekly Newsletter – Important Information

Friday 11th September

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been lovely to have everyone back for our first full week of the new school year. The children have settled in brilliantly and it has been wonderful to see the schools full of smiles and energy again. Thank you to all our families for your support in helping us get the year off to such a positive start.

Reminders (please also check the [school calendar](#))

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Friday 18 th September | 9am PA AGM (Junior Hall) (see below) |
| • Friday 18 th September | 2:30pm YR Parent Partnership – YR Phonics workshop |
| • Wednesday 23 rd September | Individual school photos |
| • Friday 25 th September | Cross country competition (letter to be sent to team) |
| • Friday 25 th September | MacMillan Coffee afternoon (see below) |

Harvest Festival

Bournes Green Schools are celebrating Harvest Festival this month. We will be collecting donations for The Shoebury Ark foodbank, who work to support those in need in our community. Items will be gratefully received in our schools from Monday 28th September. We will also be holding special assemblies with Reverend Dave Willis where we will reflect on those less fortunate than ourselves and celebrate the donations which we have collected. Thank you in advance for your support with helping us this worthwhile cause.

School Uniform

A quick reminder that pupils should come to school wearing the correct school uniform each day. Please ensure all uniform, coats, shoes and other belongings are clearly named.

Full details of our uniform requirements can be found on the [School Uniform page](#).

Please do not send your infant children into school with an umbrella as they are easily misplaced and are not required during the school day.

CEO Q&A Session

Mr Stickley will be holding his next CEO Q&A session for parents to find out about the work of the trust at 12pm Wednesday 30th September. Please submit any questions in advance to

admin@bournesgreen.secat.co.uk Please use this link to join the meeting:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/38239377673048?p=s3o5e4H43BYZuk6N12>

• EMPOWERING CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS •



PA AGM Friday 18th September

**THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION OF BOURNES
GREEN SCHOOLS**

AGM

Annual General Meeting

Everyone is welcome

Stay informed and get involved

Junior School Hall

9AM - Friday 18th September 2026



PA OF BOURNES GREEN SCHOOLS ARE PROUDLY SPONSORED BY
Goldings **ATL**
ESTATE AGENTS

Parentkind
Member Association

The PA are holding their Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Friday 18th September at 9am in the Junior School Hall.

This meeting is a chance for all members to come along and find out what happened in the last year and to discuss the plans for the year ahead. The meeting is also where all current committee members, the Co-chairs, Treasurer and Secretary have to step down from their roles and new committee members elected. Without a chair and treasurer in place the PA would not legally be able to run as a charity. Both Lisa Harman and Hayley East (current Chairs), Kirsty Judd (current Treasurer) and Natalie Watkins (current Secretary) have said they would like to run again. We also welcome anyone else to come forward who would like to be considered for the role of Chair(s), Treasurer or Secretary so they can also be included in the vote. Members of the PA (every parent at school are automatically a member) are the only ones who can vote the new Chair(s) and treasurer in, therefore we encourage as many of you as possible to attend to the AGM to have your vote, as votes can only be made in person at the meeting. Equally, if you would just like to find out how you could volunteer with the PA and help raise funds please come along.

Please come and support our Macmillan coffee afternoon:

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Friday 25th September

2PM - 3:45PM

Infant Hall



Doors open at 2pm to enjoy a quiet cuppa and cake before pick up!

Hall closes at 3:45

Do your bit for better Cancer care

Together we will do whatever it takes to make cancer care better for everyone



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (26307), Scotland (SC039607) and the Isle of Man (5040). Also operating in Northern Ireland, MAC20378

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

A registered charity

School Nursing Service

The school nursing team will be in the Junior School on Tuesday 13th October between 8:30am and 9:15am for a drop in clinic.

School Nursing Service 2026-27

Parent/carer drop in clinics for children aged 5-11 years

Venue	Time
Bournes Green Infants and Juniors School (clinic will take place in the Junior school)	
Tuesday 13 th October	
8.30am-9.15am	

Emotional health and wellbeing advice • Growth and development
• Healthy lifestyles • Bedwetting support • Hearing
• Sleep support • Puberty

No appointment needed.
Call or text us for further information.

01702 534843
ChatHealth Parentline: 07507 331884

Young People scan this QR Code to find support

Parents scan this QR Code to find support

www.southend.gov.uk/schoolnurses
schoolnursing@southend.gov.uk

Southend-on-Sea City Council

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CHARACTER.AI

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

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

See full reference list on our website

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: 09.09.2026

Attendance

Thank you for your support in maintaining high attendance for your child/children.

This week's attendance (Our target for the year is 96.5%)			
RN	100%	RG	98.62%
1P	99.67%	1LW	99.33%
2B	100%	2M	99.00%
3ST	97.42%	3SW	99.07%
4CO	97.58%	4CR	95.15%
5H	99.09%	5S	95.15%
6R	96.97%	6H	95.45%

Attendance Ladder

Equates to:

4 SCHOOL DAYS off each year	100%	PERFECTION
7 SCHOOL DAYS off each year	98%	IMPRESSIVE
9 SCHOOL DAYS off each year	96%	GOOD
11 SCHOOL DAYS off each year	95%	NEARLY THERE
20 SCHOOL DAYS off each year	94%	NEEDS TO IMPROVE
30 SCHOOL DAYS off each year	90%	CONCERNS related to Educational Welfare / Personal discipline
30 SCHOOL DAYS off each year	85%	SERIOUS CONCERNS

Assembly Information	
Artist of the Half Term	Michael Giacchino
Language of the Month	Urdu
Votes for Schools Topic	Should people wear smart glasses?

Children's Council Updates	
Eco-Committee	Dottie, Max, Theo and Olivia have been voted as our new Infant Eco Councillors for the Autumn Term. Part of their job is to do weekly eco checks of the classrooms, to ensure the correct rubbish is in the recycling bins, the lights and computer screens are not left on and the taps are off. The classes with the most ticks that week will be the winners of the Eco Points. The winning classes this week are 1P and 2B.

Social Media – Twitter/X: @Bournesgreensch - Instagram: @bournesgreenschool

If you would like your child to be included in social media posts, please remember to ensure you have updated photo consents on the MCAS app.

Key [School Website Links](#)

My Child At School	School Contact Info	School Calendar
Term dates	School Lunches	School Uniform
Gaming & Social Media	Children using mobile phones	Children's Online Worry Box
Walking home from school	Children's birthdays!	Sport at Bournes Green
11+ Selective Testing	Supporting Learning at Home	Safeguarding
Parents Association	Parents SEND Forum	Parent Partnership
Volunteer reading	Attendance Information	Inclement Weather Update
School Streets	University of Bournes Green	The Drop Zone

Weekly Newsletter – Time to celebrate!

Achievements	
We encourage our parents to share any achievements their child has achieved outside of school. If you would like us to share your news, please email juniors@bournesgreen.secat.co.uk	
	A huge well done to Lily in year 3 who had a fantastic run at the Under 8 Girls' Mini Tennis Tournament at Thorpe Bay Lawn Tennis Club! Lily battled her way through to the Girls' Singles Final and came incredibly close to taking the title, narrowly losing 7–5 in a thrilling final! Congratulations Lily!

Core Values Awards		
Believe. We believe in ourselves and each other in all that we do, even when faced with challenges. Grow. We grow as individuals and become better people in every way. We take great pride in helping others grow. Succeed. We always try our best. We celebrate our own and other's successes, inside and outside of school. We are proud of every achievement.		
	Infants	Juniors
Believe		
Grow		Fraiser, Grace, Billy
Succeed		Layla, Rupert

Children who were on Gold last week		
	Infants	Juniors
	Neave, Robin, Bea, Ethan, Evelyn, Oliver, Kiyaan, Lottie, Penny, Kara, Lily, Felix, Thomas, Sonny, Zayd, Taylor, Poppy, Riley, Heidi, Imogen, Esme, Primrose, Bertie, Dottie	Tom, Matilda, Matthew, Charlie, Anum, Rory, James, Polly, Evie, Lola, Paisley, Jessie, Isabella, Max, William

Weekly Newsletter – Local News & Events

THE SHOE BURY ARK

We aim to help alleviate poverty in the Shoeburyness area by providing freshly cooked meals.

We also sell tinned/packet food and preloved children's clothing at very low cost.



Open Every Tuesday
2 PM - 4 PM
at



Friars Baptist Church
Serving and making disciples

Friars Baptist Church, Eagle Way
Shoeburyness, SS3 9UW

Charity number 1198094





SOUTHEND RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

EST. 1870

MINI'S AND MIDI'S RUGBY

FROM RECEPTION TO YEAR 6



PLAY RUGBY. GROW FOR LIFE.

-  MAKE NEW FRIENDS
-  LEARN NEW SKILLS
-  BUILD CONFIDENCE
-  GIRLS & BOYS WELCOME

 FIND US ON INSTAGRAM
@srfc_youth_and_minis

 VISIT OUR WEBSITE
southendrugby.co.uk

 EMAIL US
laneynoo@hotmail.co.uk

ONE CLUB. ONE COMMUNITY. ONE SOUTHEND.



OCTOBER HALF TERM Tennis Camp

Wed 21st & Thurs 22nd Oct
Wed 28th & Thurs 29th Oct
9.00am-1.30pm

Same price earlier start time

Price
£20 Members
£25 Non Members

10% discount for multi day or siblings

For kids aged 3-18 (Split groups)

All equipment provided by Thorpe Bay Lawn Tennis Club

Payment details:
Account name - Thorpe Bay Lawn Tennis Club Limited
Sort Code - 30-92-53
Account no - 27496268
Ref - Childs name

Please bring drinks and snacks



For more information or to book contact:
Matt Bell 07786238586 or mattwgbell@aol.com

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FREE introductory 2 week trial

Book your free trial - 07790 202740



LEARN KUNG FU

SOUTHEND PARKS TENNIS
CHALKWELL PARK LAUNCH EVENT

Come and celebrate the opening of the brand new tennis courts at Chalkwell Park with free tennis for all the family!

SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER
1.45PM - 4.45PM

Chalkwell park, Chalkwell Avenue,
 Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 8NB

FREE TASTER SESSIONS FOR ALL AGES &
 ABILITIES - NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

**FIND OUT MORE
 PLAY TENNIS TODAY**
 clubs.park.lta.org.uk/ChalkwellPark
 hello@nationaltennis.org.uk

OPEN EVENING
22 SEPTEMBER 2026

VISIT
THEDEANES.ACADEMY
 FOR DETAILS

SMALL SCHOOL
SUPPORTIVE ETHOS
EXCELLENT EDUCATION

THE DEANES

THE DEANES
 Headteacher: Miss Ceryn Jones, MBE
 Address: Dean Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, S12 7DQ
 Tel: 01702 777044 Email: admin@the-deanes.com Website: the-deanes.com

seat

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Martinson
Headteacher