




Newsletter

Attendance



Rabbits	 Squirrels	Otters	 Woodpeckers	Foxes	 Badgers	Owls
97.6%	94.4%	95.1%	93.1%	94.4%	96.2%	88.9%
94.3% Whole School		94.8% Year to date			Target – 96%	

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well. I want to begin by apologising for the absence of our newsletter last week due to some unexpected problems in our production process! We are now back on track so here are our latest updates.

This week has been an unusual one for me personally, as I have had to work from home for the first three days due to illness. I want to say a big thank you to Mrs Golden and Miss Humphries, who stepped up so well in my absence. Parents' Evening went well and if you were unable to attend, please try to catch your child's teacher after school to discuss their progress.

Today, we have distributed a parent survey, and I warmly invite you to complete it. Your feedback is essential in helping us to continually improve our school and the wider educational experience we provide.

As you know I'm pleased with so many aspects of our school life, but our poor attendance is still a real concern and a barrier to children's progress. As I've previously mentioned, term-time holidays have not been at all helpful in maintaining consistent attendance.

Nevertheless, amidst our daily learning, we have some wonderful achievements to celebrate. A special congratulation goes to Phoebe in Otters, who has achieved a distinction in her Ballet exam. Swan Lake, here she comes!

Regarding extracurricular activities, club letters have been sent out. These will start next Monday, with the exception of choir, which will begin the following Monday.

A highlight of our recent developments is the opening of our Reflection Garden; this has been met with tremendous enthusiasm from the children. The beautiful space offers a calm and quiet environment for contemplation and relaxation. The children were particularly captivated by the water feature, generously donated by our PTFA. They also loved touching and smelling the flowers, which are there because of a kind donation from Charing Garden Society.

I must point out the incredible community effort behind this project. Stephen Burgess coordinated the garden's planning, working alongside parent volunteers and Mr Norris and his wife. They really transformed the plants in the garden. All this work truly exemplifies the collaborative spirit of our school community.

Watching the children proudly show their parents the Reflection Garden was a wonderful moment. Some children chose to pray, others to read, and some simply enjoyed the tranquil atmosphere of the water fountain. This space, created by so many, is truly for everyone.

We've also been fortunate to host two school improvement advisors since our last newsletter. Both were delighted with the start to the school year and praised the hard work of everyone involved.

As we move forward, I am continually impressed by the dedication, creativity, and spirit of our school community but we must improve our attendance.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Tom Bird
Head Teacher



The poster features a background of colorful, scattered letters. On the left is the Charing Primary School logo, a blue circle with a white cross and the text 'CHARING PRIMARY SCHOOL'. To the right of the logo, the text reads: 'For Reception intake: September 2026'. Below this, it says: 'Please come and meet the staff and find out more about our amazing school and fantastic Early Years environment. We'd love to show you around!'. A list of dates and times follows: 'Friday 31st October 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30', 'Friday 7th November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30', 'Thursday 13th November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30', 'Friday 21st November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30', and 'Thursday 27th November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30'. Below the list, it states: 'visits will need to be booked in advance and spaces will be limited. Please call 01233 712277 or email office@charing.kent.sch.uk to book your place.' At the bottom, it says: 'We hope to meet you at one of our sessions.' On the right side of the poster, there is a graphic of several hands of different colors reaching up towards the words 'open day' which are written in a playful, colorful font.

CHARING PRIMARY SCHOOL

For Reception intake: September 2026

Please come and meet the staff and find out more about our amazing school and fantastic Early Years environment. We'd love to show you around!

Friday 31st October 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30
Friday 7th November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30
Thursday 13th November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30
Friday 21st November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30-2:30
Thursday 27th November 9:30-10:30 / 10:45-11:45 / 1:30

visits will need to be booked in advance and spaces will be limited. Please call 01233 712277 or email office@charing.kent.sch.uk to book your place.

We hope to meet you at one of our sessions.

open day



Celebration Worship

Tilly Liliana Jack W Teddy

Stanley Tabitha Isabelle

Pippa Dre Harry H Finn

Faith Vinny Hugo Amaya

Fletcher Zack Jajlen

Samuel L Henry Jack Lucan

Vinnie Jack K Esmae Jack H

Tommy

Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

This week in worship

In this week's Worship, we continued our focus on people of faith. Following on from Joshua and Ruth, this week's person of faith was Samuel. Our Bible text was from: Samuel chapter 1 verses 1 - 3. We began by looking at Hannah, a person who kept on praying; she had a great faith in God and spent a long time praying that God would give her a baby. I wonder how Hannah felt when she was praying in the temple for a baby. I wonder how Hannah felt when God answered her prayers. Hannah promised God that when her baby was very young she would bring him back to God, in the temple. Sometimes, we have to wait for God's timing as he tells his people his timings are best. This can be hard especially if you have to wait for a long time. Christians believe that it is important to pray and wait to see how God will answer their prayers. They believe that God will do this as part of his bigger plan for his people. We spent time thinking about how important it is to listen. Sometimes, we talk a lot but never listen to those who are talking to us. Hannah took Samuel to the temple to live with a priest called Eli who served in the temple. One night, Samuel woke up because he heard someone calling his name. He dashed out of bed and ran to Eli's bed. 'Here I am! You called me!' he said. 'No, I didn't,' replied Eli. 'Go back to bed!' Samuel went back to sleep. However, soon after, Samuel woke up again, he heard the same voice calling out his name. This happened three times. Eli realized that it was God who was calling Samuel. When Samuel arrived at Eli's bed, Eli said, 'Go back to bed, if you hear the voice again, say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening"'. Samuel went back to bed, before long, he heard his name being called again. God started speaking to Samuel when he was just a boy, and giving him messages to pass on to the people, but it was also a job that God had for him to do for the rest of his life. I wonder how Samuel must have felt to hear from God at such a young age. Samuel had to listen carefully to God as God had a special message he wanted him to share with Eli. As Samuel grew up, God continued to speak through him and all of Israel listened to him. I wonder if we find it easy to listen to important maybe we can be more like Samuel and listen really carefully to the right voices. Hannah prayed silently to God. She prayed in her heart. Samuel heard the voice of God when he was silently asleep. God speaks in the silence of the heart. Listening is the beginning of prayer.





*Dear Father God, thank you that
you spoke to Samuel when he was
still a child. Please help us all to
be good listeners like Samuel.
Help us to make time to listen to
others. Help us to remember that
listening is often much more
important than speaking.*

Amen



Compassion

Friendship

Forgiveness

Resilience

Hope

Announcements

INTERNET SAFETY

This week's poster about is [10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BUILD EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE](#) at the end of the newsletter. Please continue to monitor your child's online behaviour and access. If you need help with a specific app we have not highlighted yet, please talk to Mrs



ATTENDANCE - If your child is poorly and unable to come to school, please ensure that you inform the office via telephone or leave a message on our answer phone. Can we please request that all attendance related emails are sent to the following:

Mrs Alessandra Alexander
attendance@charing.kent.sch.uk

DROP OFF

Can we please remind parents that school gates shut at **8:55am**. If you arrive late, please drop off your child/ children at the school office (Pedestrian gate).

For safeguarding reasons we do not allow parents/carers to drop off their children to their classes.

MAIN ENTRY
ALL VISITORS
MUST REPORT
TO THE
SCHOOL OFFICE



We would politely ask all parents/carers to park sensibly when dropping and while picking children off at school.

Please be considerate that the school setting is within a neighbourhood area so please be mindful of village residents.

Parents Evening is NOW LIVE! 24th September 2025 3:30 – 7:30

Please log onto the MCAS app and book a time slot for your child/children.



MEDICATION SAFETY - We understand that at times children are unwell and need to stay at home to recover, however please remember that we can administer *prescribed medication (IF REQUIRED)*, so if your child is feeling better but needs medicine, this can be brought to the office and managed as necessary. The office would be able to assist in this



 **Nut-free school**

Please be reminded that we are a nut-free school. We have children in school who have potential life-threatening nut- allergies which can be triggered by direct or indirect contact with nuts in the environment. To keep our children safe, we request that parents please find a nut-free alternative. This also includes NUTELLA or any CHOCOLATE spread.

EAT WELL - We promote healthy eating at Charing CE Primary School and would appreciate parents adhering to the healthy eating guidelines as below:

Sweets: Please do not pack sweets or chocolate bars.

Drinks: children under 5 receive free milk with their snacks and water is available for everyone whenever they want to drink. Please do not send in fizzy drinks with your child's packed lunch.



SCHOOL DINNERS – cost £3.05

Please be reminded school meals are to be paid for in advance. Our caterers will not allow a debt to build and as of next term, any unpaid accounts will result in your child not receiving a meal and you will need to provide a packed lunch.

WRAPAROUND CARE: Both Breakfast and Afterschool club bookings are placed under this tab and payments need to be made when you book your session for your child. *This is done to avoid any payments not made.*

If payments have been made otherwise and in advance before booking the sessions, please call or email the office to book your child's space. ***Please be reminded to clear out any outstanding balances under individual accounts of your children.***



Charing School term dates [Click here](#)

TERM 1

2 nd October	<i>Individual Photographs</i>
30 th September	Kingswood installment is due
13 th October	Harvest Festival
26 th September	Last chance to purchase the Y6 Leavers Hoodies



Home-start is looking for volunteers.

If you would like to know more, please visit their website

<http://home-start-ashford.co.uk/volunteer/>



Ashford Family Hubs Timetable

8th September 2025 - 17th October 2025

All of our groups and services are free to attend.

NEW

Stanhope Family Hub Coming soon

Our Family Hubs:

**Ashford North
Family Hub**
03000 417567
Mabledon Avenue
Ashford
TN24 8BJ

**Bockhanger
Family Hub**
03000 418600
Belmont Road
Kennington
Ashford
TN24 9LS

**Tenterden
Family Hub**
03000 418400
Recreation Ground
Road
Tenterden
TN30 6RA

Email: ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Ashford North

Sports Connect
Monday
5.30pm - 7.00pm

Baby Steps
Pre-walkers only
Thursday
10.00am - 11.30am

Talking Walk In
1.00pm - 2.30pm
2nd Tuesday of the Month
Starting October 2025

**Breastfeeding
Support**
Thursday
10.00am - 11.30am

**Compass Wellbeing
Group**
Wednesday
3.30pm - 5.30pm

BeYou Project
Thursday
5.00pm - 6.30pm

**Includes Us Too
Youth Group**
Wednesday
6.00pm - 8.00pm
To book email:

**Compass Resilience
Group**
Friday
3.30pm - 5.30pm

Bockhanger

Talking Walk In
9.30am - 11.00am
4th Monday of the Month
Not 26th October 2025

Baby Steps
Pre-walkers only
Monday
1.30pm - 3.00pm
Please note not running on
1st Monday of the month

Stay and Play
Tuesday
9.30am - 11.00am

Little Bookworms
Friday
10.00am - 11.00am

Tenterden

Child Health Clinic
Monday
9.30am - 12.30pm
Last admission 12.15pm

Baby Steps
Pre-walkers only
Tuesday
12.30pm - 2.00pm

Stay and Play
Wednesday
10.00am - 11.30am

Talking Walk In
1.00pm - 2.30pm
26th November 2025

Mildred Trust Larder
Friday



Ashford Family Hubs

Timetable

8th September 2025 - 17th October 2025

All of our groups and services are free to attend.

The Willow

Booking Only

Little Bookworms

Monday
1.00pm - 2.00pm

Stay and Play

Wednesday
9.30am - 10.30am
or 11.00am - 12.00pm

Booking Only

Introducing Solids

9.45am - 11.30am **or**
1.30pm - 2.30pm
2nd Wednesday of the Month

Talking Walk In

9.30am - 11.00am
1st Thursday of the Month

SEND Stay and Play

10.00am - 11.30am
2nd Thursday of the Month

Parent Advice Drop In

10.00am - 11.30am
Last Thursday of the Month

Baby Steps

Pre-walkers only
Thursday
12.30pm - 2.00pm

Child Health Clinic

Friday
9.30am - 12.30pm
Last admission 12.15pm

Talking Walk In

1.30pm - 3.00pm
3rd Friday of the Month

Please Note: Signing in will not be available until 10 minutes before the session starts.



Stanhope Family Hub Coming soon

Our Family Hubs:

The Willow Family Hub
03000 418800

Halstow Way
Ashford
TN23 4EY

Waterside Family Hub
03000 418700

Turner Close
Willesborough
TN24 0PQ

Email: ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Waterside

Child Health Clinic

Monday
12.30pm - 2.30pm
Last admission 2.15pm

Invite Only

Compass Healthy Relationships

Monday
3.30pm - 5.30pm

Baby Steps

Pre-walkers only
Tuesday
1.30pm - 3.00pm

Talking Walk In

1.00pm - 2.30pm
3rd Wednesday of the Month

Stay and Play

Thursday
9.30am - 10.30am
or 11.00am - 12.00pm

Young Parents Stay and Play

Friday
10.00am - 11.30am

Stanhope Parish Hall TN23 5TG

Moat Housing Baby and Toddler Group

Friday
12.00pm - 2.00pm

www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub

Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council



Ashford Family Hubs

Timetable

8th September 2025 - 17th October 2025

All of our groups and services are free to attend.

Adult Education Courses

Booking Only

Supporting Teens Mental Health

Ashford North Family Hub
Wednesday 17th September
10am - 12pm

Booking Only

Exploring Behaviour Strategies

The Willow Family Hub
Tuesday 14th November
1.00pm - 3pm

Booking Only

Supporting Your Child's Anxiety

Online Via Zoom
Wednesday 5th November
12.30pm - 2.30pm

Booking Only

Confident Parent Confident Child

Waterside Family Hub
Wednesday 26th November
9.30am - 11.30am

To book your place on one of these **FREE** Kent Adult Education courses please contact:

Email: ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Call: 03000 418600

Go Online: KAE Family Learning

Please Note: Signing in will not be available until 10 minutes before the session starts.



Stanhope Family Hub Coming soon

Our Family Hubs:

Ashford North Family Hub
03000 417567
Mabledon Avenue
Ashford
TN24 8BJ

The Willow Family Hub
03000 418800
Halstow Way
Ashford
TN23 4EY

Waterside Family Hub
03000 418700
Turner Close
Willesborough
Ashford
TN24 0PQ

Email: ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Parenting Courses

Booking Only

Baby, Family and You

Using Triple P
The Willow Family Hub
TN23 4EY
Wednesday 17th September to
Wednesday 5th November
10.00am - 12.00pm

Booking Only

Solihull Parenting

The Willow Family Hub
TN23 4EY
Thursday 2nd October -
11th December
9.30am - 11.30am

Booking Only

Strengthening Family Relationships

Ashford North Family Hub
Monday 22nd September
10.30am - 12.30pm
The Willow Family Hub
Thursday 20th November
10.00am - 12.30pm

Health

Hothfield Village Hall TN26 1EG

Child Health Clinic
Tuesday
9.30am - 12.00pm
Last admission 11.45am

Ashford Gateway TN23 1AS

Breastfeeding Clinic
Wednesday
9.30am - 12.30pm

Booking Only

Ready For Baby

A free session for parents to be offered expert NHS advice, led by your local Health Visiting Team.

Book your place at:
family.kent.nhs.uk/baby
or ask your Health Visitor.

www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub

Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council

Information on our groups and sessions



Drop In

Child Health Clinic

Come along with your baby/child to speak to one of the Health Visiting Team, for information, advice and support, any worries or concerns you may have. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the end of the session. These run throughout the school holidays.

Drop In

Baby Steps

A group for pre-walkers, supporting your baby to make independent choices and respond to new experiences. Providing sensory experience and new textures to investigate. Introducing different themes and ideas to support adult and child bonding/interaction. **Limited numbers**

Drop In

Stay and Play

Enjoy free play activities to support your child's development including active movement, singing and socialising. Suitable for children aged 0-4 years with their parents/carers. **Limited numbers**

Drop In

Young Parents Stay and Play

This group for young parent aged 19 and under (up to 25 with SEND), provides support, advice, activities and information on a variety of subjects tailored to your needs. You can attend antenatally and postnatally and bring someone to support you.

Booking Only

Baby Massage

A 5 week course suitable for babies from 8 weeks until crawling. Parents learn a new set of massage strokes to perform on their baby, each week. Parents learn the benefits of baby massage including helping baby relax and sleep better, alleviating colic, and constipation as well as bonding with their baby. Dates will be shared after registering interest

Drop In

SEND Stay and Play

This group is for pre-school children aged 0-4 years with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Enjoy free play activities to support your child's development, singing and socialising. Your child does not have to have a diagnosis to attend.

11th September 2025
9th October 2025
13th November 2025
11th December 2025

Drop In

Parent Advice Drop In

A group to help you with understanding your child's needs, tips and strategies to help at home, signposting to local SEND support services and getting the best from your child's education.

25th September 2025
30th October 2025
27th November 2025

Booking Only

Introducing Solids

A Face to Face session (no siblings please) which is aimed to support you in preparation for starting solid food from around 6 months old.

10th September 2025
8th October 2025
12th November 2025
10th December 2025

To book: call 03000 418800 or email: ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Drop In

Breast Feeding Support

Breast feeding support is available by a member of the Health Visiting Team.

Wednesday - Gateway Ashford
9.30am - 12.30pm

Thursday - Ashford North Family Hub
10.00am - 11.30am

Drop In

Little Bookworms

A short 3 week programme for 1-4 year olds. Step into the magical world of books! Each week is themed around a well-loved story focussing on positive interaction and communication. A reading gift will be given on completion of the three sessions. **To book please call: 03000 418600**

Booking Only

Solihull Parenting

A 10 week face to face parenting course aimed at anyone with a child over 1. The programme is designed to help parents and carers understand their children's behaviour and emotional needs. This course can also be adapted for children with SEND.

Healthy Start Vitamins

Are you eligible for Healthy Start Vitamins?

If so, complete this form to order Healthy Start Vitamins to your door.

Free for 2

Some 2 year olds can get up to 15 hours of free childcare per week!

For more information and how to apply:

Useful Contact Numbers:

Health Visitor
0300 123 3092

Midwife
ekhuf.ashfordmidwives@nhs.net

Please Note:

For Health and Safety please note there are room capacity limits in place.

For more information about opening times give your local Family Hub a call

@ashfordfamilyhubs

@ashfordfamilyhubs

@ashfordfamilyhubs11to19

www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub
Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council

Information on our groups and sessions



Drop In

BeYou Project

Porchlight runs the BeYou Project to support LGBTQ+ young people to ensure they feel included, have positive mental health and a bright future. BeYou strives to promote allyship, helping to create an environment where everyone can be themselves.

For more information please email:
beyou@prochlight.org.uk or ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Invite Only

Includes Us Too

A youth group for young people aged 14-25 with SEND. Make friends and enjoy fun together. Numbers are limited.

For more information and to book please email:
info@includesus2.org.uk

Booking Only

Strengthening Family Relationships

For families who find themselves in conflict for a variety of reasons, facing new triggers such as money or debt, a new baby, unemployment, relationships with wider family, family breakdown, health and/or mental wellbeing issues and more.

To book please visit:
<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/kent-family-hub>

Invite Only

Compass Groups

This group is for 11-19 (25 SEND) for young people to support their emotional wellbeing, and build self esteem and confidence. The group meets in a calm and accessible environment and the young people have time within the session to practice what they have learnt.

For more information please email:
ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Referral Only

Little Talkers

A 6 week course for parents/carers and their children, to learn new techniques along with useful hints and tips for developing speech. During these sessions there will be focussed 'fun' activities for parents/carers to do with their child as well as some group time to improve listening skills and turn taking.

Suitable for parents and their children aged 2-5 years.

Drop In

Talking Walk In

For pre-school children and their parent. You can speak to a speech and language therapist with your child, if you have concerns with their speech. They will provide you with advice and ideas, signpost you to other services or refer you to their service. Runs at different Hubs throughout the Month.

Booking Only

Baby Family and You

This is a 4 week course to help you understand your baby's cues, promote social and cognitive development, learn strategies to cope with crying. This positive parenting programme uses the content of Triple P for Baby.

To book please call: 03000 418700

Drop In

Sports Connect

Multi sport with coaches from Sports Connect.
For ages 11 - 19 years old.

Healthy Start Vitamins

Are you eligible for Healthy Start Vitamins?

If so, complete this form to order Healthy Start Vitamins to your door.

Free for 2

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For more information and how to apply:

Useful Contact Numbers:

Health Visitor
0300 123 3092

Midwife
ekhuf.ashfordmidwives@nhs.net

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@ashfordfamilyhubs11to19

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Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council



Café Church

Friday 3rd

October

5.30 to 6.15

Church Barn, Charing

Giving your all

**Fun, friends, fellowship
and Food!**

CARNIVAL Festival Menu

THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2025

CRISPY COATED CHICKEN
OR
VEGGIE DIPPERS
CHIPS
BAKED BEANS
PEAS
TOMATO KETCHUP
MINI DOUGHNUTS & FRUIT

Also available: Jacket Potato & Fillings,
Homemade Bread, Salad, Yoghurt & Fruit

caterlink

COME FOR COFFEE AND CAKE

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Friday 26th September 2025
2:30pm

Come and join the PTFA to raise money for MacMillan
Donations are kindly welcomed on the day




Lulabells

£3.00 Per Family Refreshments & Snacks Included

Every Thursday (term time only)

9.00 till 11.00 am

Parent Baby & Toddlers Group

lulabells2025@outlook.com
Charing Methodist Church
Station Road Charing TN27 0JA

Booking via Lulabells Facebook Page
Lulabells parents baby & toddler group



Email: office@charing.kent.sch.uk
Website: www.charing.kent.sch.uk Telephone: 01233 712277
Email: office@charing.kent.sch.uk

Compassion

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Hope