



Kendall Church of England

Primary School

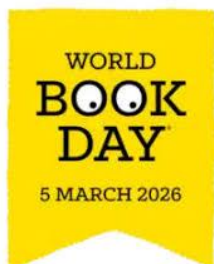
'We Strive for a Bright and Wonderful Future!'

13th February 2026

Newsletter 21 Spring Term 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

World Book Day



We have a fantastic schedule of events planned to celebrate the National Year of Reading and World Book Day, with this year's World Book Day theme being 'Go All In' for reading. As well as the events below, we will be celebrating reading throughout the week with a range of activities in classes, including paired reading sessions, taking part in the National Literacy Trust's 'Footy and Booky' quiz, a special Willy Wonka themed lunch menu, receiving £1 book tokens, and of course, the popular World Book Day dressing up! For further details, see flyers attached to the newsletter.

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
'15 Books in Year X' launches	Year 2 visit to Colchester Library	World Book Day events	Reading Parent and Child Workshop
Book tokens will be sent home		Willy Wonka lunch menu	'Get Caught Reading' competition closes
		Kendall Book Exchange	

Children are invited to come to school dressed as a book character, inspired by a book character or in their (clean) pyjamas inspired by their favourite bedtime story. As World Book Day falls on the same day as Year 4 swimming, we would encourage Year 4 to be inspired by pyjama-based or easy to change in/out of costumes that require no face paint etc. Children attending Forest School sessions may also wish to follow this advice.

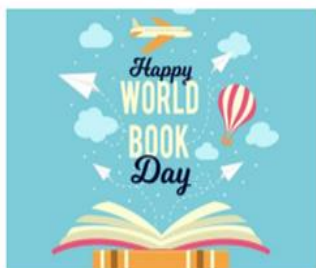
Get Caught Reading competition

To celebrate and encourage reading for pleasure, this year's competition is 'Get Caught Reading'. Snap a photo reading in unusual places or get caught reading your favourite book at home. Send your photos in to admin@kendall.essex.sch.uk or bring in a copy and hand to your class teacher. The competition launches today and closes Friday 6th March. All entrants will receive a certificate, with a prize for the winning entry in each class.

'15 Books to Read' book collections

Launching on Monday 2nd March, Years 3-6 have a new collection of recommended reads for children to read for pleasure in class. This is a carefully curated selection of books for each year group, featuring a range of genres, interest areas and text types. Children will be encouraged to read these books throughout their time in each year group. Thank you to our Kendall Book Club 2025 for aiding Mrs Reeves-Rowe with curating the collections.

Do you have any good quality, pre-loved books that you have grown out of or no longer need? Eco School Council are organising their annual book exchange and would be grateful for any donations of good quality books. Books can be handed in from Monday 23rd February, with a collection box in the school office, or handed to your child's class teacher. Please see the attached flyer for more information.



Preloved Book Exchange

Do you have any books that you have read and enjoyed but outgrown? We would love these books for our preloved book exchange.

There is a box in the foyer where these books can be dropped off. Please make sure that the books are in good condition and are not missing pages.

Then after school on Thursday 5th March, join us on the playground to choose a new book to read (studio if wet). All welcome even if you have not been able to donate a book.

We look forward to seeing you at our preloved book exchange.

The Eco-Council



10 Reads

Don't forget your child needs to complete 10 reads by Friday 27th February to be entered in the reading raffle!

Forest School Days and School Shoes

Due to the increasing number of children wearing inappropriate and dangerous footwear on Forest School days, for example, Crocs, Uggs, Cloggies, and other similar fashion shoes. Therefore, we must now insist that children wear either their normal **school shoes** or **trainers**. The children all change into their wellies for the session anyway, so I now need to make sure that children are wearing safe footwear while they are in school because our site is uneven and can be slippery when wet. It is also worth mentioning that Forest School Day is not Fashion Show Day. Please think about the activities that your children undertake – for example climbing, den building, and pond dipping. Some of the clothing we are seeing children wearing is wholly inappropriate for such activities, for obvious reasons, such as flared trousers. Please make sure children are sensibly dressed. You can find a detailed guide to dressing for Forest School [here](#). I really do thank you all for your support with this.

Water Bottles in School

Following feedback from families and pupils, we know that many children would prefer to bring their own water bottle into school rather than use the bottles we currently provide. In response to this, by the end of this half term, we will send the school water bottles home with the children so that you can help them decide whether they wish to continue using the school water bottle or switch to one of their own. Whichever option you choose, please remember that all water bottles must contain water only – not juice, squash or other drinks – and they can be refilled throughout the day as needed. We fully understand the importance of keeping children well hydrated, and to help with this the children will now be responsible for looking after their own bottles. This means bottles will need to be **clearly named**, taken home for washing each day, and brought back to school the following morning ready for use again. To ensure bottles fit into our storage and transport caddies, we ask that they have a diameter no greater than 7.5cm, as these caddies are used to move large numbers of bottles to the playground in the summer and to the Recreation Ground for events such as Sports Day and PE lessons. Thank you for your support in helping this new arrangement run smoothly.

Wraparound Childcare Update

No further updates this week from Fun4kids. Our earlier session time for breakfast club here at Kendall starts after half term.

Kendall Parent Choir

Calling the Kendall Parent Choir! It's that time again when we need to rehearse a song for the Easter service on Friday 27th March. If you sang at the Christmas service, then your presence is required again! If you weren't part of the choir but now would like to be, you are very welcome!



The rehearsals will be held on Monday 2nd March and Monday 9th March 2:30pm–3pm (if you have young children, they are welcome at these rehearsals– bring something to keep them occupied) and there will be one evening rehearsal on Wed 25th March in the school hall (no children at this one) from 7pm–7:30pm. See you there! From Mrs Mulvey

Firstsite Holiday Fun

Firstsite Holiday Fun – free activities available for the February half term. More information and how to book at the end of the newsletter

Join Us for Parent & Child Workshops at Kendall!

We're delighted to launch our new Parent and Child Workshops, offering a chance to learn alongside your child in fun, hands-on sessions led by Kendall's subject leaders. Each hour-long workshop focuses on a National Curriculum subject and is suitable for children in Years 1–6. Parents may attend more than one workshop, making it ideal for families with multiple children. Please save the dates and sign up promptly when events are announced.

Workshop	Date	Time
French	26 th February 2026	2.00–3.00pm
Reading	6 th March 2026	2.00–3.00pm
RE (Religious Education)	18 th March 2026	2.00–3.00pm
PE (Physical Education)	15 th April 2026	9.00–10.00am
Computing	21 st April 2026	2.00–3.00pm
Science	23 rd April 2026	9.30–10.30am
Geography	28 th April 2026	2.00–3.00pm
Music	18 th May 2026	9.30–10.30am
History	10 th June 2026	2.00–3.00pm

Forest School Diary 13th February 2026

EYFS crafted winter sticks during their forest school session. The children had to cut the sticks using loppers, then used their skills to whittle it using a peeler. These were then decorated with blue wool, bells, berries and pine cones.



Year 1 explored the woodland looking for hidden picture and word cards to match the different parts of a plant. Once found, the children were challenged into placing the cards into the correct order starting from the roots and making their way upward to the flower. Meanwhile, a few of the group decided to set up hurdles to see who could jump the highest.



Year 2 have been taking a close look at mini habitats in the woodland and which mini beasts are found living within them. We first took a look under fallen branches and logs to see what we could find. We then moved onto searching underneath leaves to see if anything different could be found. All the results were then compared and recorded.



This week we saw Year 3 on the high ropes. The challenge was to climb the Cargo Net as high as possible and to take on the Leap of Faith for the very first time. Nerves were tested and many agreed it was a little scary, however the children did exceptionally well under the pressure!



This week in the forest, Year 4 imagined it was the summer of 1648 and they were caught up in the Siege of Colchester. Working together, the children built an encampment equipped with all their essential needs, including shelter, cooking areas and of course, a latrine!



During Forest School this week, Year 5 painted their Greek clay pots, started previously, and they are now ready to be put into the kiln. We look forward to seeing the finished results after the half term break. The children took some time to learn the technique of square lashing, which will come in handy over the coming months as we move onto various activities which require these knot tying skills.



Year 6 learnt how to tie a lever hitch knot this week. This skill was then used to put together squirrel bridges that were hung up in the woodland for our resident squirrels to use while travelling from tree to tree!



Reminder: Forest School Clothing

We learn outside all year round, and **all children take part in Forest School in all weather conditions**. Recently, many **children have been arriving without adequate clothing** for the **freezing temperatures**, and several are not wearing hats, scarves or gloves. Some children without waterproofs are also not bringing a spare change of clothes, resulting in them staying in cold, wet clothing for the rest of the day. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately. Our guide, ***How to Dress for Forest School***, can be found [here](#) and it is also available on our website. We want every child to enjoy Forest School—not be cold, wet and miserable. ***There is no such thing as bad weather – only the wrong clothes!***

Online E-Safety Magazine for parents

Alan Mackenzie produces a [free online safety newsletter](#) via email to keep parents up to date with online safety risks, issues, advice and guidance related to keeping children safe online, enjoying and learning about technology. You can sign up for this newsletter at <https://www.esafety-adviser.com/latest-newsletter/>

For Parents – Google Family Link

For children with Android devices, Google Family Link is a great way for parents to set restrictions. Last week Internet Matters released a brand new YouTube video showing how to set up Google Family Link to customise content and screen time restrictions:

Click to [Set Up Google Family Link](#)

Easy Fundraising

The school has now signed up with [Easy Fundraising](#) a simple way to raise FREE money for our school every time you shop online! It's super easy:

- **Register:** for free at: <https://www.easypfundraising.org.uk/causes/kendall-primary-school/> or download the app above. Remember to enable the donations reminder.
- **Get the app now and choose to support Kendall Primary School Colchester once installed.**

We have reached 63 supporters! We are so excited because together, in just 3 months, we have raised an amazing £518.90!

This is FREE money- it doesn't cost you a penny!

Let's see if we can make it 70 supporters – with 210 children at the school, I know we can do it!

Please – if you have not joined yet – do so – it is making such a difference to the quality of resources we can provide for your children ♥

Key Policies for Parents

We thought it would be useful to provide parents with quick links to some of our key policies in our weekly newsletter. Therefore, please find our **Attendance Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Homework Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Administering Medicines Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Mobile Phone Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Uniform Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Food Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Behaviour Policy** [HERE](#) and finally our **Parent Helper – School Trip Policy** [HERE](#). A link to our school webpage that has all of our statutory policies uploaded can be found [HERE](#). **Dressing for Forest School** [HERE](#).

Safety on the School Road

Please note that, as indicated by road signs, parents must not drive on the road accessing Kendall, Scarlett's, and ECL at any time. The landowner, local businesses, and the school have worked together to reduce congestion and improve safety for children. Stopping on the private road may result in a penalty notice. To request a free parking pass for the Port Lane Recreation Ground car park (usable at drop-off and pick-up times), please contact the school office.

Food Bank Vouchers

Please don't forget that the school is an agent for food bank vouchers. Please speak in confidence to a member of the school office or Mrs French if you need to use this service.

Reminder! No Chocolate Spread in Home Packed Lunches

Please remember that chocolate spread is not allowed in packed lunches due to the risk it poses to children with nut allergies. Details are in our prospectus and the [School Dinner page of our website](#).

Happy Birthday!

Please join us in saying happy birthday to: Amelia G, Nylah D, Rudi B, Darcy R, Ripley DM, Winifred G, Kalani S, Otis B, Nathan L and Reggie G



Headteacher Cups

Congratulations to the following who were awarded a Headteacher Cup in assembly this week:
Josie J, Gracie C and Albert MB

Golden Awards

Congratulations to the following who were awarded a Gold Award in assembly this week:
Bonnie-Rose H, Archie N, Teddie C, Luke G, Sylvie R, Elijah R, Zakkary A, Elijah A, Basir HK, George H, Jaygo D, Jude W, James C and Victor S

Writer of the Week

Congratulations to **Elwyn** in **Year 5** who received our Writer of the Week award and took home a new stationery set and journal – keep up that good writing!

Maths Awards

Congratulations to everyone who received an award in this week's celebration assembly:

KS1: Brooke S

KS2: David K

New challenge attached!

Vision Value Leaves

Congratulations to the following who were awarded a leaf for our 'Vision Values' Tree:

Lylah M, Eleanor T and Arlo SL

Kendall Team Points

Congratulations to the Weekly Team Winners: **Yew**!

Elm	Ash	Birch	Yew
4 th	2 nd	3 rd	1 st

Amazing Attendance? Free Tuck Friday!

Free Tuck Friday – All classes who have achieved the required attendance of at least 96% are highlighted in green. Well done, **Year 3** for having the best attendance this week!

EYFS	96.35%	
Year 1	94.8%	
Year 2	95%	
Year 3	98.25%	★
Year 4	91.8%	
Year 5	94%	
Year 6	95.35%	
Overall Attendance		95.1%

(Week ending 06/02/2026)

Have a lovely weekend!



Clare French
Headteacher

Allergen Check List Last Updated **February 2026**

Allergen	Currently allowed in school
Nuts	No ✗
Peanuts	No ✗
Sesame seeds	Yes ✓
Celery	Yes ✓
Cereals Containing Gluten	Yes ✓
Crustaceans	Yes ✓
Eggs	Yes ✓
Fish	Yes ✓
Lupin	Yes ✓
Milk	Yes ✓
Molluscs	Yes ✓
Mustard	Yes ✓
Soya	Yes ✓
Sulphur dioxide	Yes ✓

Week 1	MONDAY (meat free) Week 1	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main	Thin crust margherita pizza (v)	Oven baked sausages	Oven roasted chicken breast	Chicken and vegetable curry	Birdseye Omega 3 fish fingers
Vegetarian (V) Or Vegan (Ve)	Vegetable pasta cooked with fresh herbs and garlic in a tomato sauce (ve)	Veggie sausages Vegan sausages (v) (ve)	Cheese puff (v0 VE)	Vegetable and lentil sweet potato curry (ve)	Quorn dippers (v) Vegetable fingers (ve)
Sides	Sweetcorn Vegan coleslaw	Creamy mashed potatoes, garden peas, vegan gravy (ve)	Roast potatoes, stuffing, Yorkshire pudding, carrots, peas, sweetcorn, vegan gravy	50/50 rice Warm naan bread	Chips Baked beans
Freshly prep salad bar	Tomatoes, Iceberg lettuce, cucumber,			Tomatoes, Iceberg lettuce, cucumber, tomatoes	Tomatoes, Iceberg lettuce, cucumber, tomatoes
Dessert	Strawberry angel delight or fresh fruit	Iced chocolate brownie or fresh fruit	Honeydew melon, pineapple and grapes or yogurt	Apple crumble and custard or yogurt	Iced sponge cake or fresh fruit

Please let us know what you would like to see on our school dinner menu.
We would love to hear your ideas! Email us: admin@kendall.essex.sch.uk

Schedule of Trips and Visits 2025/2026

Budgeting £20 a quarter (£80 a year – or approximately £2 a term-time week) should cover the cost of trips. Where a trip is more expensive, for example £40, we will always try to make sure that over the academic year, the cost for all 4 Quarters comes to no more than £80 for the trips and visits we organise. Sadly, with school funding being at an all-time low in real terms, the school is financially unable to subsidise trips and visits to the extent it has done in the past. If we do not receive enough contributions to cover the cost, we will reluctantly have to cancel trips or visitors to the school. We are hoping to run the following trips next year, but these are subject to provider availability:

Year Group	Quarter 1 Sept–Nov	Quarter 2 Nov–Feb	Quarter 3 Feb–May	Quarter 4 May–July
EYFS	NA	NA	Farm Visit	Seaside Visit
Year 1	Musical Workshop	Arctic Explorer	Hyde Hall – all about plants!	Colne Valley Railway
Year 2	Local Geography Walk	Colchester Cemetery – Colchester as an Army Town	Library Visit and Synagogue Visit	St Stephen's Church
Year 3	Stone Age to Iron Age History Day	Colchester Castle – Roman History	Colchester Zoo – Rainforest	Harwich and Felixstowe Docks – Geography Field Trip
Year 4	West Stow – Anglo-Saxons	Swimming & French Feast Day	Siege of Colchester – Historic Walk	River Colne – Geography Field Trip
Year 5	Henry Moore Foundation Art Trip	Life in Ancient Greece Day – History Experience	Life in Ancient Egypt Day – History Experience	Explore Nature Day (Beth Chatto depending on availability)
Year 6	PGL Bawdsey Manor (residential) London Aquarium/Houses of Parliament	Mayan History Day	Local Geographical Field Trip – OS mapping	Crucial Crew and Treat Trip

Quarter 2 Trips and Visits and Associated Costs

Year Group	Trip/Visit	Cost per child
EYFS	No trips	
Year 1	Arctic Explorer	£7.70
Year 2	Roman Circus	£5.50
Year 3	Colchester Castle	£6
Year 4	French Day	TBC
Year 5	Ancient Greek Day	£21
Year 6	Charter Hall (Shrek the Musical)	£11.75

Dates for your Diary

Spring Term 2026	
February	
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th	Half Term Holiday
Thursday 26 th	Year 4 Swimming Session 6
Thursday 26 th	French Parent & Child Workshop 2pm–3pm
March	
Tuesday 3 rd	Parent Evening Consultations 3:30pm–6pm
Tuesday 3 rd	Year 5 Egyptian Day
Wednesday 4 th	Parent Evening Consultations 5:30pm–8pm
Thursday 5 th	Year 4 Swimming Session 7
Friday 6 th	Reading Parent & Child Workshop 2pm–3pm
Thursday 12 th	Year 4 Swimming Session 8
Wednesday 18 th	RE Parent & Child Workshop 2pm–3pm
Thursday 19 th	Year 3 Colchester Zoo Visit
Thursday 19 th	Year 4 Swimming Session 9
Friday 20 th	PTA Easter Discos EYFS/KS1: 5pm–6:15pm KS2: 6:30pm–8pm
Thursday 26 th	Year 4 Swimming Final Session
Friday 27 th	Easter Service
Friday 27 th	Last Day of Spring Term
Monday 30 th – Friday 10 th April	Easter Holidays

Summer Term 2026	
April	
Monday 13 th	First Day of Summer Term
Tuesday 28 th	EYFS Boydells Farm Visit
Wednesday 29 th	Year 1 Hyde Hall Visit
May	
Monday 4 th	Bank Holiday
Monday 11 th to Thursday 14 th	Year 6 SATs
Friday 22 nd	Year 6 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Monday 25 th to Friday 29 th	Half Term Holiday
June	
Friday 5 th	Rainbow Day
Friday 5 th	EYFS Bake Sale 3:15pm
Friday 12 th	Year 5 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Friday 19 th	Year 4 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Friday 26 th	Year 3 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Monday 29 th	Sports Day
July	
Friday 3 rd July	Year 2 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Thursday 9 th	KS2 Production 7pm
Friday 10 th	KS2 Production 1:30pm & 7pm
Friday 10 th	Year 1 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Thursday 16 th	Year 6 Treat Trip
Friday 17 th	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9:30am
Friday 17 th	Last Day of Summer Term

Kendall KS1 Fortnightly Maths Challenge



This fortnight we are thinking
about estimation – making a rough judgement or
calculation.

How many balls do you think are in the jar?

If you think you know, write your name and answer on a slip of paper and post it into
the correct box on the table. The winner will be announced in two weeks. Good luck!

Kendall KS2 Fortnightly Maths Challenge

This fortnight we are thinking about
estimation – making a rough judgement or
calculation.



**How many 2L bottles of fizzy drink do you think it would
take to fill a bath?**

If you think you know, write your name and answer on a slip of paper and post it into
the correct box on the table. The winner will be announced in two weeks. Good luck!

Academic Year 2025-2026

September 2025							October 2025							November 2025							December 2025								
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☐ = Schooldays

☐ = School holidays

☐ = Bank holidays

☐ = Weekends

☐ = Non-Pupil Days

Academic Year 2026-2027

September 2026							October 2026							November 2026							December 2026								
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31																						30	31						

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Firstsite Holiday Fun

February Half-term 2026

Sat 14 Feb and
Tue 17 - Sat 21 Feb

Activities take place at:
Firstsite
Lewis Gardens, High St
Colchester, Essex
CO1 1JH

How to book

Early bird tickets will be available from 9am Tue 10 Feb.

More tickets will be released three days in advance of each session.

Limited spaces available, offered on a first come first served basis.

If you can no longer attend your booking, please let us know as soon as possible by calling 01206 713700. If you contact us 24 hours before the event your space can be made available for another family.

Thank you!

Book online at
firstsite.uk
or call 01206
713700

Scan the QR
code to book



FREE

Make
Free creative
art activities
10:00am -
2:30pm



Move

Free fun sport and
social activities
10:45am -11:45am
& 12:00pm -1:00pm



Canteen

Free freshly made
hot meals for
all the family
11:45am &
1:00pm

Our Holiday Fun activities are for families facing economic challenges or who require additional support during the school holidays, including those that qualify for benefit-based free school meals.

- Advanced booking is essential for Move activities and Canteen
- Activities most suitable for 4-11 years, but all ages welcome
- Caregivers are required to stay on site throughout the activities
- Menus and lists of activities available at www.firstsite.uk

How to find us

Firstsite, Lewis Gardens
High Street, Colchester CO1 1JH

Registered in England, Company no 2884347.
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LAST CHANCE TO APPLY 15TH MARCH 2026

Kendall Church of England Primary School Recreation Road Colchester, CO1 2HH
01206 794634 • admin@kendall.essex.sch.uk • www.kendallprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs. Clare French



Kendall Church of England
Primary School

The Breakfast Club Policy Document

(Including Terms and Conditions)

relating to Kendall C of E Primary School

By booking a place at the Breakfast Club, parents and carers confirm that they have read, understood and agreed to the terms outlined in this policy.

Rooted in our Christian values of care, responsibility and respect, Kendall CE Primary School is committed to providing a safe, nurturing and welcoming start to the school day for all children attending our Breakfast Club.

Purpose of the Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club aims to support children's wellbeing by providing a calm, supervised environment where pupils can enjoy a nutritious breakfast and prepare positively for the school day. Safeguarding and the welfare of all children remain our highest priority.

1. Session Times and Collection Arrangements

- The Breakfast Club offers two supervised collection times from the school gates:
 - **7:30am pick-up**
 - **8:00am pick-up**
- Parents and carers must ensure their child arrives promptly at the agreed time to ensure the smooth and safe running of the breakfast club.

2. Arrival and Safeguarding Procedures

- Children should arrive in good time to enable full participation in the Breakfast Club.
- All children **must be accompanied by an adult** until they are handed over to school staff
- Any child arriving after 7.30am **must be supervised** and wait at the school gates until the 8.00am collection time. Parents and carers should not bring their child to the school office during this period, as the office will be unmanned.
- Any child arriving after 8:00am must be escorted by a parent or carer to the school office, in line with school safeguarding and late-arrival procedures.

- Children arriving after 8:15am will not be provided with breakfast, as food service will have concluded and staff will be supporting the transition into the school day.

3. Payment Arrangements

- All Breakfast Club sessions must be prepaid in advance.
- Places are allocated and confirmed only once payment has been received.
- Attendance at a single session is charged at £7.50.
- Attendance at two or more sessions is charged at a flat weekly rate of £15.00, covering up to five sessions from 8.00am
- Attendance at two or more sessions is charged at a flat weekly rate of £25.00, covering up to five sessions from 7.30am
- Where different session start times are required on different days of the week, the rate will be £25.00

4. Refunds, Absence and Late Arrival

- No refunds will be issued for:
 - Late arrival
 - Non-attendance
 - Absence due to illness or other circumstances
- Missed sessions cannot be carried forward, transferred or credited.

5. Behaviour and Expectations

- Children attending the Breakfast Club are expected to follow the school's behaviour policy and treat others with kindness and respect, reflecting our Christian values.
- Parents and carers are responsible for ensuring children understand and follow these expectations.

6. Policy Review and Amendments

Kendall CE Primary School reserves the right to review and amend this policy as necessary. Parents and carers will be informed of any significant changes.



Kendall Church of England
Primary School



Who to Contact with Your Concerns



Day to Day Issues
(e.g. School Ping, School Gateway,
Absences, etc.)

**Teaching & Learning or
Pastoral Concerns**

**Contact the
Office Staff**

**Speak to the
Class Teacher**

If Unresolved

Contact the Key Stage Lead



EYFS / KS1: Mrs Reeves-Rowe
KS2: Mr Barrett-Rodger



**For SEND Matters
Contact
Mrs. Smith
(SENCO)**

Still Unresolved?

**Contact the Headteacher
Mrs. French**