



St Chad's School Newsletter

October 2026

Our vision: 'Learning to love, loving to learn'

This term's value: Perseverance

Next term's value: Service

Message from Mrs Jenkins:

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a busy but wonderful start to the new academic year at St Chad's. It has been great to spend time in class and see the children so enthusiastic about their learning and promoting our vision 'Learning to love, loving to learn'. We have received strong feedback from external professionals visiting our school based on the Educational Provision that the children receive. Well done to the children and staff.

We have been delighted to welcome a new Reception cohort and their families and some new children across the school – welcome to you all!

We had a successful electrical re-wire construction project over the summer with updates to our IT server and access points. The whole school has been repainted and Greg (our caretaker) has nearly finished building our Flourish lodge on the field for well-being sessions, ELSA, Chaplaincy, Forest School etc. Over half-term, we will be having some further electrical work completed in the Elliott building, a new boiler installed, maintenance work to the roof and fire detection work in the main building and Elliott. We are grateful to South Gloucestershire Council for funding the work so that this doesn't further impact our school budget and so that the infrastructure in school can be modernised and updated. Thank you to St Chad's Church for funding the Flourish lodge for us.

From 1st January, we will have a new catering company working with us following a successful tender process alongside the Bridge Family of Schools. We are pleased to welcome MiQuill and delighted to say that Nancy and Debbie will remain in our kitchen preparing and serving our school meals. The office will update you closer to the time regarding new menus and ordering. Please see the link to MiQuill's website for more information: [About Us – MiQuill Catering](#).

I hope you have a safe and relaxing half term break and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 2nd November.

Kind regards, Mrs Jenkins

Highlights this term

- Our Circus – What an event! It was a fabulous day and I still can't believe we had a Big Top Circus tent on our school field! An incredibly big thank you to our Friends who worked their socks off to organise this event. We are also incredibly grateful to St Chad's Church and school staff who came to support us on the day. Without our Friends committee, St Chad's Church and staff from our school, this event wouldn't have been able to go ahead. Thank you for supporting this event. We hope you enjoyed it as much as us!
- Our wonderful Colour run raising £895.76! Thank you so much for all of the sponsorship gained for this event. It was a brilliant afternoon of fun and laughter and the sun shone for us all afternoon.
- Our Harvest Services – thank you for the kind donations to North Bristol foodbank. These were very much appreciated. It was wonderful to welcome Rev. Paul.
- Forest School – sessions are now up and running and children have been enjoying their sessions. We are continuing to resource this area and build on the provision. Thank you to our Friends for funding new equipment.
- Our Flourish outdoor lodge for wellbeing sessions, chaplaincy, ELSA and forest school is nearly finished on the field. It will have heating and lighting to ensure it is usable all year round. Thank you to Ben Walters for coming in and helping Greg (our caretaker) lay the concrete foundations for the lodge on a voluntary basis.
- Speak out, stay safe safeguarding workshops in class and the NSPCC workshop with Year 6 – such important messages have been delivered through these workshops.
- Year 5 and Year 6 sustainability workshops with Heidi's Mum – Thank you Jiseon. We really appreciate you coming in and sharing your expertise.
- Year 5 Pedestrian training.
- Our Gold Church School Partnership Award presentation with the Diocese and Archdeacon celebrating the strength in partnership between St Chad's Church and St Chad's Primary School.
- EYFS Curriculum meeting for parents.
- Multiplication tables check parents' evening.
- Parents' evening celebrating the super learning the children have been completing.
- Year 6 Yom Kippur assembly.
- Year 5 Perseverance assembly.
- **We have had very positive visits this term to review our provision, including a Local Authority review, visit from the Diocese, a Governor learning walk and a Governor Safeguarding review.**

As you know from the previous communication on dojo, our **LA review feedback** was strong with teaching highlighted as 'excellent', 'inclusion is strong' and the curriculum redesign for the mixed age classes was 'child centred, diligently planned and ambitious for all'.

The Diocese highlighted the following notable strengths -

'Vision: a real strength that drives all that you do and flexes to enable you to meet need'.

'Partnerships: community and church work so well together for the benefit of the whole community'.

'Worship and spiritual curiosity are an established part of each school day'.

'Leadership of RE – confident teaching, engaged children and pedagogy having impact on learning in RE. RE is well-led and managed and clearly a strength in your school'.

'Leadership - such a blessing to so many in your community. You strive to make the resources you have effective for as many as possible and recognise the needs in your community. Your vision frames all that you do. The partnership with the church for the flourishing of the community is outstanding'.

'Keep doing what you are doing'.

Safeguarding/Key Contacts for parents/carers:

We take our commitment to safeguarding very seriously and follow guidance in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Jenkins and in her absence Mrs Ives, Miss Legg and Mrs Ellett are Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Our greatest priority as a school is to always ensure the safety, well-being and happiness of all our children. The safeguarding of all our children remains our number one priority. During the holiday, South Gloucestershire Council's own Safeguarding ART (Access and Response Team) is also available to report concerns about a child: 01454 866000 Monday to Thursday 9.00 am – 5.00 pm, 4.30 on Friday and 01454 615165 out of hours and at weekends.

Other contact details:

Police – 101 for non-urgent issues & 999 if urgent and an immediate response is needed

Domestic Abuse Concerns - Next Link South Glos domestic abuse telephone help lines are open 8:30am – 5:30pm Monday to Friday and 9:30am – 1:00pm on Saturday 0800 4700 280

Mental health support - CAMHS (if young person is currently under CAMHS) – 01454 862431 or if you are concerned that you are not able to keep your child safe or they are not able to keep themselves safe then take them to the Accident & Emergency dept at Bristol Children's hospital or call for an ambulance.

Food banks - links for families living in South Glos

<https://oneyou.southglos.gov.uk/eat-well/food-poverty-support/>

Food banks - links for families living in Bristol

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/> <https://eastbristol.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/how-to-get-help/>

Parents worried about exploitation - <https://paceuk.info/> or for confidential help and advice, call Pace on 0113 240 5226

Secondary School admissions for September 2027

If your child is in year 6 and was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016, they are required to attend a secondary school in 2027. Applications must be submitted by 31st October 2026. Please follow the link on the South Glos admissions page.

South Glos LIFE | Secondary school admissions

St Chad's Patchway CE VC Primary School — Key Diary Dates 2026-27

October	
Thursday 22nd October	Last day of term 1. Half term holiday from 3.30pm
Friday 23rd October	INSET (2 of 5)
November	
Monday 2nd November	School reopens for pupils
Wednesday 18th November	Christmas Disco
Friday 27th November	Christmas Fayre 3.30-5.30
December	
Monday 7th December	1.30pm Year 4 Carol Service to parents at school
Tuesday 8th December	9.15am Y1/2/3 Christmas production to parents/carers 2 tickets per child
Tuesday 8th December	1.30pm Upper Key Stage Two Carol Service at school. 2 tickets per child
Wednesday 9th December	9.15am EYFS Christmas show
Wednesday 9th December	1.30pm Y1/2/3 Christmas production to parents/carers 2 tickets per child
Sunday 13th December	Carols by Candlelight 6pm. Organised by St Chad's Church. All welcome.
Wednesday 16th December	Whole School Christmas lunch and Christmas jumpers/hats
Thursday 17th December	Class parties Non-uniform day
Thursday 17th December	End of term 2—School closes for the Christmas break
Friday 18th December	INSET Day (3 of 5)
January 2025	
Monday 4th January	School reopens for term 3
February	
Tuesday 9th February	Parents' Evening 4-7
Thursday 11th February	Parents' Evening 4-6
Friday 12th February	End of term 3
Monday 22nd February	School reopens for term 4
March	
Friday 5th March	World book day – look out for the letter and come as your favourite book character!
April	
Thursday 25th March	End of term 4. School closes.
Monday 12th April	School begins for term 5
May	
Monday 3rd May	Bank Holiday
W/comm Monday 10th May	Year 6 SATs tests
Monday 17th May	Sports Day 1.30pm
Tuesday 18th May	Reserve Sports Day 1 in case of wet weather 1.30pm
Monday 24th May to Wednesday 26th May	Year 6 camp

Thursday 27th May	Reserve Sports Day 2 in case of wet weather 1.30pm
Friday 28th May	End of term 5. School closes for half-term
June	
Monday 7th June	School reopens for term 6
W/c Monday 7th June	Multiplication tables check (Y4)
W/c Monday 14th June	Phonics testing (Y1)
Tuesday 15th June (TBC)	4.30pm New to Reception Parents' Evening
July	
Monday 5th July (TBC)	1.15pm UKS2 production at St Chad's Primary School
Monday 5th July	Reports to be collected (R-Y5)
Tuesday 6th July (TBC)	5.15pm UKS2 Production at St Chad's Church. Pupils to arrive no earlier than 4.45pm. Details to follow nearer the time.
Friday 9th July	Year 6 Reports to be collected
Tuesday 13th July	9.15am EYFS concert to parents/carers at school
Thursday 15th July	1.30pm Leavers' Assembly
Monday 19th July	School closes for the summer
Tuesday 20th July	INSET (4 of 5) - School closed to pupils
Wednesday 21st July	INSET (5 of 5) - School closed to pupils

These are only key dates, as they are known at present. You will see some are provisional, as you can imagine tying people down to dates this far ahead is tricky. Additional items will be added as the year progresses, please look out for these newsletters (usually in the last week of term) with the most up to date overview.

Attendance percentages - Term 1

Our attendance percentages are looking really positive. Thank you for your support. We aim to be above 96% and as you can see below 5 of our year groups are meeting this. **Well done Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.** Consistently very good attendance helps children to access the full curriculum and receive the support and challenge needed to move their learning on. In line with our attendance policy, we do not authorise holidays in term time so please try to book holiday during the 13 weeks of school holidays. Attendance will be monitored on a termly basis: 96%+ is expected and very good.

95-95.9% is close to expectation.

90-94.9% is cause for concern.

89.9% or less is classed as a persistent absentee.

Reception	94.44%
Year 1	94.12%
Year 2	98.07%
Year 3	96.75%
Year 4	96.58%
Year 5	97.69%
Year 6	96.03%
Total for whole school	96.39%

Services/Events at St Chad's Church



St Chad's Church
172 Rodway Road
Patchway
BRISTOL

Please visit the St Chad's Church website for details about Worship and events taking place: <https://www.stchad.org.uk/>



A reminder about PE/Sport Uniform Changes from 1st September 2026

From September, our PE kit will be changing slightly.

Please could children come in navy blue joggers, shorts or leggings, a plain navy blue hoody, zip up top or sweatshirt and either a white or royal blue plain t-shirt or polo. Trainers will need to be ideally white or black if possible.

A Team St Chad's sports hoody can be purchased in navy on the Linela website if you wish but there is no expectation to wear a top with a logo. You can also purchase a blue or white tshirt with a logo on the website via Linela.

[St Chads Primary School Archives - Linela Shop](#)

If you have already purchased, a house colour top and it still fits your child, this is fine to wear in the meantime but from January 2027, we would like children to wear our new PE uniform please.

Details from Compass (our Early Help team)

Off The Record: Free, self-referral counselling service for young people age 11-15, who are experiencing low mood, depression, anxiety, phobias, self-harm, eating problems and/or anger. Young people can call, email or text, and services operate in Patchway, Kingswood and Yate. Also offer parent support groups and sessions. Can also see [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) for more information and up to date groups and activities.

Tel: 0808 808 9120. Text: 07896 880011. Website: www.otrbristol.org.uk. Email: hello@otrbristol.org.uk

Kooth: Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people 11-18. Monday – Friday 12pm – 10pm, Saturday – Sunday 6pm – 10pm. On Kooth you can: Chat to our friendly counsellors; Read articles written by young people; Get support from the Kooth community; Write in a daily journal. <https://kooth.com/>

Childline: Free counselling via online webchat, and free support/advice available 24/7 via confidential helpline, and emails via the website. Tel: 0800 11 11. Website: www.childline.org.uk

Young Minds national charity offers confidential online and telephone information and support for anyone worried about the emotional, behaviour, or mental health of a child/young person up to 25 years of age, including ADHD, Autism and Aspergers. **Parents Helpline:** 0808 802 5544 Website: www.youngminds.org.uk

Young Minds Crisis Messenger Service for free 24/7 support across the UK of you are experiencing a mental health crisis. Text YM to 85258.

Adult mental health

South Gloucestershire Talking Therapies - Vitamins: Therapeutic interventions including counselling and group courses, in line with people's differing needs, age 16+. Self-referral via the website:

<https://www.wellaware.org.uk/projects/talking-therapies-south-gloucestershire/> Tel - 0333 200 1893

<https://www.vitahealthgroup.co.uk/nhs-services/nhs-mental-health/bristol-north-somerset-southgloucestershire/>

Samaritans: Free, confidential emotional support for those experiencing despair, distress, self-harm or suicidal feelings.

Tel: 116 123 (free, from any phone, 24/7). Website: www.samaritans.org. Email: jo@samaritans.org

Family/parenting support

- **NHS website:** Advice for parents on a range of parenting issues, including talking to teenagers, fussy eating and teenage aggression. Website: www.nhs.uk/family
- **Parent Buddies** is a confidential, universal, one-to-one listening service offering short-term support depending on family need. Volunteers are trained to provide parents/carers with listening, and signposting to specialist services. <https://www.parentbuddies.co.uk/>
- **CCP – Caring for Communities and People** – Offer outreach support for families at an early help level. Families can self-refer. www.ccp.org.uk



Colour Run!

