



Paxcroft Primary School
Ashton Street, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 7EB
Tel: 01225 762244
Email: admin@paxcroft.equamead.org
Headteacher: Ashley Barrington-Wilding
www.paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Updates for the New Academic Year

Dear Families,

Firstly, welcome back to Paxcroft Primary School, and a very warm welcome to all the new children and families joining our school community this year. I hope you have all enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer break. The staff are looking forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday morning and hearing all about their summer adventures.

This letter contains some important information as we begin the new academic year.

A great deal of work has taken place across the school during the summer holiday. We are delighted that the first phase of our pupil toilet refurbishment has now been completed, with the second phase scheduled to be finished in October. In addition, new perimeter fencing has been installed around the school to further enhance the safety and security of our site.

Attached to this letter is our annual calendar, which outlines the key events and activities planned throughout the year. We will make every effort to adhere to the published dates; however, should any changes be necessary, we will communicate these to families as early as possible.

General Reminders

The gates to the playground will be open from 8:30am. The doors will open at 8:35am and close at 8:45am. Children arriving after 8:45am will be marked as late and will need to come through the main office entrance.

The school day will finish at 3:15pm. All children will be seen out by an adult from their allocated classroom exit. The gates onto the playground will be opened at 3:10pm and will be closed by 3:30pm.

Contacting the School

If your child is unable to attend school due to sickness, please contact the school office on 01225 762244 by 8:30am. You must call the school every day that your child is absent.

If you have any messages that need to be passed onto your child's class teacher please speak directly with your child's class teacher or email admin@paxcroft.equamead.org. The office will ensure messages are passed to the correct people.

Any emails sent into school will be responded to between the hours of 8am and 5:30pm. We aim to respond to all emails within 48 hours.



EQUA Mead
Learning Trust
Every Child, Every Chance



Paxcroft Primary School
Ashton Street, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 7EB
Tel: 01225 762244
Email: admin@paxcroft.equamead.org
Headteacher: Ashley Barrington-Wilding
www.paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk

Paxcroft is a Mobile Phone Free School

As of today, 1st September 2026, all EQUA Mead Learning Trust primary schools will operate as mobile phone-free environments. This means that pupils must not bring mobile phones or any similar smart devices (including smartwatches) onto school premises at any time during the school day, from arrival at the school gate until departure.

This change reflects national guidance and the Trust's expectation that schools should be free from mobile devices in order to maintain a safe, calm and focused learning environment. Removing access to phones during the school day helps to reduce distraction, prevent issues such as cyberbullying, and support children's wellbeing and relationships.

Families should be aware that if a phone is brought to school without permission, it will be treated as a breach of the school rules and may be confiscated in line with the Trust's behaviour procedures.

We recognise that some families use mobile phones to support communication when children travel to and from school. The Trust encourages parents and carers to consider alternative arrangements, such as agreeing clear routines, meeting points, or travel plans, so that children do not need to bring phones onto the school site.

We ask all families to follow these procedures and support the implementation of this policy. Further detail is provided in the full Mobile Phone Policy found here on the EQUA Mead Learning Trust website: [Equa Mead Learning Trust - Policies](#)

Keeping Children Safe: Benedict's Law

From September 2026, new national allergy safety requirements, known as **Benedict's Law**, are being introduced in schools across England. The new requirements aim to ensure that all schools have consistent procedures in place to prevent, recognise and respond to serious allergic reactions. These measures include:

- A whole-school allergy policy.
- Allergy awareness and anaphylaxis training for staff.
- Access to emergency adrenaline auto-injectors (EpiPens) for use in an emergency.
- Individual healthcare plans for pupils with diagnosed allergies.
- Improved recording and communication of allergy incidents and near misses.

At Paxcroft, the safety and wellbeing of all children remain our highest priority. We are reviewing our procedures to ensure we fully meet the new requirements and continue to provide a safe and inclusive environment for pupils with allergies.



EQUA Mead
Learning Trust
Every Child, Every Chance



Paxcroft Primary School
Ashton Street, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 7EB
Tel: 01225 762244
Email: admin@paxcroft.equamead.org
Headteacher: Ashley Barrington-Wilding
www.paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk

We would ask parents and carers to ensure the school is informed of any diagnosed allergies, changes to medical needs, or updated care plans so that records can be kept accurate and current.

Benedict's Law and Birthday Celebrations

At our school, we love celebrating our children's birthdays and recognising these special occasions with their friends and classmates.

In line with Benedict's Law and our commitment to keeping all children safe, we kindly ask families to ensure that any treats brought into school to celebrate a birthday are **shop bought and remain in their original packaging**, with ingredients and allergen information clearly visible.

Unfortunately, **we are unable to accept homemade cakes, sweets or other food items** for sharing in school, as we cannot verify the ingredients or potential allergens they may contain.

Permissions

This term, we will be contacting families to review and update the permissions we hold for their child, including consent for photographs, walking to and from school, local visits, and participation in school-based experiences and activities.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support in ensuring our records remain accurate and up to date.

School Resources

This year, we have made a significant investment in new reading books, exercise books and other classroom resources to support our pupils' learning and ensure they have access to high-quality materials throughout the school day.

We know that accidents can happen from time to time, and we appreciate your support in encouraging children to take care of the resources they use. By looking after books and equipment, we can ensure that all pupils benefit from them for many years to come.

Unfortunately, where resources are deliberately damaged, defaced or lost through misuse, the school may need to ask families to contribute towards the cost of replacement. This helps us to protect our resources and ensure that funding can continue to be directed towards enhancing children's education.



EQUA Mead
Learning Trust
Every Child, Every Chance



Paxcroft Primary School
Ashton Street, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 7EB
Tel: 01225 762244
Email: admin@paxcroft.equamead.org
Headteacher: Ashley Barrington-Wilding
www.paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk

Grounds and Garden Maintenance Morning – Saturday 12th September 9:30am to 1pm

We are looking for volunteers to help improve our wonderful school grounds and get them looking their best again.

Tasks include:

- Litter picking
- Weeding
- General tidying
- Hedge and tree trimming
- Moving logs
- Developing garden areas
- Cutting back overgrown areas around the school

Our grounds are a fantastic asset to the school, but they currently need some care and attention. We would be grateful for any support from parents, families, friends, and members of the local community.

Please bring:

- Gardening tools, if you have them
- Any larger gardening equipment you can safely transport and use

All volunteers are welcome, even if you can only spare an hour. Every bit of help makes a difference.

Year Group Meet and Greets

The meet and greets will be happening in the school hall. It will be an opportunity for you to find out information about the year group, homework expectations and meet the teaching team. The meet and greets will be happening on these dates. Information from the sessions will be uploaded to the school website.

Tuesday 8 th September	Year 3 and 4	3:30pm
Wednesday 9 th September	Year 5 and 6	3:30pm
Thursday 10 th September	Year 1 and 2	3:30pm

Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to all the exciting events happening at Paxcroft Primary School over the coming year.

With best wishes,

Ashley Barrington-Wilding

Headteacher



EQUA Mead
Learning Trust
Every Child, Every Chance