



**Growing Together  
at Glynwood**

Glynwood Gardens  
Gateshead  
Tyne & Wear  
NE9 5SY  
Headteacher: Mrs Vicky Nellis  
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Website: [glynwoodprimary.org](http://glynwoodprimary.org)

### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025**

### **October 2025**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October - Parent/ Carer consultations

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October - Hello Yellow Day (Mental Health Awareness) - non-uniform and children can wear a yellow item of clothing.

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October - Harvest Festival food collection

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October - Year Four Harvest Festival Assembly at 2:45pm - families of Year Four children to attend.

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Last Day of the half term.

### **November 2025**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - Children return to school after half term.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November - Anti-bullying week

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November - Odd Socks Day - children to wear odd socks to school

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> November - Year Six residential trip to Robinwood

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November - Wreath Laying at Low Fell War Memorial

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November - Children in Need Day - Non-uniform for a donation towards CIN.

### **December 2025 (Further dates to follow)**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Last Day of term

### **January 2026**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January - Pupils return to school

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January - Pantomime in school for pupils

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January - French Day - pupils to wear red, white and blue

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January - 9am Phonics and Phonics screening workshop for Year One parents

### **February 2026**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February - Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February - 3:15 - 4:15pm - Y1 and Y2 Valentine Disco (children who attend can wear disco clothes for the day)

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - 3:15 - 4:15pm - Y3 and Y4 Valentine Disco (children who attend can wear disco clothes for the day)

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February - 3:30 - 4:30 - Y5 and Y6 Valentine Disco (children who attend can wear disco clothes for the day)

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Staff Training Day - school closed to pupils

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February - Last day of school for pupils

### **March 2026**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March - Pupils return to school

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March - Red Nose Day - non-uniform day for a charitable donation

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Faith Day - Parents/ Carers into class to look at children's RE work from 2:45pm

<b>April 2026</b>
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April - Last Day of term for pupils
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April - Pupils return to school
<b>May 2026</b>
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May - Bank Holiday - School closed
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May - Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May Year Six SATs week
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May - Last Day of the half term
<b>June 2026</b>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June - pupils return to school
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June - Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June - Year Four multiplication check
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June - Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June - Phonics screening
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June - Rainbow Day - Diversity Celebration - Children to wear non-school uniform
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June - Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June - Glynwood Art, Craft and Music Festival
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June and Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June - Glynwood Art festival exhibition opens
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June - 3:30pm - 4:30pm - Summer Fair
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June - School Closed to pupils
<b>July 2026</b>
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July - Reports out to pupils
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July - 9:15am - Year Six Leavers Assembly
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July - Last Day of academic year 2025-26
<b>September 2026</b>
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September - Teacher Training Day - school closed to pupils
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September - pupils return to school for new academic year.





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# Glynwood Community Primary School

Growing Together at Glynwood

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

Dear Families,

It has been another busy and exciting week here at Glynwood. We are so proud of how hard the children are working and the wonderful way they continue to support each other.

**Good Luck to the girls' football team** who are playing tonight. We know that they'll do us proud with their teamwork, determination and fantastic spirit!

**Well Done Reading Ambassadors** - A big well done to our amazing Reading Ambassadors, who shared poems across the school yesterday as part of National Poetry Day. It was wonderful to see pupils experience the joy of words and poetry!

**Hello Yellow Day - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October** - Next Friday is Hello Yellow Day, raising awareness of mental health and emotional well-being. Children are invited to wear non-uniform and, if possible, something yellow to show support. Thank you for helping us spread this important message of joy and positivity.

**Harvest Collection - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October** - Our Harvest collection begin on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October until 16<sup>th</sup> October. All donations will go to Gateshead Food Bank, supporting families in our communities. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Please remember that my door is open and I am always happy to speak to families. Please call school or pop into the office to make an appointment.

With my best wishes for a great weekend.

Vicky Nellis

Head Teacher

## Our Safeguarding Children Team

Designated Safeguarding  
Lead



Name: Mrs Nellis

Designated Safeguarding  
Deputy



Name: Mr Otterson

Designated Safeguarding  
Deputy



Name: Mrs Birkbeck

Designated Safeguarding  
Deputy



Name: Mrs Brunskill

Designated Safeguarding  
Deputy



Name: Mrs Lowres

Designated Safeguarding  
Deputy



Name: Mrs Commons

Designated Safeguarding  
Deputy



Name: Mrs Etherington

Designated Safeguarding  
Deputy (After School Club)



Name: Helen Moss

If you are concerned about a child, please talk to us

### Child Protection and Safeguarding

Child Protection and Safeguarding are always an absolute priority in school. Our designated safeguarding leads and deputies are: Vicky Nellis (Head Teacher), Simon Otterson (Deputy Head), Sarah Brunskill (Assistant Head), Esther Commons (SENDco), Jude Etherington (Curriculum leader), Vic Birkbeck (Family Support Worker), Helen Moss (Afterschool club lead). Please talk to any of us about any concerns that you may have. Posters displaying photos of the designated safeguarding leads are displayed around school.

If you have concerns about a child in your community, you have a number of options:

- 1) You can call 101 and ask for some welfare advice. This can be done anonymously.
- 2) You can visit the NSPCC website on: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/report/> or you can call the NSPCC helpline on 0800 800 5000, You can report concerns here anonymously too.



Glynwood Community  
Primary School  
Growing Together at Glynwood

Dear Families,

It is really important that we work together to improve attendance for all of our children. One area which can be contentious is term-time holiday requests. We need families to be open and transparent regarding holidays (for safeguarding reasons and so children aren't asked to lie), but the statutory and legal guidance around this is much stricter and is a national priority for the government.

**I know that the vast majority of families do not take term-time holidays, so I apologise for the blanket communication, but it is vital that families understand the systems and the legal guidance.**

Leave of absence forms should continue to be completed for **ALL** requests. If you feel that you have exceptional circumstances around a term time leave of absence request for your child (as in there are exceptional reasons why the absence has to take place on a very specific date in term time for an exceptional reason (as outlined below)) then this needs to be outlined in writing. I will then consider the information provided to me and the decision will be made whether to authorise the absence, but again I must reinforce, I can now only authorise term-time leave of absence requests in the most exceptional circumstances and these will be very rare.

**Holidays will not be authorised.**

I am more than happy to discuss any aspect of your child's learning or well-being and have an open-door policy for this, however **term-time leave of absence procedures are very clear and I am not willing to discuss decisions made with families.** I will also not discuss other children's absences for confidentiality and GDPR reasons. When guidance is very clear, as it is now, questioning decisions made puts everyone in a difficult position and can put a strain on relationships between school and families, which we want to avoid at all costs. Aggressive communication towards staff will also not be accepted for any reason, including communication around term-time leave of absence requests.

Please see the guidance below which is taken from our Attendance Policy which meets the legal and statutory requirements set out by the Department for Education. This is the same as the communication sent out to parents in previous newsletters.

Best wishes

Vicky Nellis

Head Teacher

## **4.1 Approval for term-time absence**

The headteacher will only grant a leave of absence to a pupil during term time if they consider there to be 'exceptional circumstances'. A leave of absence is granted at the headteacher's discretion, including the length of time the pupil is authorised to be absent.

We define 'exceptional circumstances' as **where there are unavoidable reasons for the leave of absence not falling during school holiday time. For example, visiting a very sick relative in a different area or country, an immediate family member's wedding or an immediate family member's funeral. Exceptional Circumstances also apply if a child is involved in sporting or creative events, but school do need evidence of these dates.**

**Exceptional circumstances are truly exceptional and this will be applied consistently across all requests.**

The school considers each application for term-time absence individually, taking into account the specific facts, circumstances and relevant context behind the request.



Any request should be submitted as soon as it is anticipated and, where possible, at least 3 weeks before the absence, and in accordance with any leave of absence request form, accessible via the school office or the school website. The headteacher may require evidence to support any request for a leave of absence.

### 4.3 Legal sanctions

The local authority can fine parents for the unauthorised absence of their child from school, where the child is of compulsory school age.

**Warning letters are no longer issued.**

If issued a fine, or penalty notice, each parent must pay £80 within 21 days or £160 within 28 days. The payment must be made directly to the local authority.

Penalty notices can be issued by a local authority officer or the police.

The decision on whether or not to issue a penalty notice may take into account:

- The number of unauthorised absences occurring within a rolling academic year
- One-off instances of irregular attendance, such as holidays taken in term time without permission
- Where an excluded pupil is found in a public place during school hours without a justifiable reason

If the payment has not been made after 28 days, the local authority can decide whether to prosecute or withdraw the notice.

The first penalty notice issued to a parent in respect of a particular pupil will be charged at £160 if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

- A second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same pupil is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.
- A third penalty notice **cannot be issued** to the same parent in respect of the same child **within 3 years of the date of issue** of the first. In a case where the national threshold is met for a third time (or subsequent times) within those 3 years, alternative action should be taken instead. This will often include considering prosecution, but may include other tools such as one of the other attendance legal interventions.

