



**Growing Together
at Glynwood**

Glynwood Gardens
Gateshead
Tyne & Wear
NE9 5SY
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June 2026

Monday 1st June - pupils return to school

Monday 1st June - Friday 5th June - Year Four multiplication check

Wednesday 3rd June - EY sports day

Thursday 4th June - Y1 and Y2 sports day

Friday 5th June - Y5 and Y6 sports day

Monday 8th June - Friday 12th June - Phonics screening

Friday 12th June - Rainbow Day - Diversity Celebration - Children to wear non-school uniform

Friday 12th June - Y3 and Y4 sports day

Monday 15th June - Thursday 25th June - Glynwood Art, Craft and Music Festival

Wednesday 17th June - Class Photographs

Wednesday 24th June and Thursday 25th June - Glynwood Art festival exhibition opens

Thursday 25th June - 3:00pm - 4:30pm - Summer Fair

Friday 26th June - School Closed to pupils

July 2026

Friday 10th July - Reports out to pupils

Friday 17th July - 9:15am - Year Six Leavers Assembly

Friday 17th July - Last Day of academic year 2025-26

September 2026

Tuesday 1st September - Teacher Training Day - school closed to pupils

Wednesday 2nd September - pupils return to school for new academic year.



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Dear Parents and Carers,

What a lovely day to end this busy half term. Year 6 have had a great end to the week with a fabulous day out at Gibside to help recharge the batteries. It has been fantastic to see the outdoor learning taking place with extra lessons outside and forest school sessions this week. Hopefully the good weather will continue during the holidays and everyone has a well-earned rest.

Football update - The Gateshead Girls Football finals were held last night and our school team did everyone proud. The competition was extremely close and our girls only conceded one goal in the whole tournament. They ended up finishing 3rd overall which is a fantastic achievement, and in my opinion, they were the best team there! Well done girls!

Book fair - Our annual book fair is now finished. Thank you to everyone who used the fair this week.

Permission for pick-ups - If you have arranged with a family member or friend to pick up your child instead of the usual parent, could you please ring the office or see your child's class teacher to pass on this information to avoid any issues with people who we do not know when releasing your children at the end of the day. Thank you.

Sports Days - These are to begin the first week back after the holidays and it would be lovely to see you there to cheer on your children. They will be held in the afternoons of the dates below at 2.00pm

Wednesday 3rd June - EY
Friday 12th June - Y3 and Y4

Thursday 4th June - Y1 and Y2

Friday 5th June - Y5 and Y6

Donations - Mrs Jobling in Reception would like any old fabric like curtains or quilts to be able to make some costumes for performances/nativity plays etc.

September Nursery places - we still have a small number of spaces available for our September 2026 intake. Please call the school office for an application form.

Absences - Please try to call school or email before 9.15am if your child is going to be absent.

Holidays - We have noticed a large increase in the number of people taking holidays during term time and especially families taking extra days before and after weekends in general to go away. Please read the information on holidays attached to the newsletter and try wherever possible to take holidays during the official time off. Every day matters to your child's education. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Earrings - Please try to follow school policy. No earrings should be worn in school. They should be taped up if newly pierced and no hoops should be worn for health and safety reasons.

Thank you on behalf of myself and the staff - we hope you have a lovely break.

Best wishes, Mr Otterson

Our Safeguarding Children Team



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.



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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.



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