



## Birtley East School Times Weekly Newsletter

2024-25 | 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### Welcome Back and Welcome to Our School

It has been really good to see all of the children back to school this week, and to welcome lots of new faces and new families.

### 2025-6 Term Dates

This is attached for your information.

### PE Kits

Children can come to school dressed in their PE kits on PE days if you would like them to. Alternatively, you can send the kit in on a Monday and have it returned each Friday to be washed and returned to school.

PE Days:

Year 1: Thursday

Year 2: Monday and Tuesday

Year 3: Monday and Wednesday

Year 4: Monday and Friday

Year 5: Swimming on Thursday afternoons (no PE kit required, children will need to bring their swimming kit)

Year 6: Thursday (except those going swimming) and Friday

Miss Coxon will write to parents to confirm arrangements for Early Years.

### Forest School

Year 1 will be taking part in Forest School sessions every other Friday afternoon, starting next week. They do not need to bring a full change of clothes but will need to wear long sleeved tops and full length trousers and will need sturdy shoes on (or to change into). They will be outside whatever the weather and so will need an appropriate coat/hat/gloves according to the forecast.

### After School Wrap Around

Vacancies will be advertised from early next week for staff to enable us to open an after school provision at school. This will be a chargeable provision and once we have staff in place charges for this will be confirmed and booking opened. I include below an update from the DfE regarding support for parents with childcare costs:

#### **Information for early years settings, schools, social care settings and local authorities: New Best Start in Life website for parents**

On 1 September 2025 we launched the Best Start in Life website, as part of our [Plan for Change](#) and giving every child the Best Start in Life. This improved support for families builds on the proud legacy of Sure Start and will help more children be ready to start school.

*Aiming Higher, Achievement for All*





[The Best Start in Life website](#) will officially replace the Childcare Choices website as the main source of information for early education and childcare support - offering a broader range of resources for families, including eligibility for childcare offers, information about free breakfast clubs and Best Start Family Hubs in their area, and support on pregnancy through to starting school and beyond.

Although the website has changed, the offers for parents - such as support for working parents and the 2-year-old childcare offer - are not affected. Visitors to the current Childcare Choices website will be automatically redirected.

We would be grateful for your support in signposting parents to the [Best Start in Life website](#).

## Lunchtime Supervisory Opportunity

We occasionally need additional cover over our lunchtime period and would be interested to hear from any parents who would like to be considered to be registered with us for ad hoc lunchtime supervisory work. This would be on a zero hours basis but all hours worked would be paid at the hourly rate for lunchtime supervisors. If you are interested in this please email [birtleyeastcommunityprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:birtleyeastcommunityprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk) and we will be in touch with you with more information.

### October Half Term Event:

