



BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

We would like to thank everyone who was able to come along last Sunday for our pond clearing afternoon. It was a fantastic community afternoon; have a look at the wonderful photos of the incredible work that was done in our pond area, Forest School and cabbage patch...thank you! We have bid for some more equipment, plants and other elements for these areas from our Friends of Brooklands so watch this space!

This week has also seen our year 5 children taking part in Cycle Confident; so many of our children cycle to school and it has been great to see the children build and develop skills and confidence. Year 6 will have an opportunity to do the same later on in the year!

Our Pupil Parliament have chosen their charity to raise money for this year: Demelza. They will be running their first fundraising event on the last day of term as well as our Shared Stories and coffee morning event- this day promises to be a lovely way to end the half term

We have been checking all the reading records this week. Reading is such an important foundational skill for all children; without the skill of being able to read fluently and with understanding, children will find accessing all areas of the curriculum, and life, challenging. The great news is that with daily practice of 10-15 minutes, all children can make progress with their reading. Please encourage your child to read at home and record their progress in their reading records; this small thing will make a huge difference. Thank you for your support with this.

We hope you all have a safe weekend,

Mrs McGrath and Mrs Armstrong

UPCOMING DATES

Parents Evenings- Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th February 3:30pm-6pm

Shared Stories and Coffee Morning Friday 13th February 8:45am to 10am

Bake Sale in aid of Demelza- Pupil

Parliament- Friday 13th February 3:30pm

End of term Friday 13th February

Half term Monday 16th February- Friday 20th February

Spring (ii) begins Monday 23rd February

INSET day Friday 20th March 2026



This week we were visited by the CEO and central team of IXL, who were in the UK for a conference. We were asked by our IXL team to host our visitors because of how well our children have engaged with the programme. Our visitors were so impressed with how well the children were able to articulate how the programme helps them with their Maths learning and how well the teachers incorporate it into their Maths lessons alongside concrete manipulatives and reasoning and problem solving challenges. It was an honour to share our successes with the founder of the programme; our children were, as always, a credit to themselves.

Office Reminders



Absence/ Appointments – Please ensure you call the office **before 9am** if your child will not be in school that day. Alternatively, you can report your child's absence on **Studybugs**.

Medical evidence and **proof of appointments** must be provided – info@brooklands-maritime.org

MCAS – Please provide at least two contact numbers and ensure addresses, Parental consents, medical conditions and medication is up-to-date.

Punctuality – Should a child's punctuality be identified as persistent (more than 10%) or a pattern (e.g. late on a particular day of the week), parents will be invited in to meet with leadership and/or the local authority attendance officer to discuss how the school can support the family to improve punctuality for the child.

All outstanding payments must be **paid by Friday 30th January**
Bat Club
Nursery
Clubs / trips



Please get the **free Studybugs app** for reporting your child's absence due to illness.

<https://studybugs.com>



Report sickness, receive guidance, help improve children's health

See what illnesses are going around

Secure system, all communications encrypted

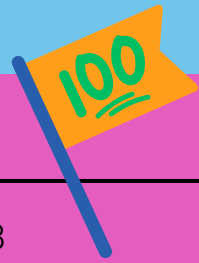


Working in partnership with:



Please sign up to our attendance app which is how we now ask parents to inform us of absence; thank you to those who have already signed up. There is also a link to the page along the top of our home page on our website.

Attendance



Reception	93.18
Year 1	78.33
Year 2	90.36
Year 3	93.77
Year 4	93.33
 Year 5 	95.56
Year 6	92.67

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

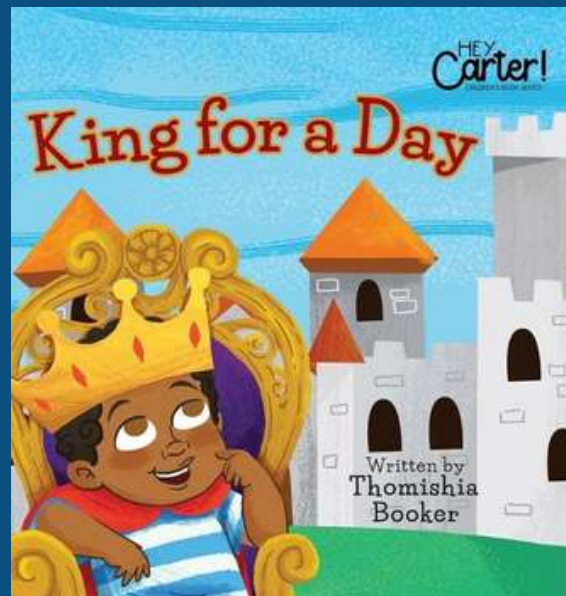
Reading at Brooklands

We have a wonderful reading culture at Brooklands and celebrate this in lots of ways!



Imagine all the things you would do if you were King for a Day. This book is guided by your child's imagination. Let your imagination run free while you read King for a Day. What would you do if you were King for a Day?

I would make sure everyone got to eat something yummy, spend a day at the beach and play their favourite game!



We would love to hear what books and stories you enjoy at home- please email in to share your favourite books, or photos of you reading together at home!

This week, we have focused on making sure every child in KS2 has the correct banded reading book for their fluency and comprehension level.

In Early Years and Ks1, children should bring home a book that is linked to their phonics level. They should be able to read this book to you.

Please encourage your child to read and record a comment in their reading records every day. Research shows that 10-15 minutes of reading every day is one of the biggest influences on a child's life.

School adults will be checking children's reading record books weekly, Please help them to remember to bring their books and reading records to school EVERY day

In EVERY class, children should bring home at least two books- one they can read to you and one they have chosen from their book corner for you to share with them- this will not necessarily be at their reading level, but it is to support a love of reading with their home adults and families . These books can be changed as often as the children like,

ONLINE SAFETY

For Parents – Playstation Family App

The Playstation Family App came out in Sept 2025 and it is a great way to help parents set up and manage their children's Gaming experience. Features include:

- Manage playtime.
- Activity report.
- Visibility into what children are playing.
- Approving playtime requests.

On this web page you will find detailed instructions to guide you through setting up a child account, get notified what game your child is playing in real time, approve or decline a request for extra playtime, apply content filters, privacy settings and more.

Webpage: Playstation Family App

Chrome Book usage...

IS...

part of a range of teaching and learning approaches utilised at Brooklands

IS NOT...

a replacement of the teacher or adult in the classroom

provides opportunities for personalised, targeted learning, enabling the class teacher to focus support and identify next steps for all learners

IS...

subject to filtering and monitoring systems in school to block harmful content

at home must be supervised.

Inappropriate use (including accessing non-educational sites, over-use) will result in the device not going home.

IS...

deliberately chosen by the teacher to enhance the learning experience

IS NOT...

used in every lesson, replacing other subjects or key foundation skills including daily reading, writing and maths

IS...

monitored by leadership regularly to ensure usage is appropriate and having a positive impact on progress and engagement in learning

IS NOT...

a replacement for traditional teaching and learning approaches

We are currently working to enable a filtering and monitoring system similar to that at school for when devices are used at home to block harmful or inappropriate content. If you notice that your child is accessing something you are uncomfortable with, please reach out to your child's class teacher who can look at how to block this for all users.

Thank you for your continued support with keeping our children safe whilst they are online.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.

WHERE IS IT FOUND?

SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.

STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence.

ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content: usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity, although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.

CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake – but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.

BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in future.

GET SPECIALIST HELP

Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.

STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a Registered Counsellor with The Health Professions Council of South Africa, and she runs a private practice offering counselling to children, teenagers and families. Her main focus is creating awareness and educating the community on the mental health pressures of today's world, as well as resources and techniques to understand and cope better.



Sources: <https://www.education.gov.za/documents/about/programs/bullying/prevention/age-inappropriate-content-factsheet.pdf> | <https://www.education.gov.za/documents/about/programs/bullying/prevention/age-inappropriate-content-factsheet.pdf> | <https://www.revealingreality.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/children-media-lives-year2.pdf>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 01.12.2021

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery	Mayar- for showing our school values of kindness, resilience and understanding when facing tricky situations
Reception	Amari for using your phonics sounds to write words. Jude: For actively engaging in class discussion this week.
Year 1	Kion for his great behaviour and maturity when learning and playing. You are also doing great reading and writing.
Year 2	Isaac, for trying his best and extending his knowledge in English Jack, for continuing to always try his best in everything that he does and his contributions in class
Year 3	Benjamin for always trying hard to complete his work and for giving his full effort in everything he does. Jeremiah for his fantastic reading this week. He has shown great focus, confidence, and enthusiasm in his reading.
Year 4	Anthony - For really engaging in our Science lessons this week. I could tell that you were really interested in the topic Ava - For showing great determination by asking for help and giving 100% effort in every lesson.
Year 5	Gia- For always displaying our school values Tobias- For writing independently
Year 6	Ruby - for the effort she has put into her learning in English this week as well as being confident to recall her learning and share ideas with others. Naya- for her enthusiasm towards reading and being confident to contribute or ask questions during class discussions. Momo and Iayla also received a certificate for always being a positive role model to others, they consistently show initiative and kindness. We have been impressed with their willingness to help, particularly with packing away the hall everyday after assembly without being asked.

GENTLE REMINDERS

A reminder that the gate opens for children and families at 8:30am. This is for families and children to socialise and network as well as giving children plenty of time to be on site in time. The classroom doors and main KS2 door opens at 8:40am and children need to be on site by 8:45am.

Parents on site at the start of the day

Parents are expected to remain on site, with their children, until the classroom doors open. This is for health and safety and safeguarding reasons. If children come to school alone (Years 5 and 6), they are to remain in the Early Years playground to ensure they are in sight of the school staff.

Mobile phones and smart watches

Children who walk to and from school are allowed to bring a mobile phone to school so they are able to inform parents they have arrived safely. However, mobile phones should not be used on site and so children are to take phones and smart watches to the office so they can be kept secure until they can be collected at the end of the day. Having these devices on and accessible during the school day poses a safeguarding risk, which we take very seriously. Please support the school in reminding children to only use their phones once they are off-site. Thank you.

Appropriate clothing for school

We have had a few children coming to school recently in clothing that has not been appropriate for school e.g. costumes, restrictive clothing and loose footwear. We know that being a non-uniform school is a unique feature of Brooklands and we do not wish to prevent children from expressing their individuality. However, please ensure children are dressed in clothing that does not restrict movement and footwear that is secure. We have had a few accidents at playtime recently and this is something we are closely monitoring. We thank you for your support in this matter.

This week at Brooklands...

Nursery	This week Nursery have had a wonderful time reading the traditional tale, The 3 Billy Goats Gruff! We have listened carefully and joined in with the story then we have used stick puppets and large character puppets to re-tell and act out the story with our friends. We especially like being the mean troll! Using this theme we expanded our construction play and thought carefully about bridge building. We used the blocks and small planks to investigate different ways to make bridges. Even though the weather has still been mostly rainy we have managed to get outside and we are becoming proficient in putting on our wellies and waterproofs!
Reception	This week Reception has been engrossed in another exciting week of learning. They have been learning all about dragons and castles, linking to this term's topic of make belief. The children loved building castles, having banquets in our role play area, finding facts and learning some history. They also had lots of fun decorating dragon eggs, which really brought out their awesome imaginations. Our focus book was George and the Dragon by Chris Wormell. The story is about a fearsome dragon who is very scared of mice, especially a small and clumsy mouse called George. When George moves in next door and politely asks for some sugar, he scares the dragon away, saves the princess and earns himself a cosy place in the castle. The story gave the children plenty of opportunity to talk about bravery and fear. They also used their knowledge of adjectives to describe the characters and their features in the book.
Year 1	Year 1 has had a full week of learning and they have worked very hard. In English lessons we have shared the book 'King for a Day' by Thomishia Booker. They have written sentences about what the character in the book would do as king and what they would do if they were a King or Queen for a day. They came up with some wonderful imaginative ideas through roleplay and talking with partners. Our maths learning has focused on placing numbers on a blank number line, using estimation to think about where they should go. We have also compared and ordered numbers, using the language of the smallest and greatest. As Scientists we have continued to classify and identify animal groups, we are getting very good at this now. We were very fortunate to have a kind Brooklands Gran come and talk to us, this week, about her toys from the past and this enabled us to recall and revise our previous learning about old toys. We loved the hands-on exploratory session she did for us. Well done Year 1 for all your hard work this week.
Year 2	This week, our Year 2 pupils have been fully immersed in a wide range of stimulating activities across the curriculum. In English, the children have been busy drafting non-chronological reports focused on the landmarks and culture of London. They have worked hard to refine their writing, successfully incorporating the past tense also using "if" in their writing and the use of "before," "after," and "when" to structure their facts. Maths has been very hands-on this week as the children concluded their unit on Shape; it was wonderful to see them using physical manipulatives to deepen their understanding of 2D and 3D properties. In Science they have been exploring ecosystems, where they successfully constructed their own food chains to demonstrate the flow of energy between living things. In RE, the class explored how significant Christian stories can be beautifully represented through various forms of art. Finally, our journey through History continued as we delved further into the aftermath of the Great Fire of London, discussing how the city changed and recovered following the events of 1666. We are again so proud of Year 2 this week.
Year 3	This week in Year 3, we have been very busy with our learning. In English, we have been writing a biography about Septimius Severus, focusing on using time adverbials, subordinate clauses, and prepositions, as well as identifying key features such as the title, introduction, and past tense. In Maths, we have been learning how to divide by two-digit numbers, and the children have worked really hard and shown great perseverance. In Science, we carried out an exciting investigation into forces by using magnets and paper clips to test how far the magnet could move the clip. In RE, we explored stories from Sikhism and discussed the teachings and messages within them. In PE, we played bench ball, where the children developed important skills such as throwing, teamwork, and communication. In History, we have been learning about Septimius Severus, exploring the timeline of North Britain's (now Scotland's) resistance, learning about Hadrian's Wall, and discovering the role of African Romans at Arbeia Fort, including Emperor Septimius Severus.

This week at Brooklands...in photos!

Year 4	In Science this week, we have been learning about food chains and the different types of teeth, exploring what each type is designed to do. This sparked some fantastic discussions about wildlife, as well as some interesting debate about who or what would be the apex predator within specific habitats. It was lovely to see how engaged the children were with this topic. In English, we are beginning to look at adventure stories. Next week, the children will be writing their own stories about a group of children discovering an island and exploring the land. It will be up to them to decide what dangerous trials and tribulations their characters face along the way. We will be focusing on including speech marks, noun phrases, and prepositions in their writing. It has been a fantastic week in Year 4, and I cannot believe that we are already halfway through this half term!
Year 5	It has been another busy and productive week in Year 5! In Maths, we began learning about division and introduced formal written methods. In English, the children took part in drama activities at the start of the week based on their playscripts, before moving on to writing detailed character descriptions. In Geography, we focused on the human features of Ancient Egypt and learned about some famous landmarks, including the Sphinx and the Great Pyramids. In PE, we continued developing our football skills. This week also saw the Cycle Confidence team working with the children. Everyone who took part is now able to ride a bike, with most pupils practising on the roads outside school and learning how to navigate real-life road situations safely. In Science, we have continued our learning about the human life cycle. We wish all children and their families a restful and enjoyable weekend.
Year 6	This week in Year 6, we have started our new English unit focusing on writing non-chronological reports based on the achievements of the Ancient Greeks. The children have worked extremely hard to construct clear and engaging sentences about key Greek inventions, including the alarm clock, the odometer, and the water mill. In their writing, they focused on using correlative conjunctions, relative clauses and adverbials to add detail and precision. In Maths, we have moved on to our new topic of algebra. The children have shown excellent focus and determination as we began by exploring one-step and two-step function machines. They also thoroughly enjoyed sharing their learning and explaining how we use IXL in class with the founders of the application, who visited us on Thursday morning. In D.T, the children investigated compound pulley systems and designed their own pulley systems that the Ancient Greeks could have used to move heavy stone. This linked well with our History learning, where we focused on the invention of the odometer and explored the impact it had on life in Ancient Greece. Finally, Year 5 and 6 enjoyed an informative visit from a police officer, who spoke to the children about the importance of cyber safety and the steps they can take to keep themselves safe while online. Well done, Year 6, for another fantastic week of learning!



Outdoor Area Community Day



Year 5 Cycle Confident Sessions

Year 5 have taken part in 'Cycle Confident' training this week.

Not only is it a great way to keep fit, cycling is a great way to take care of our environment.

All children who took part made amazing progress, with some even being able to be led by the instructor on local roads.

The children very much enjoyed it and are well and truly on their way to being life-long cyclists.

Amazingly, all children who took part can now ride a bike independently.

We are proud to be able to offer experiences like this to our children here at Brooklands.

For more information, and how to book a course out of school, please visit

<https://www.cycleconfident.com/get-cycling>

**CYCLE
CONFIDENT**



SARAH HANKS & JO LLEWELLYN



YOGA & SOUND BATH

2.00-4.00 pm | Saturday 31 January | Brooklands School Hall

Join us for an afternoon of gentle movement & a restorative sound bath.

Come along and unwind whilst fundraising for Friends of Brooklands.

Everyone welcome inc. beginners.

What to expect:

75 mins of gentle yoga & 45 minutes sound bath.

You will be guided by experienced teachers Sarah Hanks & Jo Llewellyn. An event for adults in the Brooklands community and beyond. Please invite your friends and family along too.



How to book:

Email friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com.
Payment in advance via bank transfer,
bank details will be supplied via email.

The standard ticket price for the event is £40 per person. **In the spirit of inclusivity & accessibility we are offering tickets on an integrity basis, allowing you to select a price between £25-40 according to your financial means.**

What to bring:

It is essential to bring your own yoga mat.

Wear warm layers including a jumper and socks. Bring a blanket, cushion and anything else for warmth and comfort during the sound bath

Please pay what feels right to you. Your honesty helps us continue to make these experiences available to everyone.

MUSICAL FAMILY



BINGO NIGHT

FRIDAY
6TH FEB

6-7PM

Bingo... but with songs instead of numbers! Listen, sing along,
and mark off your card as the music plays



TICKETS
£5 per adult

WIN
PRIZES

Kids go FREE
(must be accompanied
by an adult)

**Pupil Premium families
attend free**
(speak to the school
office to book)

**Tickets available
now on MCAS**

FUN FOR
KIDS &
ADULTS

WELCOMING BACK YOUR FAVOURITE MC
CLIVE GARDEM



REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

There will be a bar selling drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) and crisps.

We want everyone to be able to join in. A limited number of discounted tickets are available for families who may be struggling financially. If this is you, please contact the school office directly: info@brooklands-maritime.org



@brooklands_fob

friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com



Friday 23rd January 2026

(Brooklands School PTA)

Friends of Brooklands

2026 Events Calendar

**We have an exciting year of events planned
to bring our school community together:**

Saturday 31st January 2026

Yoga and Sound Bath
School hall, 2-4pm

*The session will be led by two highly
experienced practitioners who both independently
run their own countryside retreats and practise
from their own London studios.*

**We feel incredibly lucky to have them sharing
their expertise with our community.**

Friday 6th February

Family Bingo Night
School hall 6-7pm

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day Bake Sale
School playground (time TBC)

Friday 24th April

Spring Disco
School Hall (time TBC)

Saturday 4th July

Summer Fair
At the School (time TBC)

All events are opportunities for families to connect,
have fun, and support our school -
we'd love to see you there!

**Please note that all events for children are free for
families receiving Pupil Premium.**

get
YOUR
TICKETS

If you want to send us your views, questions or would like to join the committee,
please drop us an email **friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com** or ask your class rep.

LIVING

STREETS

LET'S
WALK TO
SCHOOL

2025/26

WOW the WALK TO SCHOOL challenge

WALK WITH JOY

livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch

IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH,
PROTECT THE PLANET,
WALK TO SCHOOL WITH WOW

Get involved on social media: #WALKTOSCHOOL

X @LIVINGSTREETS



LIVINGSTREETSUK



LIVINGSTREETS

LivingStreets(ThePedestrians' Association)isaRegisteredCharityNo.1108448(EnglandandWales)andSC039808(Scotland),
Company LimitedbyGuarantee(England&Wales),CompanyRegistrationNo.5368409.



This poster is produced with
vegetable-based inks and
made of material from well-managed
FSC®-certified forests and
from recycled materials.

Apply for Free School Meal eligibility
You'll be helping the school with funding and
may qualify for money for the holidays for
your child too.



What have you got to lose?

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this then the school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. This is in addition to the funding we receive for your child towards meals. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school - which benefits your child's experience of school

Did you know that qualifying parents receive money from Greenwich each school holiday - got to be worth checking if you're eligible too, surely?

To check your eligibility using the checker system linked to local government go to this link:
Entrust
https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/o_fsm/link2ict

How do I check
if my child is
eligible?

Alternatively click on the QR Code
which will take you to the website:



Or provide your NI Number and
your date of birth, along with your
child's details to the admin team
and we'll do it for you!





Greenwich has a critical shortage of foster carers, which is significantly impacting our children's well-being and stability. When local children cannot be placed with Foster Carers near their existing support networks, they face additional emotional challenges. We are reaching out to educational professionals who understand these children's complex needs.

By becoming a foster carer, you can provide a nurturing and safe environment that keeps children connected to their schools, friends, and communities. You can still work and be a foster carer.

Our comprehensive support package includes 24-hour support, excellent training, mentoring, council tax exemption, a generous, competitive financial allowance, support groups, counselling services, the innovative Mockingbird Family Model, The Fostering Network membership, and a calendar of engaging events. Your commitment can change a young person's life trajectory – helping them feel secure, supported, and empowered during critical developmental years.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in speaking with us about starting your fostering journey, please don't hesitate to contact us via:

Email: fostering-recruitment@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Phone: 0800 052 1499





Shop with your favourite brands
and you'll raise donations for
Brooklands Primary School



TESCO

Etsy

 trainline

M&S

MONEYSUPERMARKET

Booking.com

ASDA

 TUI

 JUST EAT

SCREWFIX