



Germander Park, Southwood and Downs Barn Schools' Newsletter December 2023

Primary School League Tables

Reading Progress	4 th — out of 65
Writing Progress	15 th
Maths Progress	7 th
Reading Attainment	30 th
Maths Attainment	22 nd
Combined Attainment	27 th
Combined Attainment - GDS	29 th

Southwood's KS2 data has been published and we are **very** proud of our results comparing to other schools in Milton Keynes — particularly regarding progress from KS1 to KS2. There are 65 schools in Milton Keynes with KS2 data.

A Boulevard Primary Partnership Schools Update:

You may be aware that Sunflower Pre-School (based at Germander Park School) will be closing on Friday 15th December 2024—we wish the staff all the best for their new adventures.

A number of Sunflower Pre-School children will be moving over to our Downs Barn Nursery in January 2024, so it will be lovely to have the new children within our partnership of schools.



Happy
Christmas/
Winter
holidays to all
our parents,
carers,
children
and
staff!



Relationships and Sex Education

We have recently reviewed our RSE Policy in school and will be sending it to all parents and carers with this Newsletter. Please email the school offices if you would like clarification on anything regarding the policy.

School Behaviour

The UK Government has published a document called 'A guide for parents on School Behaviour'

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusions-guide-for-parents/a-guide-for-parents-on-school-behaviour-and-exclusion>. You can read it using the above link.

School behaviour is a real strength at our Boulevard Schools — it is always commented on by visitors to the school and this was recognised by both our recent Ofsted Inspections. Our Behaviour Policy is on the schools' websites.

Children are allowed to wear home clothes and/or Christmas jumpers on the last day of term—for free!



A Few School Reminders:

- Please make sure your children wear school trousers on non-PE days (and correct school uniform every day!)
- Please make sure that at Downs Barn and Germander Park, parents and carers don't leave the school until their children are in their classroom with a school adult.
- Please can we make sure that all children arrive punctually—we have a few children arriving several minutes late and they are missing key learning every day.
- Please remember to monitor children's internet viewing—we've had a few children talking about inappropriate videos recently.

Facebook

We share regular news about upcoming events on our Facebook page. This is the link if you'd like to follow us too:

<https://www.facebook.com/Boulevard-Primary-Partnership-114657664463501>



These rules are only for rental e-scooters used as part of trials.

The rules for private e-scooters have not changed.

It is against the law to use a privately owned e-scooter.

If you use an e-scooter illegally:

- you could face a fine
- you could get penalty points on your licence
- the e-scooter could be impounded

Other safety rules for trial e-scooter users

- **e-scooters should be used by one person at a time.**
- you must not use a mobile phone when using an e-scooter
- always ensure bags or other small items you are carrying will not cause a danger to you or others around you - for example, never hang them from the handlebars

Where you can use a trial e-scooter

- You may use a trial e-scooter on the road (except motorways) and in cycle lanes.
- **You must not use an e-scooter on the pavement.**

Driving licences

- **You must have the category Q entitlement on your driving licence to use an e-scooter. A full or provisional UK licence for categories AM, A or B includes entitlement for category Q. If you have one of these licences, you can use an e-scooter.**
- If you have a provisional licence, you do not need to show L plates when using an e-scooter.
- If you have an overseas driving licence, you can use an e-scooter if you:
- have a valid full licence from an EU or European Economic Area (EEA) country (so long as this does not prohibit you from driving low-speed mopeds and motorcycles)
- have a valid full licence from another country that entitles you to drive a small vehicle (for example, cars, mopeds or motorcycles) and you entered the UK within the last 12 months

'REFLECT' TEXT MESSAGING SERVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Reflect is a BLMK initiative working alongside the charity Shout. It is a free confidential texting service that helps young people connect with a trained volunteer who can help with various issues.

For more information on all local mental health and wellbeing services for children and young people, please visit the [Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub for Milton Keynes](#)



Make Yourself Heard

In danger, need the police, but can't speak?

- 1 Dial 999
- 2 Listen to the questions from the 999 operator
- 3 Respond by coughing or tapping the handset if you can
- 4 If prompted, press **55**
This lets the 999 call operator know it's a genuine emergency and you'll be put through to the police.

Led by IOPC Supported by women's aid NPCC



COMING UP!

Parent/ carer workshops **FREE**

5 Week Course

A virtual course for pre-diagnosed and newly diagnosed families

When: Wednesdays, 11am - 2pm
Dates: 28th Feb, 6th March, 13th March 2024
20th March & 17th March 2024
Venue: TBC (Milton Keynes)

Course topics: Week 1: Diagnosis journey
Week 2: What is Autism?
Week 3: Sensory Needs
Week 4: Communication
Week 5: Behaviour & local support

For families living in Milton Keynes and Bedfordshire

TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT ENQUIRIES:
01234 214871
enquiries@autismbeds.org

Parent/ carer virtual training **FREE**

Autism Workshop

AUTUMN 2023

23/11/23	Autism & Sensory Processing	10am-1pm
28/11/23	Autism & Demand Avoidance	10am-1pm

SPRING 2024

11/1/24	Autism & Behaviour	10am-1pm
16/1/24	Autism & Demand Avoidance	10am-1pm
16/2/24	Autism, Women & Girls	6pm-9pm
27/2/24	Autism & Eating Disorders	10am-1pm
14/3/24	Autism & Mental Health	6pm-9pm

SUMMER 2024

18/4/24	Autism & Sensory Processing	10am-1pm
26/4/24	Autism & Behaviour	6pm-9pm
1/5/24	Autism, Women & Girls	10am-1pm
7/5/24	Autism & Eating Disorders	6pm-9pm
6/6/24	Autism & Mental Health	10am-1pm

For families living in Milton Keynes and Bedfordshire

TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT ENQUIRIES:
01234 214871
enquiries@autismbeds.org



Term Dates 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term 2024

Children Return to School Thursday 5 September
 School Closes for Half Term Thursday 24 October
 Children Return to School Monday 4 November
 School Closes for Christmas Holidays Friday 20 December

Spring Term 2025

Children Return to School Tuesday 7 January
 School Closes for Half Term Friday 14 February
 Children Return to School Monday 24 February
 School Closes for Easter Holidays Friday 4 April

Summer Term 2025

Children Return to School Tuesday 22 April
May Day (School Closed) Monday 5 May
 Children Return to School Tuesday 6 May
 School Closes for Half Term Friday 23 May
 Children Return to School Tuesday 3 June
 School Closes for Summer Holidays Wednesday 23 July

Whole School Attendance to end of November 2023

93.7%	Germander Park
94%	Downs Barn
96%	Southwood

School Attendance

Poor attendance at school has serious implications for children and young people. Lower attendance leads to lower attainment outcomes for pupils at Key Stage 2.

Data from the 2022-2023 academic year for the end of Key Stage 2 shows that **71% of pupils who had 99% attendance or above achieved expected standard in reading, writing and maths, compared to only 50% of pupils with 90% attendance.** This drops to only 42% of children achieving the expected standards with 85% attendance, and the pattern continues; as attendance drops, so does attainment.