# On behalf of all Brindishe Schools, have a lovely summer when it comes!



# Brindishe Federation Newsletter Friday 18th July 2025



**Holiday Vouchers and Programme** 

London Borough of Lewisham will once again this summer use an allocation of the 'Household Support Fund' to support families with FSM eligible children by providing vouchers for the summer holiday, 2025. The available funding means Lewisham can assist these families at a rate of £90 per eligible child for this holiday. You will receive your vouchers by *Friday 18th July*.

Lewisham will also run its Holiday Programme this summer. They are really pleased to continue supporting the delivery of this programme, with many providers offering various fun-packed sessions, including arts, crafts, sports and trips that will run throughout the School Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays.

#### There will be free activities and lunches for children and young people who are:

- aged 4 to 16 years (reception to year 11)
- in receipt of benefit-related Free School Meals

#### Each club will provide:

- a wide range of exciting activities to suit different ages and personalities
- fun physical activity sessions
- free, nutritious, and tasty food

#### How to book activities

Families who receive benefit related free school meals will receive a **HAF (Holiday Activities and Food)** Code via email or text message. This code lets you access a webpage with details of all activities and book your child's space. Make sure you follow the link and instructions in the message. Each code is unique to each family. Families with more than one child will get a code for each child. If you haven't received a HAF code and your child receives, benefit related free school meals, or if you require any support with bookings, contact **HAF Programme** - https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/young-people/holiday-programme-food-and-fun.

## Online Safety Bulletin - Artificial Intelligence (AI)

#### What is AI?

Al is when a computer/machine can learn and perform tasks like a human. Its popularity continues to increase, and examples include:

- Virtual assistants like Alexa and Siri.
- Chatbots such as ChatGPT and My AI from Snapchat

#### **Potential Risks of AI?**

- Chat apps A simple search of "Al Chat" within the App store highlights the number of apps already available and just scrolling through, you can see that they are not suitable for children with many rated as 17+.
- Image manipulation there are AI tools that can be used to digitally remove clothes from photos, which clearly raises serious safeguarding and privacy concerns.
- Deepfakes there are also Al tools that create realistic, fake videos which can be used to spread misinformation or cause harm.

For further information, the NSPCC and Internet Matters provide useful guides on their websites:

- https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2025/artificial-intelligence-safety-tips-for-parents
- https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/parent-guide-to-artificial-intelligence-ai-tools/

# Advice and support for Lewisham parents whose children are starting secondary school in September 2026

Lewisham is holding its annual transfer to secondary school event and they are asking schools to encourage parents to attend. It is an informal event for parents to ask questions about the admissions process and to meet staff, parents and students from our secondary schools.

Parents can book a place at one of the school talks, to understand the application process. This will help you to be aware of the timetable and closing date for submitting your application. Each session will start with a short presentation about the process, and a Q&A with our Admissions team.

The school talks will commence at:

1) 5pm - 5.45pm

2) 6pm - 6.45pm

3) 7pm - 7.45pm

Below is the link to the Eventbrite page to book tickets for the event: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/starting-secondary-school-in-2026-tickets-1412472105089?aff=oddtdtcreator">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/starting-secondary-school-in-2026-tickets-1412472105089?aff=oddtdtcreator</a>

After each school talk, parents will have the opportunity to meet a representative from each Lewisham secondary school and also members of the SEN and Free School Meals Teams to find out more about them and ask questions. The school uniform shops will also be in attendance.

#### About this event

\*\*PLEASE NOT BOOK ALL THREE SESSIONS - THESE ARE REPEAT SESSIONS & PARENTS ONLY NEED TO BOOK ONTO ONE TIME SLOT\*\*

This is an informal event for parents who are just about to start the application process for their Year 6 child to start secondary school. Parents are asked to leave their children at home for this event if they are able to do so, as spaces are limited and we want to let as many parents as possible have the opportunity to attend.



### **Summer Reading 2025**

The summer holidays are nearly upon us! Here is some information about summer reading opportunities. Summer is a great time for children to relax and read for pleasure. For those still learning to read, it can create a significant lag if children do not continue to practice their reading skills. Here are some ideas for how you can keep up the reading over the summer.

#### **Summer Reading Challenge**

This challenge is run nationwide at public libraries. To join, please visit the local library and they will set you up. If you are not a member of the library, it is never too late to join! To join the library, here is a link you can use to find out more: <u>Lewisham Council - Join the library</u>

#### **Reading Rocks**

This is an organisation who are on a mission to make reading rock for every child and they have set up a 'Summer Book Boost'. If you sign up you will receive six emails across the summer that include a short author video, an extract from a book and some ideas for activities to do at home. If you would like to sign up for this, the link is here: <a href="https://wherereadingrocks.com/lp/summer-book-boost/">https://wherereadingrocks.com/lp/summer-book-boost/</a> This is suitable for pupils aged 7-11.

#### **Bug Club**

For children reading our Bug Club phonic books, we don't send books home over the summer but you will still have access to the e-books on Bug Club. If you need your log in, please ask your child's class teacher. Summer is also a good chance to share lots of picture books or short chapter books with you child and get them excited about reading.

Have a great summer everyone. Happy reading!

# Weekend Activities at Lewisham Leisure Centres- 19th/20th July

Over the weekend of the 19th and 20th July the leisure centres across the London Borough of Lewisham will be running a range of activities over the course of this weekend.

They have a variety of activities on offer across the borough so whether this is your first time or you are a regular visitor they will have something for you and your family.

- Highlights include
- Taster swimming lessons
- Kids Swim for £1
- Athletics tasters

To find out more visit <a href="https://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/london/lewisham/news/national-summer-open-weekend-19th-20th-july">https://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/london/lewisham/news/national-summer-open-weekend-19th-20th-july</a>

## **Brindishe Schools Governing Body**

Governing Body meetings are regular and meet every half term. Parents/carers are more than welcome to attend our meetings as 'observers'. This means you can sit and observe the meeting but will be unable to speak/comment and would need to leave the meeting during confidential items.

If you would like to know more about the governing body or you would like to attend one of our meetings, please email Rachel Waite - <a href="mailto:rawaite@brindisheschools.org">rawaite@brindisheschools.org</a>. An email to confirm attendance at the meeting will need to be received before a parent/carer can join the meeting.

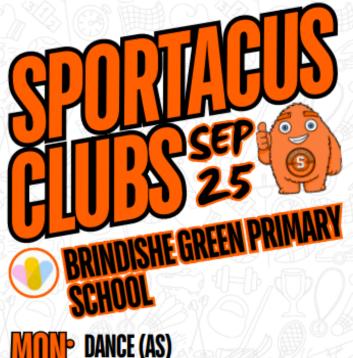
Our first meeting for 2025/2026 will be held on Thursday 16th October 2025 at Brindishe Green School - 6pm.

## **Key Federation Dates**

- End of 2024/2025 Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025
- Children return to school Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September
- October Half Term Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025







DANCE (AS)

GYMNASTICS (AS)

ARCHERY (AS) Football (AS)

DODGEBALL (AS)

KARATE (AS)

ONLINE BOOKING & ADMINISTRATION FEE.

CLUBS START W/C: 8™ SEP 25. CLUBS END W/C: 15™ DEC 25.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS £7 PER SESSION

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS: 3:15-4:15













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