



Medical & SEN Newsletter

02/10/26 Autumn Issue 1

#shineatpriorweston

Virtual tour @ <https://bit.ly/32RoLWi>

#unitedagainstbullying

We aim high * We are resilient * We are curious learners * We value diversity * We are respectful

Dear Prior Weston and Golden Lane families,

Many of you may have heard about Benedict's Law in the news recently.

Benedict's Law sets out what schools need to put in place to support children (and adults) with allergies. We already have many of the recommendations in place but we have reviewed all of our practices and now have an Allergy Policy which is available, in draft form, on our website.

If your child has an allergy and you have not yet met with me, please make an appointment via the main office.

Just a reminder that no nuts or products containing nuts should be brought into the school or children's centre and there are no cakes etc to be brought in for birthdays. This is to ensure that all children are safe in school.

If you have any questions, regarding allergies or medical needs please do get in touch.

As we move into the winter months, we know that coughs, colds and seasonal illnesses become more common. We want to thank families for supporting both the health of our school community and the excellent attendance of our children. Regular school attendance is one of the most important factors in a child's success. Every day in school provides valuable learning opportunities, friendships and routines that support wellbeing. While we understand that children will sometimes be too unwell to attend, many minor illnesses such as mild coughs, colds, sniffles or sore throats do not usually require children to stay at home if they are otherwise well enough to take part in their learning.

If your child missed the Flu Vaccine visit last month, then the team are visiting again on 3rd November.

Best Wishes
Simone
Head Of Inclusion



UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

Dates for your Diary

October 2026	
Tuesday 6th October	Year 6 Secondary transition workshop for families— 9.30am
Friday 9th October	Macmillan coffee morning - donations welcome please
Thursday 22nd October	International Food evening
Monday 26th October-Friday 30th October	Half Term break—Primary school children and Term time only children in Children's centre
November 2026	
Tuesday 3rd November	Flu Vaccinations catch up session
Wednesday 4th November	Individual and sibling photo day—Tempest photography
Thursday 12th November	Parent's Evening
December 2026	
Monday 7th December	Music Masters Winter Concert
Friday 11th December	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 16th December	Class Parties & Festive performance at 2pm
Thursday 17th December	Festive performance at 9:30am
Friday 18th December	End of Term– Primary school children and Term time only children in Children's centre- 2pm finish
January 2027	
Monday 4th January	INSET day CC and Primary school closed

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/schools/term-and-holiday-dates>

All Aboard! Our Spectacular London Transport Adventure



Yesterday, some of our ARP pupils became intrepid city travellers as they embarked on an action-packed journey across the capital!

It was a fantastic, highly successful day out, and the children absolutely loved it. Our young explorers experienced London from every angle, hopping onto a bus, cruising on a boat, gliding high in the sky on the cable cars, riding the DLR, and navigating the Underground.

Alongside all the transit hops, the pupils did an impressive amount of walking. They brilliantly put their safe travels skills into practice, demonstrating excellent road safety and looking out for one another in the busy city.

We had a great day!!





Healthy school reminder



As we settle into the new school year, I would like to remind families of a few important expectations that help us maintain a safe, healthy and inclusive environment for all.

As a Healthy School, and because some of our children have significant allergies and food intolerances, we ask that **birthday cakes, sweets, party bags and other treats are not brought into school or Children's Centre**. We also ask that **parents do not give children snacks or sweets inside the school building or at drop off and collection points**. We know these gestures are made with the very best intentions, but we want to ensure that all children are safe and included. We are also mindful that party bags and birthday treats can create unnecessary expense and expectations for families, and we do not want anyone to feel under pressure to provide gifts or treats for classmates.

A reminder that **school meals are free for every child**. However, if your child brings a packed lunch, please ensure it is a healthy one and does not contain crisps, sugary drinks, chocolate or sweets. For allergy and safeguarding reasons, **children must not share food with one another**.



Chickenpox

Chickenpox is a mild and common childhood illness that most children catch at some point.

It causes a rash of red, itchy spots that turn into

fluid-filled blisters. They then crust over to form scabs, which eventually drop off. To prevent spreading the infection, keep children off nursery or school until all the spots have crusted over. For most children, chickenpox is a mild illness that gets better on its own. But some children can become more seriously ill and need to see a doctor. Contact your GP straight away if your child develops any abnormal symptoms, for example:

- ◆ if the blisters on their skin become infected
- ◆ if your child has a pain in their chest or has difficulty breathing

Children who have had chickenpox recently are more likely to develop more serious infection during an outbreak of scarlet fever and so parents should remain vigilant for symptoms such as a persistent high fever, cellulitis (skin infection) and joint pain (varicella arthritis). If you are concerned for any reason, please seek medical assistance immediately. If your child has an underlying condition which affects their immune system, you should contact your GP or hospital doctor to discuss whether any additional measures are needed. You can find more information on chickenpox and scarlet fever on NHS choices: www.nhs.uk

Little Noses, Big Protection!

FREE Flu Vaccination at School

Vaccinated at school, protected for winter - an easy and convenient way for your child to receive their free flu vaccine during the school day.



This autumn, your child will be offered a FREE NHS flu vaccination at school. The flu vaccine helps protect your child from getting seriously unwell and helps stop flu spreading to family and friends.

- ✓ FREE at school
- ✓ All eligible year groups invited
- ✓ Parents/carers will receive an email asking for consent

Most children receive a quick nasal spray vaccine.

A gelatine-free injectable vaccine is also available for children who cannot have the nasal spray or where parents choose this option.

Please complete your consent form as soon as you receive it.



For more information about vaccines:
www.schoolvaccination.uk

Part of the NHS School Aged Immunisation Service



Flu Vaccination catch up session is on Tuesday 3rd November.

Picture - Powered Talking

Free parent training

Prior Weston Primary School
101 Whitecross Street, London EC1Y 8JA

Session 1: Supporting early communication and play skills

Friday 2 October
9:30 to 11:30am

Session 2: Supporting communication through visuals

Friday 9 October
9:30 to 11:30am

Session 3: Supporting communication and choice making through visuals

Friday 16 October
9:30 to 11:30am



**Parents are recommended
to attend all sessions**

Scan the QR code to book your place

Any questions?

Phone the team on 0203 316 1748



Social Communication team Newsletter

There are lots of changes as we move from Summer to Autumn. For children who prefer predictability and sameness, any changes to the environment and their routine can be highly distressing. Your child may be starting a new nursery or school or settling back to nursery/ school after a long break. Setting up a new routine can be difficult but there are things you can do to help your child understand and prepare for these changes.

Seasonal wardrobe changes

As the weather cools, we naturally switch to warmer clothes. But for some children, these changes can be uncomfortable or upsetting. If your child is starting school, a new uniform may also take some getting used to. Tips to help: Offer choices: Let your child pick between clothes to help them feel more in control. Notice preferences: Do they prefer soft, stretchy, loose, or tight clothing? Make small changes: Offer clothes made of their preferred fabrics and try cutting labels out. Go slow: Let them wear new clothes for short periods to build comfort. For more advice, check out our [sensory needs](#) page or drop into our SCT Therapy and Play sessions.

Connecting with others through parent groups

Your child does not need a diagnosis for you to attend parent groups. See "[SENDIAS](#)" or '[Centre 404](#)' information on or go to [Islington parent/ carer waiting corner](#).

Helping your child settle into a new routine

It may take time for your child to adjust to new people, routines and places, even if they are returning to the same school or nursery setting. Take one step at a time. We have some information on the [Social Communication Team website](#) which can help your child understand and prepare for new situations. For back to school resources for parents and teachers can be found on the [National Autistic society](#)

Advice and support for parents and carers

SENDIAS

SENDIAS provide SEND advice for parents and carers. This can include help with applications and support during meetings. SENDIAS also run coffee mornings and themed workshops for parents/ carers to connect and receive practical advice: Click [here](#)

Support for parents and carers of children known to the SCT

SCT Community Coffee Club Join our informal drop-in coffee club to meet other parents, share experiences and find out more about assessment, support and local services. [Click here](#)

Developing Skills sessions: Sign up for our interactive parent groups on topics including communication, play, sensory needs, behaviour, sleep, eating and toileting. Ask questions, gain advice from the SCT, and connect with other parents. Available online and in person. [Click here](#)

Growing Together

Growing together offer support around mental health and wellbeing for families with children aged 0-5years in Islington [Click here](#)

Look out for free workshops which can be booked via Eventbrite by [clicking here](#)

Websites about autism:

- ♦ Ambitious about autism: [click here](#)
- ♦ •National Autistic Society: [click here](#)
- ♦ • Autistic Girls Network: [click here](#)

Bright Start family support

The service is for all parents-to-be and parents and carers of children under 5 years in Islington. They can support you with any question by providing advice and/or signposting to other services. [Click here](#)



**BEST START
FAMILY HUB**

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

A FREE Parenting Programme

The City of London Best Start Family Hub is offering a parenting programme for parents/carers with children (3–18 years old) in the community.



**BUILDING
STRONGER
FAMILIES
TOGETHER**



WHAT IS SFSC?

Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities (SFSC) is a universal programme that will provide you with skills and techniques to help with parenting challenges.

You will have the opportunity to meet other parents in the community, share experiences and enhance your parenting skills.



ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

- ✓ 13 weekly sessions
- ✓ Practical strategies for everyday parenting
- ✓ Supportive group environment
- ✓ Skills you can use straight away
- ✓ No fee for attendance



REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Refreshments will be provided at every session.



WHERE?

Artizan Street Library
1 Artizan Street
London, E1 7AF

A welcoming space in the heart of the community, easy to reach by public transport.



WHAT PARENTS HAVE SAID:

“

I have really enjoyed it. I have learnt quite a lot. I'm bringing my grandchildren up now and there is a lot of difference from bringing my own up, but it just goes to show you're never too old to learn anything new.



“

I feel calmer about dealing with my son on a day-to-day basis. I don't get agitated as quickly.



“

There is a lot less conflict with my child now. We have a much closer relationship.



PROGRAMME DATES

WEDNESDAYS, 10:00AM – 1:00PM

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1 | 9 September 2026 |
| 2 | 16 September 2026 |
| 3 | 23 September 2026 |
| 4 | 30 September 2026 |
| 5 | 7 October 2026 |
| 6 | 14 October 2026 |
| 7 | 21 October 2026 |



HALF-TERM BREAK: 26 OCTOBER – 30 OCTOBER 2026

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 8 | 4 November 2026 |
| 9 | 11 November 2026 |
| 10 | 18 November 2026 |
| 11 | 25 November 2026 |
| 12 | 2 December 2026 |
| 13 | 9 December 2026 |



A 13-week journey to build confidence, strength and positive family relationships.

SCAN TO REGISTER

It's quick and easy!



Scan the QR code to register your interest in the SFSC programme.



TO FIND OUT MORE OR TO SIGN UP, PLEASE CONTACT:

City of London Best Start Family Hub

BestStartFamilyHub@cityoflondon.gov.uk
0203 838 1420



We look forward to welcoming you!



SUPPORTING PARENTS • BUILDING CONFIDENCE • STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES





Social Communication Team Community Coffee Club

Is your child being referred for an autism assessment, currently on the waiting list, or recently diagnosed?

Join our friendly **Parent Coffee Club**, co-hosted by the **Area SENCo Team**, to connect with other families and learn more about the **Social Communication Team (SCT)**. Find out about:

- The SCT assessment process
- Support and resources available for your child and family
- Advice, guidance and signposting to local services
- Opportunities to meet and chat with other parents and carers

Jean Stokes Community Centre	Monday 21 st September	
South Locality	10-11.30am	
Vibast Community Centre		Friday 13 th November
South Locality		10-11.30am
Hornsey Road Children Centre	Monday 5 th October	Monday 30 th November
North Locality	1.30-3pm	1.30-3pm
The Factory Children Centre	Friday 2 nd October	Friday 20 th November
Central Locality	10-11.30am	10-11.30am

Parents and carers only, but children are welcome if childcare is unavailable

Drop in
Refreshments Included





ISLINGTON

For a more equal future



SEND Local Offer

Information, advice and services for Islington children and young people aged 0-25 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).



What is the Local Offer?

Since September 2014 every Local Authority has been required to publish information about services they expect to be available in their area for children and young people from birth to 25 who have SEND and also services outside of the area which they expect children and young people from their area will use. This is known as the 'Local Offer.'

The Local Offer puts all the information about education, health and care services, leisure activities and support groups in one place. It has two main purposes:

- To provide clear, comprehensive and accessible information about the support and opportunities that are available; and
- To make provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations.

The Government says the Local Offer must be developed and reviewed in partnership with children and young people, parents, and local services, including schools, colleges, health and social care agencies.

In Islington, we have worked with parent representatives from local parent forums, the SENCo Network, other service providers and children and young people to plan exactly what should be included in our Local Offer and the best way to present information.

Local Offer Tag

• **LOCAL OFFER**

You will come across the Local Offer tag within your searches, this symbol means the service provider has supplied Local Offer information about how they will support your child.

If you would like to search only for services which have provided Local Offer information use the filter 'Service has Local Offer - Yes'.



Safeguarding at Our School



At our school, the safety, wellbeing and happiness of every child is our highest priority. We are committed to creating a safe, nurturing environment where children feel valued, supported and able to thrive.

Our Safeguarding Team is responsible for ensuring that all children are protected and that any concerns about a child's welfare are dealt with quickly and appropriately.

We work closely with families and other

professionals to make sure children receive the support they need.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Fiona, our Headteacher.

As DSL, Fiona has overall responsibility for

safeguarding and child protection within the school. Fiona leads our safeguarding procedures, supports staff, and works with external agencies when necessary to help keep children safe.

If you have any concerns about a child's wellbeing or safety, or if there is anything you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to speak to Fiona or a member of the safeguarding team. We are here to listen, support and work together with

families to ensure the best outcomes for all children.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and by working together we can help every child feel safe, secure and ready to learn.

