

Message from Mr Mills

Another half term comes to a close and we are now at the mid point of the year ; Where does the time go?

Today we have said thank you and good bye to Dr Clarke, who has been supporting school in Mr Day's absence, as she returns full time to Hill West.

To ensure continuity and ongoing support for our school community, Mrs. Maskell (Strategic Lead) and Mrs. Brookes (Headteacher within ATLP) will continue to oversee the running of Brookvale with myself, Mr Mills. This leadership will provide stability and ensure that our school remains a positive and nurturing environment for all our pupils.

Following the wonderful experience of performing at BP Pulse LIVE (Resorts World) it was a pleasure to invite the parents of the Young Voices choir to watch them perform at the achievement assembly on Friday afternoon. WOW what a performance, we really do have some talented children with our school.

Wishing you all a peaceful half term next week and we look forward to welcoming all our children back on Monday 24th February.

Thank you for your continued support, Mr Mills and the Brookvale Team.



Weekly Attendance



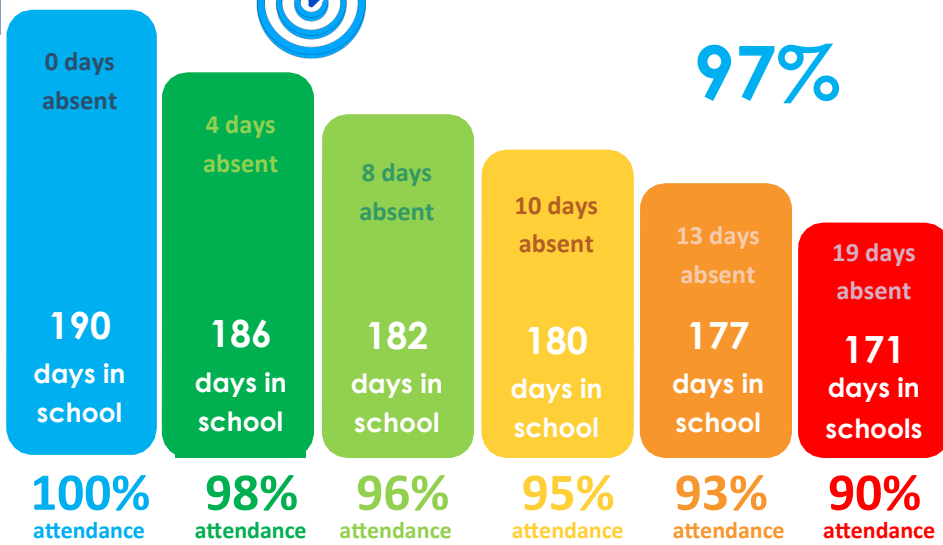
10/02/2025 to 14/02/2025

Reception	89.42%
Year 1	95.04%
Year 2	84.78%
Year 3	95.94%
Year 4	99.26%
Year 5	98.52%
Year 6	94.64%



Our School Attendance Target is

97%

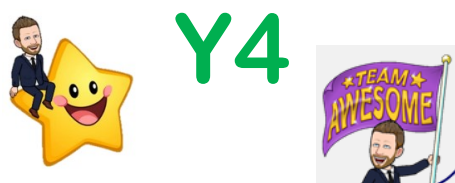


Best chance of academic success and in later life.

Poor attendance—less likely to succeed academically/in later life.

Serious impact on education and reduced life chances

This week's Class Attendance Superstars



Y4

You get extra playtime!

This week's 100% attendance Winners:



Ehaan

Y1

&

Tyler Jay

Y4

You each win a new book.

Great Job!

Attendance This Week

94.66%



Attendance Year-to-Date



95.61%

175 days off school per year.

Use this time for holidays, appointments etc

We are caring citizens, shaping our communities.

We are ambitious for our success and the success of others.

Shaping Our Children's Futures, Together.

We are passionate about everything and everyone.

We are the authors of our own lives.

Parental Safeguarding

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS & DATING APPS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Dating apps are used to help people find new relationships – whether casual or more long term – matching users based on age, interests, gender and more. Some may consider dating apps harmless to under-18s because they aren't able to use them, but effective age verification measures are quite scarce, and it's been known for young people to end up on apps of this type.

EASE OF ACCESS

The relatively lax age verification process of many dating apps makes them incredibly accessible to children who really shouldn't be using them. This carries the obvious risk of exposing under-18s to a dating scene populated by adults – who may not even be aware of the young person's true age. This is concerning when we consider the 'hook-up culture' common on these apps – with many people using them to arrange casual sexual encounters.

CONTACT AND CONDUCT RISKS

Once someone is active on a dating app, their social media profiles can be linked to the app and might be accessed by others. This can lead to random users 'sliding into their DM's' (sending a direct message) without consent. Complete strangers could start bombarding a young person's inbox with pictures, messages and sexual comments.

SCAMS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Some young people may feel they've formed a real bond with someone through online dating, but there's always a risk that it's not genuine. Scammers on these apps often build romantic connections with their victims – then once they feel they have their victim's trust, they begin asking for money under false pretences (such as suggesting they meet in person and requesting a 'loan' to cover a train ticket).

UNVERIFIED ACCOUNTS

As with all online interactions, you may not be talking to whom you think you are. Without paying a subscription, users of dating apps can often only view a certain number of profiles at a time. A TikTok trend has advised young people to set their age limit to 80 years and over – putting them in a sparse and more 'exclusive' category to bypass the usual restrictions. Unfortunately, this can lead to matches with someone much older.

PEER PRESSURE

The pressure to be in a relationship can be huge, and many young people use online dating apps as a cost-effective way to meet others. Some users find it difficult to meet people organically due to their lifestyle, and may not have the time or money to go out and socialise. It's also common for young people to set up accounts for their single friends in the hope of finding a match for someone they know.

SKEWED PERSPECTIVES

Dating apps can promote an unrealistic view of what makes someone attractive. With such vast options, some users can become both picky and extremely harsh about others' appearance. Ultimately, all you see on these apps are pictures (with no insight into someone's personality), and some young people struggle with the fear of being judged. Even when someone does start dating, there's a persistent paranoia that their partner is only one swipe away from a potentially better match.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK ABOUT DATING APPS

Let young people know that they can talk to you about anything, even something as private as their dating life. At school, the relationships, sex and health curriculum can assist with conversations around healthy relationships, consent and online safety. Emphasise the message that you want to help them make healthy, safe and informed choices. If they feel embarrassed talking to you, make sure they have a trusted adult who can help them.

ENCOURAGE DATA PROTECTION

Empower young people to protect their data and personal information. Explain why including things like their school, age and surname in their profile could potentially be dangerous. Make sure they know never to give out personal details, and that there's no reason for other users to ask for them. If they feel uneasy about a situation online, they need to speak to someone that they can trust.

VERIFICATION STAMPS

Explain that someone using a dating app should only communicate with those who have gone through a verification process. Online dating apps use a variety of methods to ascertain a user's identity, including scanning valid documents (such as a driver's licence or passport). Verification can also involve users taking a selfie to ensure that the photos on their profile match it.

REPORT AND BLOCK

Remind young people that they can always report or block (or both) anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable on any platform. Ask if they know how to do this and offer to help them figure it out if they're unsure. Every app should have advice on how to report or block another user, so be sure young people are familiar with the settings.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings works at RAISE (www.raiseducation.org.uk) in the field of relationships, sex and health education, providing educational, age-appropriate workshops for pupils around the more sensitive areas of the curriculum – including online safety and healthy relationships.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/online-relationships-dating-apps>

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THURSDAY 6th MARCH

HAPPY WORLD BOOK DAY



**Come to School dressed in
Pj's or Onesie for a day of fun**

Eid Celebration

Family Lunch

Wednesday 2nd April

Tasty Mains

Chicken Balti

Or

Chickpea and Potato Curry

Both served with Rice and Chapatti's

Veggie Sides

Sweetcorn/peas

Mixed salad

Dessert

Mango Smoothie

Book your place
on MCAS

Easter Lunch

MENU

Main Meal

Roast Chicken

or

Vegetarian Sausage

On the side

New Potatoes

Seasonal Vegetables

Dessert

Fruity Shortbread

Tuesday 8th April for Cadbury & Phelps

Wednesday 9th April for Zephaniah & Lewis

1 Adult per family

£3.50 (for the adult) via MCAS

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE NOT CATERED FOR

Dates for your Diary

Monday 17th— Friday 21st February	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR HALF TERM
Monday 24th February	Back to School
Tuesday 25th February	Y2 and Y5 Open morning—Parents are invited to attend at 9am only The session will end at 10.50am
Friday 28th February	Y4 Class Assembly 9am—families are welcome to attend
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day—Come to school in your pj's or onesie for a day of fun activities and reading
Friday 7th March	Y3 Class Assembly 9am—families are welcome to attend
Thursday 20th March	SEND Coffee morning with Marie Smith 9—10am Brookvale Got Talent Show—more details to follow
Friday 21st March	Red Nose Day—Wear red to school raising money for Comic Relief
Tuesday 25th March	Y1 and Y3 Open morning—Parents are invited to attend at 9am only The session will end at 10.50am
Wednesday 26th March	Y2 Sea-life trip
Wednesday 2nd April	Y2 Class Assembly 9am—families are welcome to attend Eid Lunch 1 adult per family invited to attend at 11.30 - Book your place on MCAS
Wednesday 2nd - Thursday 3rd April	Parent Consultation Appointments—Look out for the announcements of when this is available to book via MCAS
Tuesday 8th April	Y6 Open morning—Parents are invited to attend at 9am only The session will end at 10.50am Easter Lunch for Phelps and Cadbury at 11.30am
Wednesday 9th April	Easter Lunch for Zephaniah and Lewis at 11.30am
Thursday 10th April	Y3 Egyptian Class Trip
Friday 11th April	Awards and 100% Attendance Assembly
	Break up for Easter Holidays
Monday 14th April - Friday 25th April	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Monday 28th April	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TEACHER TRAINING DAY
Tuesday 29th April	All children back to school
Wednesday 30th April	Y6 Open morning—Parents are invited to attend at 9am only The session will end at 10.50am
Thursday 1st May	PROPOSED —Closed for voting except for Y6 and Staff who attend school as normal
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday Monday—School CLOSED