



North Crescent Primary School

Guiding Explorers of the Future

We would like to say a **HUGE** congratulations to Year 6 on working so hard during their SATs tests this week. Your positivity, determination and resilience has shone through and we are all very proud of you! Well done to parents and carers for supporting and reassuring your children too! Our whole staff team have shown care, encouragement and support - not only during this week, but throughout your child's journey through the school. Together we should be incredibly proud of the children and all they have achieved.

Diary Dates

Monday 18th May -

Coffee Morning for new starter parents - 9:30am

Thursday 21st May -

Year 1 Sharing assembly - 2:45pm

Thursday 21st May -

Census day

Friday 22nd May -

NCP 50th birthday celebration
Please RSVP using the link below so that we are aware of collection arrangements for your child:

<https://forms.gle/rhepLQcy8D7qdXAf9>

Friday 22nd May -

Last day of Summer half term

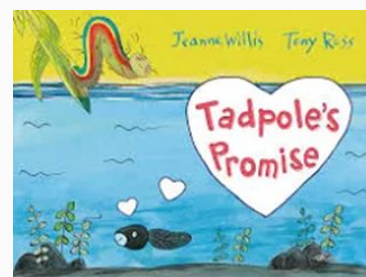
Home School Communication Policy

We have a new Home-School Communications Policy which provides guidance around appropriate channels and response times for communication with school staff. We really value positive partnerships with families, and appreciate your support in helping us maintain respectful and effective communication for everyone in our school community. You can find a copy of this policy on our school website.

Tadpole's promise written by Jeanne Willis and illustrated by Tony Ross.

Tadpole's Promise is a charming picture book that explores friendship, change and the natural world. It tells the story of a tadpole and a caterpillar who promise never to change, but life has other plans. As the seasons pass, both grow and transform, gently showing young readers that change is a natural part of growing up. The book is warm, thought-provoking and beautifully bittersweet.

Book of the Week



Tadpole's Promise

Huge congratulations to the following children who have been chosen as the Lead Learners.

Explorers	Kamran	Pathfinders 2	Sebastian
Pathfinders 1	Alice	Adventurers 4	Nathaniel & Kian
Adventurers 3	Victoria	Navigators 6	Whole class
Navigators 5	Demarni		

Each week we celebrate the class that have shown respect for their classroom. The children really love our gold, diamante dustpan and brush award! Why don't you ask them about it?

We are so excited to host our 50th year anniversary of North Crescent Primary School on the field on Friday 22nd May! There will have games to enjoy as well as yummy ice cream! We can't wait to celebrate this special occasion with everyone. Additionally, we will be completing activities on the last week to commemorate this celebration, so please make sure you keep an eye out on our social media platforms.!

Instagram: @northcrescentprimary
FB: North Crescent Primary School
Twitter/X: <https://x.com/NorthCrescentP>



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE GROOMING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online grooming is when someone builds a relationship with a child or young person online to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, or criminal activity – such as county lines or financial scams. According to the NSPCC, police in the UK recorded over 7,000 offences involving sexual communication with a child in a single year – an increase of 89% since 2017/18.

STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.



See full reference list on our website

HOLIDAY FUN SESSIONS

MAY



WEDNESDAY 27th - EVERSLEY

10AM-12PM - £15
1PM-3:45PM - £20
10AM-3:45PM - £30

FRIDAY 29th - EVERSLEY

10AM-12PM - £15
1PM-3:45PM - £20
10AM-3:45PM - £30

**OPEN TO AGES 4+ WHO ARE IN FULL-TIME
SCHOOL!**

To book your
child's space,
please scan the
QR code



Or call
01268 722479
01268 557771

MAY HALF TERM SPORTS



SPORTS CAMPS



TUESDAY 26TH - FRIDAY 29TH MAY 2026

🕒 9:00AM-3:00PM | £20 PER DAY | EARLY DROP-OFF AVAILABLE 8:00AM FOR £5 EXTRA

WICKFORD

JOAS Bouncy Bonanza | Tue 26th
Battle Ball Day | Wed 27th
Multi-Sports & STEM Day | Thur 28th
Nerf & Water Battles | Fri 29th

North Crescent Primary School, SS12 9AP

RAYLEIGH

Multi-Sports & STEM Day | Tue 26th
Battle Ball Day | Wed 27th
JOAS Bouncy Bonanza | Thur 28th
Nerf & Water Battles | Fri 29th

Grove Wood Primary School, SS6 8UA

CHELMSFORD

JOAS Bouncy Bonanza | Tue 26th
Battle Ball Day | Wed 27th
Multi-Sports & STEM Day | Thur 28th
Nerf & Water Battles | Fri 29th

Baddow Hall Junior School, CM2 7QZ

BRENTWOOD

Multi-Sports & STEM Day | Tue 26th
JOAS Bouncy Bonanza | Wed 27th
Battle Ball Day | Thur 28th
Nerf & Water Battles | Fri 29th

Bentley St Paul's Primary School, CM15 9SE

Battle Ball Day

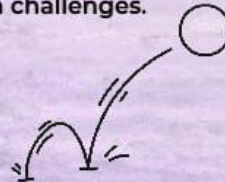
- Fast-paced team games such as bench ball & dodgeball focusing on teamwork, movement, and fun competition.

Multi-Sports & STEM Day

Children can experience a mix of different sports and fun STEM activities, combining physical challenges with creative problem-solving and teamwork.

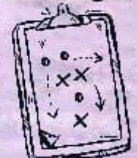
JOAS Bouncy Bonanza

- Enjoy a high-energy day with inflatables, archery, soft axe throwing, and a range of exciting team challenges.



Nerf & Water Battles

- Take part in exciting Nerf battles and fun water games, using teamwork, strategy complete
- different missions and challenges.



✉ jackofallsports@btinternet.com • 07919 888093 •  

SCAN ME





Summer Term The Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows

Are you a parent or carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25? Do you want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows.

You can chat with teams from Education, Health and Social Care, as well as local support groups and activity providers.



The marketplace is free and there is no need to book. Children are welcome!



Drop in between 9:30am and 12:30pm



This term we are in Manningtree, Great Dunmow, Silver End, Rayleigh



Scan the QR Code for all the information, including dates and venues or visit the Essex Local Offer at:

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>

In Partnership with

