



THE GRANGE  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
& NURSERY

LYDIATE  
LEARNING TRUST

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# The Grange Primary School and Nursery NEWSLETTER

[www.thegrangeprimaryandnursery.com](http://www.thegrangeprimaryandnursery.com)

No. 4 Autumn Term 2025

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## Clubs Next Week

Monday - Playcourt Football - Yrs. 3, 4, 5, 6 - on the playcourt

Monday - Choir - Yrs. 3 - 6 - Hall

Monday - Storytime - Yrs. 2 - 3

Monday - Tabletop Games and Lego Yrs. 2 - 3

Tuesday - Playtime Pals - Yr. 6

Thursday - Hammer Beads - Yrs. 4 - 5

Thursday - Playdough - Yr. 1

Please collect your child from the front of the school at 4.15 p.m.

## Parents' Meetings

Details of the first opportunity for you to meet with your child's new teacher are:

**Classes One - Six - Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October** - Meetings will be held in your child's classroom at 3.30 p.m. and 3.50 p.m. We are offering two meetings so that parents/carers with more than one child in the school can attend both. Please attend the meeting for your youngest child first.

**Reception Class - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** - Welcome coffee morning and meeting with staff in the staffroom at 9.00 a.m.

Apologies as the incorrect information was published in last week's newsletter. The correct dates/ times are listed below:

**Classes 7, 8 and 11 - Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October** - For new starters in the staffroom at 2.30 p.m.

**Classes 9, 10 and 12 - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October** - For new starters in the staffroom at 2.30 p.m.

This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and learn about the routines and expectations in her/his new class.

## TT Rockstars

Please encourage your child to play TT Rockstars at home this weekend - this applies to children in Years 3 - 6.

## Term Time Holidays

At The Grange Primary School and Nursery, unfortunately, we do have to abide by Local Authority guidelines to improve attendance so holidays during term time will be unauthorised. For your information, this could result in a fine from the Local Authority.

## Height and Weight Screening for Year Six Children

As part of the annual national programme of height and weight screening, children in Year Six will be weighed and have their height measured on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025**. A date for Reception children will be set later in the year.

**Flu immunisation - a message from the School Health Team**

**Flu vaccinations will take place on Tuesday 30th September**

Your Child's flu immunisation is due this term. It's important that all parents/carers read and respond to this message to avoid receiving further telephone calls, texts and letters from our service.

You should have completed your child's flu form with a yes or no by last Friday (12/09/2025) and you should have selected either the nasal spray for the best protection or the alternative injectable flu if required. Any forms completed late may result in your child not receiving their flu immunisation at the school session <https://econsent.merseycare.nhs.uk/>.

Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will help to protect them as well as more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu this year.

Please refer to the primary school vaccination information pack on the website.

**Reception age children - Online Health, Well-being and Lifestyle questionnaire**

Parents/ Carers of children in Reception class please complete a questionnaire about your child's health and wellbeing and lifestyle. Please access this link between 02/09/2025 - 10/10/2025 -

<https://forms.chathealth.nhs.uk/index.php/729545?newtest=Y&lang=en>

**Celebrating Good Attendance**

The winner of the 100% Attendance Prize for the term to date (100% attendance and prompt arrival) was Lottie Spence (Class Four) and the Class Attendance Award for the week was won by Class Two - Well done Lottie and Class Two!

**Social Media Safety - Parent Workshop**

The Mental Health Support Team will be leading a Parent Workshop on Social Media Safety on **Tuesday 21 October 2025 2.15 p.m-3.15 p.m.** If you would like to book a place on the workshop, can you please let the school office know.

**What's going on in the community?**

Please see with this newsletter and previous newsletters, details of activities and events taking place in our community:

Starting School 2026 Flyer

EYFS Nutrition Guidance

*Please note: We are happy to share information that we receive about events going on for children and parents in the local community. This should not be viewed as an endorsement from the school.*

**Applying for a Place at High School**

The window for applying for a High School place in September 2026 is now open. If you have a child in Year Six, you must follow the instructions on the letter posted on our website today or visit:

[www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool](http://www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool)

Parents/carers of ALL Year Six aged children MUST apply for a mainstream high school place, this includes children in Classes 8, 9, 10 and 12 who are unlikely to attend a mainstream school. We appreciate that this may appear to be an unnecessary exercise, but it remains the only way of your child being in the system to gain a place in a special school or similar.

The closing date for registering for a high school place is **31<sup>st</sup> October 2025**.

**High School Open Days**

Maghull High School - Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October - 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon

**Free Legal Advice Drop-In Service**

I am very grateful to MSB Solicitors for their continued generosity in offering free legal advice to families at The Grange. MSB will be attending our school on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025 from 9.00 a.m - 12.00 noon**, if you would like to make an appointment can you please let the school office know.

**Dates for your diary - Autumn Term 2025**

|                                    |                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September | Flu immunisations                                                                |
| Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October  | Parents meetings - Mainstream Years 1 to 6 - 3:30 p.m. and 3:50 p.m.             |
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October   | Reception Class - Parents/carers coffee morning - 9.00 a.m.                      |
| Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October  | Class 7, 8 and 11 - New starter parents/carers meeting - 2:30 p.m.               |
| Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October   | Class 9, 10 and 12 - New starter parents/carers meeting - 2:30 p.m.              |
| Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October   | Social Media Safety Parent Workshop - 2.15 p.m. - 3.15 p.m.                      |
| Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October | Year 6 Height and Weight screening                                               |
| Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October    | Deadline - Secondary applications (see local high school websites for open days) |

**Term dates for 2025 - 2026**

**Autumn Term 2025**

Starts: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September  
Half Term: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October  
Ends: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

**Spring Term 2026**

Starts: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January  
Half Term: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February  
Ends: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

**Summer Term 2026**

Starts: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April  
Half Term: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June  
Ends: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

Wishing you all a pleasant weekend!

Gwyn Evans - Head of School



# Early years choking hazards food safety advice

For babies and young children, food can be a choking hazard, especially when they do not chew their food well or they try to swallow it whole.

Choking can happen with any foods, but 'firm foods', bones and small round foods that can easily get stuck in the throat present a higher risk. Therefore, care givers should follow these five essential steps:

- 1 Make sure food is **suitably prepared and served** for babies and children under 5 years old.  
For suitable foods, see <https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/> Introduce babies to solid foods from around 6 months of age.
- 2 **Think about size, shape and texture of food.** Cut food into narrow batons, avoid round shapes and firm foods. Firm fruit & vegetables can be softened by cooking.
- 3 Ensure that babies and young children are **alert and seated safely upright** in a highchair or appropriately sized low chair whilst eating.
- 4 **Babies and young children should be supervised at all times** while eating. You will be able to identify the early signs of choking and prevent harm.
- 5 **Encourage babies and young children to chew food well.** Teach children how to chew and swallow food properly, and ensure they take their time during meals. This will reduce their risk of choking.

Care givers and parents should be familiar with how to respond to a choking incident in line with guidance on first aid for children:

**How to stop a child from choking:** <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-stop-a-child-from-choking/>

**How to resuscitate a child:** <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/firstaid/how-to-resuscitate-a-child/>

# Early years food choking hazards

Below is a table of advice on key foods for care givers who are involved with preparing and serving food for babies and young children (under 5 years old)

| Vegetable and fruits         | Advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pips or stones in fruit      | Always check beforehand and remove hard pips or stones from fruit.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Small fruits                 | Cut small round fruits like grapes, cherries, berries, strawberries and cherry tomatoes, into small pieces: cut lengthways and then again cut them in halves (quarters).                                                                   |
| Large fruits and firm fruits | Cut large fruits like melon and firm fruits like apple into slices instead of small chunks. For very young children, consider grating or mashing firm fruits, or softening them up by steaming or simmering.                               |
| Vegetables                   | Cut vegetables like carrots, cucumber and celery into narrow batons. For very young children consider grating or mashing firm vegetables and legumes like butter beans, chickpeas and tofu, or softening them up by steaming or simmering. |
| Skin on fruit and vegetables | Consider removing the skin from fruit and vegetables, especially for very young children. Peeled fruit and vegetables can be swallowed more easily.                                                                                        |
| Cooking fruit and vegetables | Consider softening firm fruit and vegetables (such as carrots, broccoli, yam and apples) by steaming or simmering until soft. Serve cut into slices or narrow batons.                                                                      |
| Meat and fish                | Advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Sausages and hot dogs        | Cut sausages and hot dogs into short strips. Cut them in half and then lengthways or as thinly as possible. Peeling the skin off the sausages helps them to be swallowed more easily.                                                      |
| Meat or fish                 | Remove bones from meat or fish. Cut meat into strips as thinly as possible. Remove skin and fat from meat and fish, it will help the food pass smoothly down the throat.                                                                   |
| Cheese                       | Advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Grate or cut cheese          | Grate or cut cheese into short strips. Cut lumps of cheese as narrow as possible.                                                                                                                                                          |

| Nuts and seeds                 | Advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chop or flake whole nuts       | Chop or flake whole nuts, peanuts and seeds. Whole nuts should not be given to children under five years old.                                                                                                                                       |
| Bread                          | Advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| White bread and other breads   | White bread can form a ball shape with a dough-like texture at the back of a child's throat, if not chewed properly. Brown bread or toasted white bread are good alternatives. Cut bread, chapatis, naan bread and other breads into narrow strips. |
| Snacks and other foods         | Advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Popcorn                        | Do not give babies and young children popcorn.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Chewing gum and marshmallows   | Do not give babies and young children chewing gum or marshmallows.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Peanut butter                  | Do not give babies and young children peanut butter on its own, only use as a spread.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Jelly cubes                    | Do not give babies and young children raw jelly cubes.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Boiled sweets and ice cubes    | Do not give babies and young children boiled, hard, gooey, sticky or cough sweets, or ice cubes.                                                                                                                                                    |
| Raisins and other dried fruits | Do not give babies under the age of 1 whole raisins or dried fruits. Cut them into small pieces.                                                                                                                                                    |

Make sure food is prepared appropriately for children under 5 years old, see: <https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/> It is also advisable that care givers are familiar with how to respond to a choking incident, see: How to stop a child from choking: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-stop-a-child-from-choking/> and How to resuscitate a child: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-resuscitate-a-child/>



# APPLY FOR A SCHOOL PLACE

Is your child born on or between  
01/09/2021 and 31/08/2022?

If so, your child is due to start  
school September 2026!



**You MUST apply for a school place  
online before 15 January 2026**

For more information or to make an  
application, scan our QR code or go to  
**[www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool](http://www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool)**



**[sefton.gov.uk](http://sefton.gov.uk) 0151 934 3590**  
**[admissions@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@sefton.gov.uk)**

**Sefton Council** 

## Starting Primary School in Sefton – September 2026

### When will my child start school?

Most children start primary school in the September following their **fourth birthday**. For further information please scan the QR code over the page.

- If your child was born between **1 September 2021** and **31 August 2022**, they will normally start school in September 2026.

By law, all children must begin full-time education by the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday.

### Where do I get further information about schools?

- Go to [Find a school \(sefton.gov.uk\)](https://sefton.gov.uk).
- Look at the school's individual website.
- Contact the school(s) you are interested in for more information.
- Read the guides *School Admissions - A Guide for Parents and Admissions Information Guide 2026* which you can view at : [www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool](https://www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool).

### How do I apply for a primary school place?

The quickest and easiest way to apply is by logging onto the Citizen Portal via the Sefton website (shown above) or use our QR code over the page. The Citizen Portal is simple to use and accessible on all devices including mobile phones. Complete the application carefully, stating up to three school preferences in the order in which you prefer them.

Please note: **ALL Catholic schools and some Church of England faith schools** require a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) to be completed. Please check if this is required for any of your school preferences and contact the school(s) directly to obtain the SIF which you must complete and return directly to the school(s) of your choice.

If you do not have access to the internet, you can contact Sefton Admissions Team to request a paper application form. If you complete a paper application, you must return the form to your first preferred primary school as soon as possible. You must also obtain a receipt from the school when submitting the form.

### When do I apply for a place?

Applications open on 1st September 2025. You must submit your application by **15 January 2026**.

### What if I apply late?

After 15 January 2026, your application may be treated as late. These applications may only be dealt with after national offer day on 16 April 2026. This may affect whether a place can be offered at your preferred school. For further information please read the school admissions information guides available on the Sefton website.

### What if I don't get a place at my preferred school?

We try to offer the school you prefer but if this is not possible, you have the right to appeal to an independent appeal panel. Further information can be found in the school admissions information guides which are both available on the Sefton website

### Moving house?

If you change address after you have submitted your admission application, you must inform Sefton Admissions Team.

### Apply for a school place online now by using the QR code over the page.

The application period is open NOW and the national closing date is:

**15 January 2026**

**Contact:** Sefton School Admissions Team Email: [admissions@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@sefton.gov.uk)

Tel: 0151 934 3590

If you need this leaflet in a different format or another language, please contact us.

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Separate admission arrangements apply for entry into ALL reception classes. You MUST complete a primary admission application form even if:**

- you already have an older child attending the school, or
- the child already attends a nursery attached to a school, or
- you have already put your child's name down at the school (an expression of interest).