



Cavendish Close Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter 2

Monday 8th September 2025

Wood Road
Chaddesden
Derby
DE21 4LY

662239

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new school year. I hope that everyone has had a happy and healthy summer. Six weeks goes far too quickly when you are having a great time!

We are welcoming teacher Mr Hampson to our team this year. He will have a Year 2 class in Class 7. With his relational approach and creativity, I'm sure that he will settle well in our school community.

Using funds raised by our Easter raffle and Summer fair, we have had a path laid in the summer from the Year 1 playground to Mason's Den, so that it can be easily accessed all year round.

I have enjoyed precious time with my family and friends. I love spending time in my beautiful house and garden. I had a wonderful holiday in Tuscany, Italy and I've been inspired to develop my garden further! I am feeling refreshed and ready for another action packed and successful year at school. I am starting my 26th year at Cavendish Close Infant and Nursery School and I can honestly say that every year has been full of joy.

Welcome back to the families that we know so well and a special welcome to the new families that we are looking forward to getting to know. Our Key Stage one children returned to school on Friday. It was so lovely to see the children return to school much taller than they were in July! I saw lots of smiles, new shoes and children ready to connect with their friends and learn. There have been a few tears but it hopefully won't be too long before everyone feels settled at school again. Together, we will all get used to full days at school again. School has been so quiet for 6 weeks and it is fantastic to be full of little stars again – all full of energy and character. School **doors will open at 8:40am** every morning and our staff will be ready to greet your children with a smile and a warm welcome. Please make every effort to arrive at school on time. Doors will close and **registers will be taken at 8:50am**.

As you approach and leave school, please use and stay on the paths at all times. **We are politely asking that you do not allow your children to play in the Nursery or Reception outdoor areas before or after school**, thank you for your cooperation.

Good weather is set to continue into September (hopefully) and so please apply sun cream to your children before they come to school. All children should keep a labelled sun cream in their classroom so that they can top up again before dinner time. It's really important that we protect young skin from the sun's harmful UV rays. At school, we must all be all Sun Safe Super Stars.

I will be sharing the outcomes from our July 2025 parent questionnaire in the coming weeks. The responses were overwhelmingly positive and I am extremely grateful for the respect and appreciation shown to our full staff team, who work tirelessly to create a wonderful and safe school environment for children to grow, develop and learn. If you ever have any queries or feedback, please get in touch with me. Thank you.

Kind regards, *Mrs C Diffin* Headteacher

Cavendish Close Infant
School (CCIS)

Our School Vision

When our children
move on from us, we
want them to be:



Dear Cavendish Close Children,



Be ready for school every day by bringing a coat with a hood, a sun hat and your book bag. You can add one key ring to your bookbag so that you can recognise it easily. Don't forget your PE kit too.

If you have had a break from reading in the summer, get back into a good routine of finding time to enjoy reading every day. Don't forget a bedtime story to help you settle down for a good night's sleep.



You Can Do It!



Coming to school every day that you are well is really important. Please be an Attendance HERO (Here Every day, Ready and On time) this year. Every day at school counts. The doors open every morning at 8:40am.

Best wishes from Mrs Diffin x

School day timings for 2025.26

	Nursery (Full days)	Reception (Classes 1, 2 and 3)	Year 1 (Classes 4, 5 and 6)	Year 2 (Classes 7, 8 and 9)
Breakfast Club	From 7:45am			
School day starts Doors open / Welcome	8:40am	8:40am	8:40am	
End of registration	8:50am	8:50am	8:50am	
Home time	2:50pm	3:00pm	3:10pm	
After School Club	Until 5:45pm			

Total learning and care time	6 hours a day (30 hours a week)	6.3 hours a day (31.5 hours a week)	6.5 hours a day (32.5 hours a week)
Total additional childcare hours available	4 hours	3.7 hours	3.5 hours

Nursery part-time children access a half day on a Wednesday	
Morning 8:45am to 11:45am	Afternoon 12:10pm to 3:10pm

Secure Line Gates (Nursery gates and Year 2 playground gates)	Locked at 8:55am	Unlocked at 2:50pm
Wood Road Gates	Locked between 8:20am and 9:10am (50 minutes)	Locked between 2:30pm and 3:40pm (1 hour, 10 minutes)

- All Nursery aged children are entitled to 15 hours of funded education. We offer part-time 15-hour places at the beginning of the week (all day Monday, all day Tuesday, and Wednesday morning) or at the end of the week (Wednesday afternoon, all day Thursday, and all day Friday).
- Some Nursery aged children are entitled to 30 hours of funded education. We offer full-time 30-hour places (all day Monday to Friday).

Please ensure that your child is an Attendance HERO			
H	E	R	O
Here	Every day,	Ready and	On time

Start of the day arrangements

- All doors will open at **8:40am** every morning.
- Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) children will enter school directly into their classrooms.
- Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2) classrooms are on the first floor.
- Children from Classes 4, 5 and 6 will enter school through the Year 1 door at the end of school (between Nursery and Class 3). Staff from Classes 4, 5 and 6 will be on the door to welcome the children and to communicate with parents/carers.
- Children from Classes 7, 8 and 9 will enter school through the Year 2 door at back of school (between Class 1 and the hall). Staff from Classes 7, 8 and 9 will be on the door to welcome the children and to communicate with parents/carers.
- All children should be in their classrooms ready for registration at **8:50am**.

End of the day arrangements

- The end of the school day will continue to be staggered to ease congestion on the paths around school and on site.

Nursery (Full days)	Reception (Classes 1, 2 and 3)	Years 1 and 2 (Classes 4, 5, 6 7 and 9)
2:50pm	3:00pm	3:10pm

- The gates will be opened at 2:50pm for parents and carers to approach classrooms and the playgrounds.
- **Nursery children** will be dismissed first at 2:50pm directly from their classroom.
- **Reception children** will be dismissed next at 3:00pm directly from their classrooms.
- **Year 1 and 2 children** will be dismissed at 3:10pm. They will be led down the staircases and out onto their playgrounds before being safely dismissed to their responsible adults.
- In reality, there will be a dismissal window of about 10 minutes (3:05pm to 3:15pm) to enable all the Year 1 and Year 2 children to come safely down the staircases and out onto their playgrounds. Parents and carers are asked to wait patiently on the playgrounds by the correct class sign. Children will be dismissed one at a time by staff. Parents and carers must wait until it's their child's turn to be dismissed.
- Children from Classes 4, 5 and 6 will meet their parents and carers on the Year 1 playground.
- Children from Classes 7, 8 and 9 will meet their parents and carers on the Year 2 playground.
- The staggered timings should help parents and carers who collect siblings from different classes and year groups.

- The Junior Academy begin to dismiss their children at 3:15pm.
- Some children find arriving at school or leaving school at the same time as lots of other children overwhelming and/or distressing. We will continue to offer bespoke arrangements as appropriate. If you would like to request flexibility at the start or end of the school day, please come and speak to us.
- Please keep left as you approach school. When parents and carers have seen their children enter school safely, they can walk back down the drive.
- Parents and carers should not block the path around school. Please keep moving or wait to the side of the path near school, allowing others to pass safely.
- It is helpful if only one adult brings your child to school and collects them. Reducing numbers on site, will help to ease congestion on site.
- Please try not to arrive on site too early, arriving on time is really helpful. We aim for all children to be Attendance HEROes (**H**ere **E**very day, **R**eady and **O**n time).

For safety reasons, children are not allowed to ride bikes or scooters on the school site.

Children coming to school on a bike or scooter must dismount at the Wood Road gates and walk with their bike or scooter.

We do have a bike shed near the car park. Bikes and scooters can be left at parents/carers own risk. They should be secured by parents/carers. School will not accept responsibility for any damage or loss incurred

For safety reasons, smoking/vaping on the school site is not allowed.

For safety reasons, dogs and other pets are not allowed on the school site.

Families with guide/assistance should approach the school to secure permission to access the school site. We currently have one assistance dog accessing our site regularly.

Do you need any help with childcare before or after the school day?

Breakfast Club	From 7:45am
After School Club	Until 5:45pm

Mrs Roberts is our Breakfast and After School Club Leader. If you need help with childcare before or after the school day, please enquire about our fantastic provision by emailing Mrs Roberts.

Clubs@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

Key useful information

- ✓ We have a **Breakfast Club** from 7:45am and an **After School Club** until 5:45pm. Email Mrs Roberts for more information. Clubs@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk
- ✓ Children are **not allowed to ride bikes or scooters** on school premises for safety reasons.
- ✓ Your child needs a **waterproof coat with a hood** and a **sun hat** every day. Please ensure that all your child's clothes and belongings are named.
- ✓ Your child will need **sturdy school shoes** every day. Heels, slip on shoes and sandals are not allowed as they are not safe for outdoor play and PE.
- ✓ Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children need a PE kit in school every day. Children need a **drawstring bag** (not a rucksack) with a **white T-shirt** and a **pair of black or navy shorts** – both named. Pumps are not required as children will go to the hall in their shoes and take part in PE with bare feet.
- ✓ Children are **not allowed to wear jewellery** to school. Only small stud earrings are allowed. Hoop earrings must not be worn for school.
- ✓ Your child should not bring any belongings, toys, or resources into school from home.
- ✓ Your child needs to bring their **bookbag and diary** to school every day. Please use our wallet style bookbags with small handles. Avoid buying your own bulky satchel style bag with a strap as these do not fit in children's drawers easily. Your child can have **one keyring** on their bookbag if they would like.
- ✓ Your child has their own **water bottle** and a **piece of fruit** is available every day at snack time. Your child should not bring any drinks or snacks from home.
- ✓ We encourage as many Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children as possible to have a 'funded' school dinner. Our meals are made on site by our catering team. You can access our menu so that you and your child know what to expect for dinner every day. Our menu is based on our children's favourite meals. Your child will be well supported at dinner time. If there is a day where you know your child will not enjoy a school dinner, they can bring a healthy packed lunch and a drink.
- ✓ Children are encouraged to **read daily** at home with an adult signing the reading diary so that children can progress on the Reading Rainbow. To build children's fluency and independence, it is helpful for them to read their books more than once.
- ✓ Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children can access **Numbots** using their own log in details and continue learning at home. Little but often use of Numbots improves maths fluency.

Our uniform plays a key role in promoting the ethos of our school. It provides children with a sense of belonging and identity and sets an appropriate tone for education.

- **School logo jumper/cardigan** (branded) or **Royal blue jumper/cardigan** (generic)
- **White polo t-shirt**
- **Black/grey pinafore dress, skirt, trousers, shorts**
- **Black/grey/white tights, socks**

Harvest Festival Celebration

We would like to invite all families to contribute food items for our Harvest Festival display in the hall. Please send in tins and packets of food by Tuesday 30th September. Thank you



After our Harvest Festival Celebrations in school, we will be donating the food to the 'Derby Food 4 Thought' Alliance.

The Derby Food 4 Thought Alliance supports people in Derby who are experiencing food poverty, through food provision, signposting, education and advice. If you need assistance, call 01332 346266.



Children's birthdays



We are always pleased to celebrate children's birthdays in school. Children can wear a birthday badge to school and they can bring a favourite birthday card to share with their class. We are great at singing 'Happy Birthday' and we love to hear about presents, parties and birthday cakes. Being at school on your birthday is really special.

As part of our commitment to being an accredited Healthy School, we do not allow children to bring sweets, lollies or cake etc into school to share with the class. Please save these sweet treats for home, parties and out of school. Thank you.



Safety on Wood Road



We work in partnership with Derby City Council, our local ward councillors, and our safer neighbourhood policing team to make Wood Road as safe as possible at the start and the end of the school day. Please play your part and help to keep our school community safe.

- ✓ **Please drive slowly on Wood Road. Do not make a 'U-Turn' on Wood Road outside school – this is not safe or considerate. Do not stop in the middle of the road to drop off adults and children. Do not mount the kerbs to park on the pavements.**
- ✓ **Please park considerately away from school and walk. Do not park in front of the gates or on the zigzag lines. Do not park on corners, on pavements or blocking driveways at all. If you need to drive to school, then park safely and considerately away from school and walk. Please allow sufficient time for this.**
- ✓ **Please keep moving when walking and keep the paths clear. Do not gather or wait by the gates – this is not safe or helpful. This is not a helpful meeting point.**
- ✓ **Please do not stand and smoke/vape by the Wood Road gates. This is not the welcome we want for our families. Please be considerate.**

Derby City Council Public Protections Officers and members of our Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team visit us occasionally so that we can challenge parents and carers who do not drive, park, or behave safely in the local area.

Term Dates for 2025.26

Please plan all family holidays during the school holidays and not during term time. Help your child to be an Attendance HERO.

Here Every day, Ready and On time – Good attendance is 96% or above

Autumn Term 1 2025

Thursday 4th September to Friday 24th October

Thursday 4th September

INSET day 1: School is closed to children for staff training

Children starting in Nursery and Reception will be given individual staggered start dates

Friday 5th September

Year 1 and Year 2 children return to school, doors will open at 8:40am

Tuesday 16th September

Year 1 and Year 2 assemblies with Grace from Compass Changing Lives

Tuesday 30th September

St Mary's Church Harvest Festival Assembly

2:15pm Reading workshops for Reception parents and carers

Wednesday 1st October

Mrs Diffin's Harvest Festival Assembly

2:15pm Reading workshops for Year 1 parents and carers

Thursday 2nd October

2:15pm Reading workshops for Year 2 parents and carers

Friday 3rd October

The 'Book Bus' comes to school. Children can browse and purchase books for home.

Wednesday 8th and
Thursday 9th October

NHS Health screenings for Reception children

Friday 24th October

Children break up for the half term holiday

Autumn Term 2 2025

Monday 3rd November to Friday 19th December

Monday 3rd November

INSET day 2: School is closed to children for staff training

Tuesday 4th November

Children return to school

Wednesday 5th November

School photographer in school (Nursery and Reception)

Thursday 6th November

School photographer in school (Year 1 and Year 2)

Parents' evening for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents and carers

Week beginning Monday
10th November

Anti-bullying week

Monday 10th November

NHS Flu immunisations team in school

3:45pm to 5:00pm Open evening 1 for Nursery and Reception 2026 families

Tuesday 11th November

11:00am Remembrance silence in school

Wednesday 12 th November	Odd socks day – Children are invited to come to school wearing odd socks as we embrace diversity and differences
Friday 28 th November	M&M Theatre Productions visit school to deliver a pantomime performance of Sleeping Beauty to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. Parents and carers will be asked to contribute towards the cost.
Monday 1 st December	3:45pm to 5:00pm Open evening 2 for Nursery and Reception 2026 families
Week beginning Monday 8 th December	Christmas performance week – Each nursery group and every school class will perform a Christmas nativity to their parents and carers
Week beginning Monday 15 th December	Christmas party week
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas dinner day
Friday 19th December	Children break up for the Christmas holiday
<u>Spring Term 1 2026</u>	
Monday 5th January to Friday 13 th February	
Monday 5th January	Children return to school
Monday 12 th January	3:45pm to 5:00pm Open evening 2 for Nursery and Reception 2026 families
Wednesday 4 th February	NSPCC number day – Children are invited to come to school wearing a number
Week beginning 9 th February	Maths workshops for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents and carers
Wednesday 11 th February	Safer internet day
Thursday 12th February	Children break up for the half term holiday
Friday 13 th February	INSET day 3: School is closed to children for staff training
<u>Spring Term 2 2026</u>	
Monday 23rd February to Friday 27 th March	
Monday 23rd February	Children return to school
Friday 27th March	Children break up for the Easter holiday
<u>Summer Term 1 2026</u>	
Monday 13th April to Friday 22 nd May	
Monday 13th April	Children return to school
Friday 22nd May	Children break up for the half term holiday
<u>Summer Term 2 2026</u>	
Monday 1st June to Thursday 23 rd July	
Monday 1st June	Children return to school
Friday 26 th June	INSET day 4: School is closed to children for staff training
Monday 29 th June	INSET day 5: School is closed to children for staff training
Thursday 23rd July	Children break up for the Summer holiday – Earlier finish time

Our School Learning Values

Our children all learn how to be super star learners by following our learning values. These are the learning behaviours that we value the most at our school. These characters are from our Power Maths scheme and they help us learn how to be super star learners.

 <p>1. We think of good ideas.</p> <p>2. We think of different ways to do things.</p>	 <p>3. We are confident to try challenges.</p> <p>4. We learn from mistakes.</p>	 <p>5. We always try our best.</p> <p>6. We are resilient, we keep on trying.</p>	 <p>7. We enjoy finding out and exploring.</p> <p>8. We ask clever questions.</p>	 <p>9. We ask for help when we need it.</p> <p>10. We are happy to teach our friends.</p>
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Our School Behaviour Values

These are the behaviours that we value the most at our school. Every day in school grown-ups teach and model these values. Children practise and demonstrate these behaviours and they are rewarded for showing good behaviour. Children's behaviour at our school is good.

 <p>We show respect to everyone.</p>	 <p>We choose kindness.</p>	 <p>We remember to use good manners.</p>	 <p>We do what adults ask us to do.</p>
 <p>We show respect to everything.</p>	 <p>We know how to feel calm and ready to learn.</p>	 <p>We make safe, healthy, and happy choices.</p>	 <p>We are Attendance HEROs (Here Every day Ready On time).</p>

We support a number of children with identified social, emotional and mental health needs in school. These children have special educational needs. We have significant expertise in working with families and external agencies to enable these children to succeed at our community school.

Kind hands

Kind feet

Kind words



Contacting School 2025.26

Telephone 01332 662239

Please share any queries or concerns with us so that we can work together to keep your children safe, happy, and learning at school. Polite feedback and suggestions are always welcome.

Please be respectful with your communication and only email us on school days between 7:45am and 5:45pm.

Senior Leadership Team

leadership@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Diffin - Headteacher, Mrs Howett - Deputy Headteacher and Early Years Foundation Stage Leader, Mrs Asghar - Assistant Headteacher and Key Stage 1 Leader)

School Office Team

admin@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Kelly and Mrs Manners – School Business Officers)

Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Diffin – Designated Safeguarding Leader, Mrs Leadbeater and Mrs Dearie – Learning Mentors and Safeguarding Champions)

Inclusion Leader

senco@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Vincett) – Mrs Vincett is our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO)

Year Group Class Teachers

nursery@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Howett and Mrs Orme)

reception@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Merriman, Miss Luke, Miss Doxey)

year1@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Carter, Miss Brown, Miss Marley)

year2@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mr Hampson, Mrs Asghar, Miss Harker)

Breakfast Club and After School Club

clubs@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Roberts – Breakfast and After School Club Leader)

Every day, our children work towards our STAR expectations:





Keeping Cavendish Close Children Safe

The best interests of children continue to come first for our Safeguarding Team.

Keeping children safe from harm is our utmost priority.

If anyone feels concerned about the safety of a child, they should act on their concern immediately.

- Parents and carers can speak to or email the Safeguarding team to make an enquiry, to ask for help or to share information: safeguarding@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk
- **Parents and carers can ring Derby Children's Social Care directly 01332 641172 (Out of hours Careline 01332 786968) to report their concerns first hand**
- Parents and carers can use the NSPCC helpline 0808 800 5000

The Safeguarding Team

Mrs Diffin

Headteacher and **Designated Safeguarding Lead**

Mrs Howett

Deputy Headteacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Asghar

Assistant Headteacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Vincett

Inclusion Leader and Safeguarding Champion

Mrs Leadbeater

Learning Mentor and Safeguarding, Attendance and Behaviour Champion

Mrs Dearie

Learning Mentor and Safeguarding and Behaviour Champion

Mrs Carter

Safeguarding Lead Teacher

Mrs Roberts

Breakfast and After School Club Safeguarding Champion

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility