



# Sharples Primary School

Resourced for the Visually Impaired  
Stronger Together

Head teacher Mrs. G. Partington

Hugh Lupus Street, Ashworth Lane,  
BOLTON, BL1 8RU

Telephone: (01204) 333077

Facsimile: (01204) 333078

E-mail: [office@sharples-pri.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:office@sharples-pri.bolton.sch.uk)

[www.sharples-pri.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.sharples-pri.bolton.sch.uk)



The Sharples family ensures our children are resilient learners, healthy and aspirational citizens. We will create a love of lifelong learning that extends beyond the classroom as a result of an enriching curriculum. The school community will make a difference by fostering respect and tolerance of each other as unique individuals.

## May 2024

Dear parents/ carers

What a busy half term it has been – I can't believe we only half a half term to go until the end of the academic year!

Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to say a massive well done to our Year 6 children. They showed all our Sharples Values when completing the SATS and I am sure they will all be proud of themselves.

This half term the children have been busy learning about key areas of the curriculum. We have also launched our new Aspirations Curriculum. This is an exciting opportunity for the children to learn about careers and ignite their passion into different career pathways.



Year 3 Physiotherapists

Year 1 Aviation

Year 2 Farmers



If you would like to talk to the children about your career and inspire them please get in touch.

We are continuing to develop our links with Bolton School and this week attended a science event. The four children who represented school from Year 5 were amazing – well done George, Umar, Irene and Khadija I.



School uniform – please can I remind parents about the importance of children wearing the correct school uniform. We are seeing a few variations which have not been agreed. We have a selection of summer dresses and polo shirts available to buy from the office for a reduced cost. We will also be holding a pre loved stall at the summer fair.

Important dates: Please note change of date for sports day

**PE DAYS  
SUMMER 2**

**NURSERY** - WEDNESDAY FOREST SCHOOL AND FRIDAY  
**RECEPTION** - MONDAY GYMNASTICS, THURSDAY FOREST SCHOOL - PE KIT  
**YEAR 1** THURSDAY AND FRIDAY  
**YEAR 2** - MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY  
**YEAR 3** - MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY  
**YEAR 4** - MONDAY AND TUESDAY FOREST SCHOOL - PE KIT  
**YEAR 5** - WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY  
**YEAR 6** - MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY

The poster features an illustration at the bottom showing children engaged in various sports: a boy on a bicycle, a girl with a jump rope, a boy with a tennis racket, and a boy on a skateboard.

**Sports Days  
KS1 and KS2**  
Tuesday 18th June  
at 1.30pm

**EYFS**  
Thursday 20th  
June at 1.30pm

The poster has a dark green background with various sports equipment like soccer balls, a football, and a basketball scattered around.

JOIN US FOR OUR  
**School Fair**

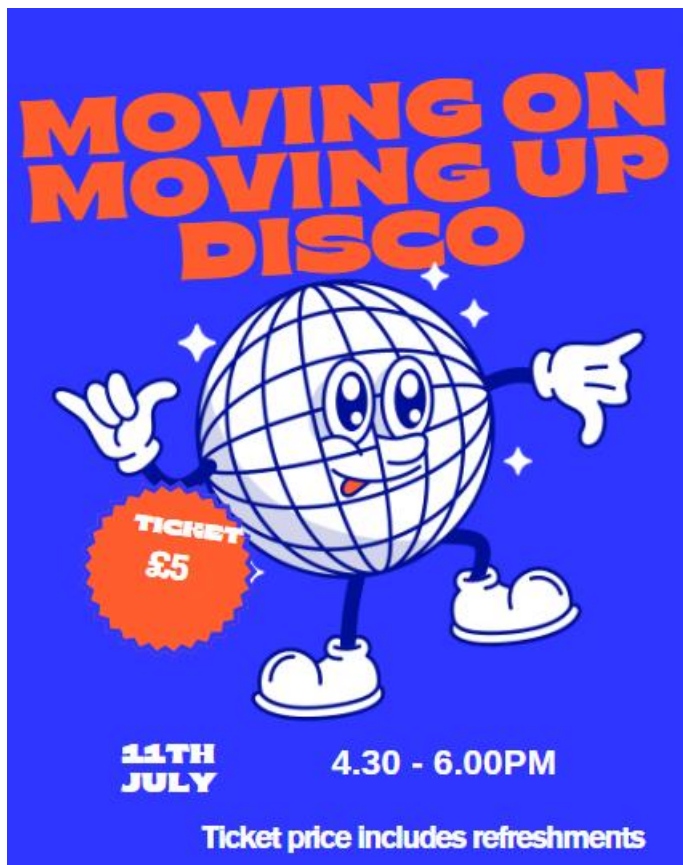
1 TOKEN = £1

Stall Holders **3.30-5.00**  
CASH not tokens **28.6.24**

- Raffle 1 token per ticket
- Bouncy Castle = 1 token
- Guess the teddy = 1 token
- Number of sweets = 1 token
- Tombolas 1 token = 5 goes
- Slam Squad 1 token per activity
- Art 4 items = 3 tokens
- Games any 3 games = 1 token
- Decorate a cake = 1 token
- Cafe between 1 and 3 tokens

The poster features a yellow speech bubble with the text, a striped tent, and colorful bunting at the top.





Parents are required to drop off and pick children up from the disco, school staff will supervise.

Lastly, please can parents please read carefully the following information about changes to attendance which are being brought in by the Government and Council. We are finding more children are taking holidays in school time and this is really affecting their attainment and progress. We published our holiday pattern for 24-25 back in October to help parents when booking holidays. Further information is on the website: <https://www.sharples-pri.bolton.sch.uk/attendance/>

I hope you have a lovely and relaxing May break – hopefully the sun will make an appearance.  
Mrs Partington

Head Teacher

## Changes to Absences - IMPORTANT



We aim to ensure that all children attend school regularly and on time wherever possible to ensure that they are able to make the most of the educational experiences offered at Sharples Primary. We also aim to raise an awareness of the importance of attendance with our families and so to improve the level and profile of attendance.

### **Why is attendance at school important?**

School education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Research clearly demonstrates the link between regular attendance and educational progress and attainment. Parent/carers and the school should work in partnership in making education a success and in ensuring that all children have full and equal access to all that the school has to offer. As a school, we will encourage parents and carers to ensure that their child achieves maximum possible attendance and that any problems that prevent this are identified and acted upon promptly.

### **The Law**

Children must attend school under the Education Act 1989 (revised). Poor attendance at school can result in one or more of the following:

- a Parenting Order
- an Education Supervision Order
- a School Attendance Order
- a fine (sometimes known as a 'penalty notice')

**From the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024 the Government are bringing in new laws. Please see the letter below from Bolton Council. As a school, we have found that our attendance this year has dropped significantly and this is due to holidays and visiting family abroad – this is not authorised. Our persistent absenteeism is also higher than National which means that the same children are regularly missing their education.**

The holiday pattern for next academic year 24-25 was sent out in October, please make sure you refer to the pattern when booking holidays. We always try to work with our families and we want our children to achieve both academically and socially. The changes to the Local Authority are listed below.

**Bolton Council**  
**Important Update – Changes to Education-related Penalty Notices**  
**Information for Parents**

You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes will come into effect on 19 August 2024.

The changes to be aware of are:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period (1). This may include absences because of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

**Please see examples below for further clarification:**

1. A penalty notice issued for any offence that begins prior to the 19 August will be issued under the existing rules. Therefore, it will (a) be charged at £60/£120, (b) not count towards the escalation whereby a second penalty notice within 3 years is charged at a flat rate of £160 and there is a limit of 2 penalty notices within 3 years and (c) will be issued in line with the LA thresholds for the 2023-24 academic year. This is regardless of whether the penalty notice is issued before or after the 19 August.

For example, if a parent takes a pupil out of school without authorised leave of absence in term time for 10 sessions or more in July 2024 but the penalty notice is not issued until September the old rules will be followed, including being charged at the old rates of £60/£120. The penalty notice will not count towards the escalation.

2. A penalty notice issued for any offence that begins after 19 August will be issued under the new rules. Therefore, it will be (a) charged at £80/£160, (b) count towards the escalation, and (c) be issued in line with the new national threshold of 10 sessions in 10 weeks.

For example, a parent takes a pupil out of school for 5 days in the first week of the new term at the beginning of September 2024, the new rules will be followed.

**Any term time holidays that are taken after the start of the 2024/25 academic year will be treated under the new legislation as the new rules apply to any offences committed from 19 August 2024, regardless of when the holiday is booked.**

<sup>(1)</sup> A school week is any week in which a school meets at least once