



The Forest Federation

"Small enough to care, large enough to inspire.
Valuing all God's children"

Parent update - September 2026

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Welcome message from Mr. Guest



A huge welcome to the school year 2026-2027. I am delighted to be writing to you as the new Executive Headteacher of the Forest Federation and look forward to working with you, your children, the staff, governors and the wider communities to continue to provide care, love and opportunities.

I have enjoyed meeting so many of you and am grateful for your warm welcome. I have enjoyed spending time in every class and on the playground getting to know the children, staff and seeing the learning that is taking place.

A huge welcome to all our new families and children – we hope your start has been a good one and you are settling into school life with us.

I am really keen to hear your views and get your ideas about each school and the federation as a whole. In the next few weeks I will be sending out a parents questionnaire to gather your views. Please keep an eye out for this.

Parent Feedback



During the first few days, I lead collective worship in each school. When I found out I was going to be the new executive Head teacher I wanted a way to show the connection between the federation schools. I purchased a spider plant and over the coming months had some spiderettes form. I planted 5 of these up into new plants and each school now has one. This is to represent the Federation as a whole and how we are all connected.

I am working with the senior team and staff to review certain aspects of school life. One change is how we celebrate children and their work.

This year we will be having a new style celebration assembly at the end of each half term (*this replaces the monthly VIP assembly*).

The Celebration assembly will include a showcase of children's learning along with celebrating some individual children's achievements. Parents of children receiving an award for the half term will be contacted directly with an invitation. If your child will be showcasing some specific work, your child/ class teacher will let you know so you can attend. We will share photos /videos and work via class dojo afterwards.



Please note – all children will receive a celebration award at some point during the year.

Riding Success

Over the summer the Federation equestrian team WON at the show jumping national championships at the most prestigious of equestrian facilities, Hickstead Showground - where many professional riders compete, including the Derby.

The competition was set over 2 days, so the children and families camped over with their ponies.



Out of 34 teams that qualified for the 40cm show jumping Championships nationally, the Forest Federation team won!!

The team of just 3 riders; Matilda riding Irish Colours, Edith riding Mr Blue Eyes and Bella riding Wellemanor Barberella.

This class is judged on style and performance, so it is a real credit to their riding abilities.

Individually in the warm up classes Edith achieved 2nd out of 92 competitors and Matilda achieved 3rd out of 96 in her class. Bella had great clear rounds but sadly just out the prizes.



A huge well done from all of us at the Forest Federation

Reception Admissions for September 2027

If you are looking to apply for a reception place for September 2027, we have opportunities for parents and children to visit our schools.

If you would like to book onto one of the meetings, please complete the [online booking form](#).

- **Gayton CE Primary:** Thursday 8th October, 9.15am and Thursday 23rd November, 9.15am
- **Stoke Bruerne CE Primary:** Thursday 1st October, 9.15am and Thursday 26th November, 9.15am
- **Tiffield CE Primary:** Tuesday 29th September, 9.15am and Tuesday 24th November, 9.15am
- **Whittlebury CE Primary:** Wednesday 30th September, 9.15am and Wednesday 25th November, 9.15am
- **Yardley Gobion CE Primary:** Monday 28th September, 9.15am and Monday 30th November, 9.15am

For those not able to attend one of these face-to-face meetings, there is also an online meeting.

Applications for Reception 2027 are now open. Apply via the West Northants website:

<https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/primary-school-places/apply-primary-school-place>

The Federation admissions page has more details:

[The Forest CE Federation - Admissions](#)

Please share this admissions information with anyone you know and across your networks.



The Forest Federation

'Small enough to care – Large enough to inspire
Valuing All God's children'

"Parents are unanimous in their appreciation of the education
and care their children receive."

Ofsted March 2026

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Places available for September
Apply for a Reception place
Contact us for information or a visit

OUR FEDERATION

SCAN ME

Federation Website



- 5 rural primary schools
- High quality provision
- Excellent curriculum
- Music opportunities
- Sports opportunities
- Forest School
- Flexi-School options
- Shared expertise

CONTACT US

THE FOREST CE FEDERATION

STOKE BRUERNE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

GAYTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

TIFFIELD VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

WHITTLEBURY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

YARDLEY GOBION COF E PRIMARY



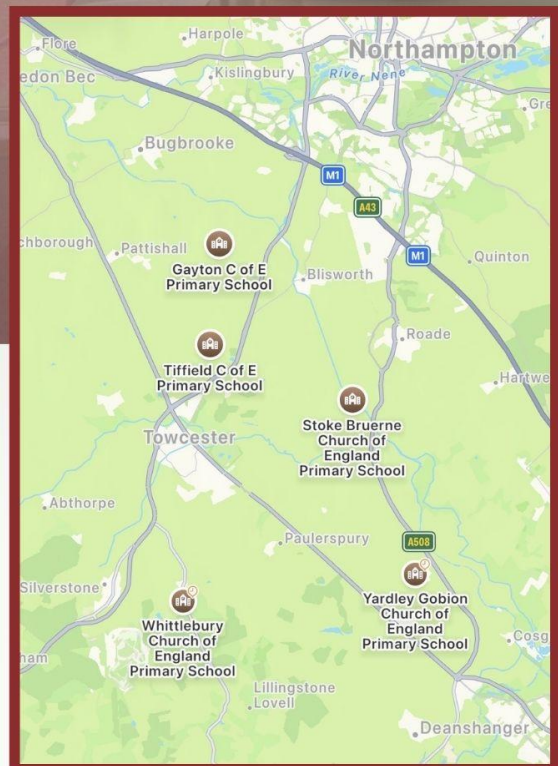
01604 862872

01604 858749

01327 350325

01327 857700

01908 542261



www.forestfederation.co.uk

Year 7 Applications

The application portal is now live for parents/carers to submit their school preferences for Year 7 places for September 2027.

www.westnorthants.gov.uk/admissions.

- Closing date for parents to apply – Midnight on 31st October 2026
- National Offer Day – 1st March 2027

Any application forms received by School Admissions *after* 31 October will be considered as late and won't be processed until April 2027 onwards.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to apply [online](#) and read the online prospectus - *Applying for a Secondary School Place for 2027-28*. This provides detailed information on schools and the application process.

SEND Drop-in sessions in West Northamptonshire

The **Inclusion and Intervention Support Team (IIST)** are a team working at West Northamptonshire Council.



They offer bookable drop in sessions for parents and carers to discuss concerns around your child's special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and offer strategies and advice to support parents/carers. These are 45-minute, in-person or virtual sessions via MS Teams.

Visit their booking page for dates and to book:

[SEND Drop-in sessions in West Northamptonshire Booking Page](#)

Northampton Children's Trust – September Newsletter



Here is a link to the Children's Trust **Stay Connected newsletter**. This newsletter focuses on all the amazing events, clubs and groups that families, children and young people can access across the county that are free or affordable to attend.

LINK: [West Northamptonshire Stay Connected September 2026](#)

Please note – voice messages are recorded and stored for reasons of absence.



Coffee morning

Tuesday 20th October 9:30am
at [Yardley Gobion Primary School](#)

Come and join us for our first SEND coffee morning. Meet other parents across the federation and get support, advice or just a chat!

We are holding a coffee morning for parents who have any concerns for their child, including SEND and emotional well-being. Everyone is welcome.

It will be a great opportunity to seek advice and chat with Mrs Whitbread (SENCO) and Mrs Harris (Pastoral Support), and meet other parents.

A SEND practitioner from West Northants Inclusion and Intervention Support Team will also be on hand to offer advice on services provided to meet the needs of children and families.

We look forward to seeing you there!



All different All together

Forest's fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Support



Forest Federation is raising money for
Macmillan Cancer Support

As a Federation we are raising money for Macmillan. Here is a link to the just giving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/forest-federation-10>

We are also hosting some coffee mornings – keep an eye out for details.

Harvest Collection

This year our Federation harvest food collection will be for McCarthy-Dixon. The McCarthy-Dixon Foundation aims to improve the standard of living and wellbeing for all local residents, and we need your help and support to do that.

Please have a look at the flyer on the next page which shows the preferred non-perishable food items and essential household items to donate.

The items can be brought into school from Monday 12th October to the morning of Thursday 22nd October.

We will then arrange for your donations to get to McCarthy-Dixon.

Many Thanks

Our Food & Essentials Hub

Helping Northamptonshire People to Move Beyond Hardship.

WORKING ALONG SIDE:

90+ NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
SCHOOLS



Northamptonshire
Children's Trust



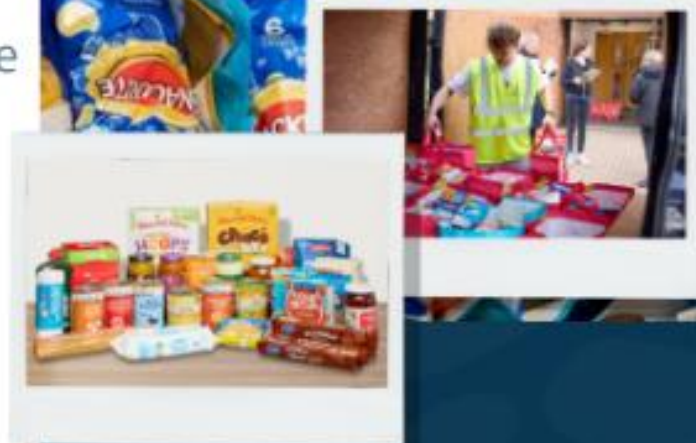
Northamptonshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust



Northamptonshire
Domestic Abuse Service



HM Prison &
Probation Service



ITEMS THAT HELP OUR CLIENTS THE MOST:

- ✓ Pasta, Noodles, Rice
- ✓ Instant Soups
- ✓ Pasta Sauces, Curry Sauces
- ✓ Baked Beans & Spaghetti Hoops
- ✓ Tinned Fruits & Vegetables
- ✓ Tinned Fish & Meat
- ✓ Cereals
- ✓ Biscuits, Tea, Coffee & Sugar
- ✓ Jams & Preserves
- ✓ Washing Up Liquid
- ✓ Toothpaste, Wipes & Toiletries

📍 67 Grove Road, Northampton, NN1 3LJ
 🌐 mccarthydixon.org.uk
 ✉ hello@mccarthydixon.org.uk



Follow Us!
 @TMDFoundation

Target - online safety session for Parents/Carers

Monday, October 19 • 6:30 PM - 7:30pm

Overview

This is open to any families living in or who have children/young people accessing education in Northamptonshire

Our introductory parent/carers workshop aims to empower parents/carers, or the professionals working with them, to support their children and young people in navigating the online world. This includes understanding risks of being online, based on latest research, social media, laws and legislations, AI technology and parental controls.

We also look at the pressures young people face, increase their awareness of the grooming process, the risks associated with indecent image sharing and inform you on how to report online harms, so you feel equipped to support your young people.

We will also cover the upcoming law changes and the potential impact it could pose.

Monday, October 19 • 6:30 PM - 7:30pm

[Target online safety session for Parents/Carers Tickets, Monday, October 19 • 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)

Monday, November 9 • 6:30pm to 7:30pm

[Online Safety Session for SEN Parents/Carers Tickets, Monday, November 9 • 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM GMT | Eventbrite](#)

TARGET

The TARGET project works with children and young people aged 8-25 years old to support with online safety, including:

Online exploitation

Social media

How to keep yourself safe online

Grooming

Law and legislation

Healthy and unhealthy relationships

Gaming

Wellbeing and any other concerns the young person might have

Targeting
And
Reducing
Grooming,
Exploitation and
Trading of children
and young people online

Support we offer:

One-to-one support sessions - up to six weekly sessions

Class workshops

Group work sessions - up to 10 students per group for 4 weekly sessions

Assemblies - from year 5 onwards.

TARGET Champions - peer mentoring groups, teaching young people the skills they need to support others.

For more information
or to make a referral
contact us on:

referrals@servicesix.co.uk

01933 277520



Service Six

Leave in Term Time

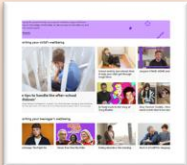
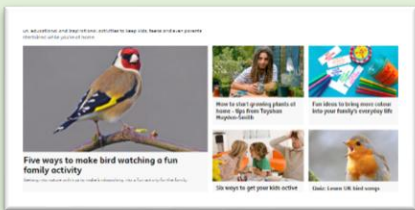
A reminder regarding leave in term time.

Leave for pupils can only be authorised for exceptional circumstances.
Please ensure you discuss any leave requests with the school.

Holidays in Term Time

Please remember that Department for Education guidance means that we are not able to authorise holidays in term time. Please avoid booking these.

Useful Links for Parents

	<u>BBC Bitesize</u> Lots of links to learning and skills http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary/
	<u>Oak National Academy</u> A huge range of lessons, resources and subjects Oak National Academy
PARENTING AND HEALTH SUPPORT	
	NHS Advice and guidance The place for trusted NHS advice and guidance to help you have a healthy and happy baby during pregnancy, birth and parenthood.
https://www.nhs.uk/start-for-life/early-learning-development/	
	BBC Wellbeing site – video and help for parents own mental health and that of their children
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/groups/cw9v6l8d0q6t	
	BBC bitesize parents Tips, advice and activity ideas for being a parent
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/parents	