

Year 6 Parents' Information Meeting

Wednesday 16th September 2026 – 6:00p.m.

PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE ON MUTE
– THANK YOU!





From Mr Moran, Mrs Coughtrey,
Ms Marshall, Mrs Stonebridge,
Mrs Pritchard & Mrs Sprake

Year 6 Expectations & Curriculum Coverage



Character Education Values

- ▶ We expect the children to be:
- ▶ Responsible
- ▶ Respectful
- ▶ Trustworthy
- ▶ Fair
- ▶ Honest
- ▶ Caring
- ▶ Forgiving

We expect Year 6 children to be role models for the younger children.

Uniform

- ▶ A copy of our uniform expectations can be found at the front of the Home School Diaries. Children must stick to these expectations.
- ▶ Please ensure that your child does not wear a Smart watch at school.

Organisation

Children are expected to organise their own resources.
This includes:

- ▶ Having the correct stationery in school each day.
- ▶ Ensuring that their Home School Diaries are in school every day.
- ▶ Correct PE kit and trainers being in school each day.
- ▶ Looking after their belongings and uniform.

Taking on responsibilities

- ▶ Opportunities will arise across the course of the year for children in Year 6 to take on responsibilities.

Homework

- ▶ Refer to Google Classroom
- ▶ Homework will be set on a Friday and due in the following Thursday
- ▶ All homework to be submitted on Google Classroom
- ▶ Your child will receive a piece of English and a piece of maths homework each week, with a specified deadline.
- ▶ Other e.g. science, history etc.
- ▶ Home School Diaries
- ▶ SATs - SATs revision guides and question books to help with preparation towards the tests in Spring Term

Curriculum Coverage - Autumn

- ▶ Art - Mayan Art
- ▶ DT - Mexican food
- ▶ Science - Animals and Humans
- ▶ Music - Beethoven's 5th Symphony
- ▶ Computing - Purple Mash Coding , Game Addiction, MS Word Processing
- ▶ PE - Football, Hockey, Fitness
- ▶ Spanish - Ordering from a restaurant & What's the Weather.
- ▶ History - Ancient Maya
- ▶ Geography - Our World from above.
- ▶ RE - Creation and Science, Suffering
- ▶ PSHE - Being Me in My World & Celebrating Difference

Curriculum Coverage - Spring

- ▶ Art - Sculptures in Motion
- ▶ D&T - Shelters
- ▶ Science - Properties and Changes of Materials
- ▶ Music - Keyboard Skills
- ▶ Computing - Binary Effect Searching, Blogging and Vlogging
- ▶ PE - Netball, Tennis, Gymnastics
- ▶ Spanish - My Family, My Home
- ▶ History - Ancient Mayan cont... & Changing Power of the Monarchy
- ▶ Geography - Our Challenging World
- ▶ RE - Suffering - How religious groups contribute to society and culture
- ▶ PSHE - Dreams and Goals, Health Me

Curriculum Coverage - Summer

- ▶ Art - Digital Media, Andy Warhol's Pop Art
- ▶ D&T - Textiles
- ▶ Science - Forces, Magnets, Evolution and Inheritance
- ▶ Music - African Drumming
- ▶ Computing - Gaming, Photo Editing, Excel
- ▶ PE - Rounders, Athletics, Benchball
- ▶ Spanish - The Weekend & In the Town
- ▶ Geography - Sustainable Tourism
- ▶ History - British History
- ▶ RE - Resurrection , Being Human
- ▶ PSHE - Relationships, Changing Me (inc. RSE)

Standard Assessment Tests (SATs)

The Key Stage Two SATs are scheduled to be
administered in the week beginning

Monday 10th May 2027

KS2 Year 6 SATs Dates 2026-2027

KS2 Year 6 SATs Dates - May 2027

Date	Test
Monday 10th May 2027	Grammar & Punctuation test - 45 minutes Spelling Test - 20 minutes
Tuesday 11th May 2027	English Reading Test - 60 minutes
Wednesday 12th May 2027	Mathematics Arithmetics (Paper 1) - 30 minutes Mathematics Reasoning (Paper 2) - 40 minutes
Thursday 13th May 2027	Mathematics Reasoning (Paper 3) - 40 minutes



KS2 reading SATs:

- One paper with questions that are based on 3 passages of text. Students get 1 hour to answer the questions on the paper.

KS2 English grammar, punctuation and spelling SATs:

- The written element of the spelling, punctuation and grammar SATs consists of a grammar and punctuation paper which lasts for 45 minutes.
- There is also a 20-word aural spelling test which lasts around 15 minutes.

KS2 maths SATs:

- Paper 1 is the arithmetic paper which will last for 30 minutes. It will contain fixed response questions where children have to give the correct answers to calculations.
- Papers 2 and 3 will involve a wider range of question types including multiple choice, true or false and reasoning based. Both papers will last 40 minutes each.

The English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Test

- The grammar, punctuation and spelling test will consist of two parts: a **grammar and punctuation paper** requiring short answers, lasting 45 minutes, and a **spelling test** of 20 words, lasting around 15 minutes.
- The grammar and punctuation test will include two sub-types of questions:
- **Selected response**, e.g. 'Identify the adjectives in the sentence below'
- **Constructed response**, e.g. 'Correct/complete/rewrite the sentence below,' or, 'The sentence below has an apostrophe missing. Explain why it needs an apostrophe.'

The Reading Test

- The reading test will be a single paper with questions based on three texts which equate to approximately 2000 words altogether. Your child will have **one hour**, including reading time, to complete the test.
- There will be a selection of question types, including:
- **Ranking/ordering**, e.g. 'Number the events below to show the order in which they happen in the story'
- **Labelling**, e.g. 'Label the text to show the title of the story'
- **Find and copy**, e.g. 'Find and copy **one word** that suggests what the weather is like in the story'
- **Short constructed response**, e.g. 'What does the bear eat?'
- **Open-ended response**, e.g. 'Look at the sentence that begins Once upon a time. How does the writer increase the tension throughout this paragraph? Explain fully, referring to the text in your answer.'
- Easier questions tend to be worth one mark. When more complex answers are required, up to 3 marks may be awarded.

Maths Test

- Children will sit three papers in maths:
- **Paper 1: arithmetic**, 30 minutes
- **Papers 2 and 3: mathematical fluency, solving problems and reasoning**, 40 minutes per paper
- Paper 1 will consist of fixed response questions, where children have to give the correct answer to calculations, including long multiplication and division. Papers 2 and 3 will involve a number of question types, including:
 - Multiple choice
 - True or false – explain your reasoning
 - Constrained questions, e.g. giving the answer to a calculation, drawing a shape or completing a table or chart
 - Less constrained questions, where children will have to explain their approach for solving a problem.

WHY?

- For you
- For the children
- For the secondary schools
- For the government
- For St. Thomas'

How can you help?

- Complete weekly homework set
- Times tables, regular reading at home, spellings.
- Websites – Spellingframe, Times Table Rockstars, Purple Mash, BBC Bitesize, Woodlands etc.
- CGP Revision guides – details will be sent to you later this term on purchasing these at a discounted cost.
- Grammar and Punctuation Guide and Calculation policy - found on the school's website.

Please do not complete past papers at home as we use some of these during our practice SATs weeks.

Reporting to Parents

Children will be given standardised (scaled) scores.

- 100 = met the expected standard
- Above 110 = working at greater depth
- Below 100 = not working at the expected standard

GOOD NEWS

- We know what we are doing!
- Your children will be thoroughly prepared for the tests.
- Children on the whole enjoy it and rise to the occasion!
- Further advice regarding revision will be offered later in the year.

Artificial Intelligence (AI): Opportunities, Risks and Responsible Use

- What AI is
- How children are using AI
- Benefits and opportunities
- Risks and safeguarding considerations
- How home and school can work together



What is AI?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is technology that allows computers to perform tasks that would normally require human intelligence, such as learning, recognising patterns, making recommendations and generating content.

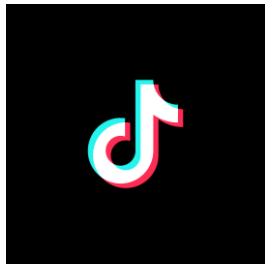
Where do children encounter AI?

Children already use AI through:

- ChatGPT and other chatbots
- YouTube and TikTok recommendations
- Google searches
- Netflix and Spotify suggestions
- Gaming platforms
- Educational apps
- Alexa and Siri
- Snapchat filters and effects

AI is already part of children's everyday lives.

Many of the apps, games and devices they use rely on AI, often without them realising it. Understanding how AI works helps children use it safely, responsibly and effectively.



The Benefits of AI

AI can support learning when used appropriately.

Possible Benefits

- ✓ Research and information gathering
- ✓ Generating ideas
- ✓ Supporting writing
- ✓ Coding and problem-solving
- ✓ Creativity and design
- ✓ Accessibility support

AI should support learning, not replace thinking.

How AI Can Help Children

Example 1: Homework Support

A child asks ChatGPT: *"Can you explain equivalent fractions?"*
The AI provides an explanation and examples.

Example 2: Writing Support

A child asks: *"Give me five adjectives to describe an ancient Greek temple."*
The AI provides vocabulary ideas while the child still writes independently.

Example 3: Coding Support

A child learning coding uses AI to help identify errors in a program.

AI can support learning, but children still need to think, practise and evaluate information themselves.

Understanding AI's Limitations

AI is powerful, but it is not always correct.

AI Can:

- Make mistakes
- Create inaccurate information
- Present incorrect answers confidently
- Reflect bias
- Invent facts ("hallucinations")

Children Need To:

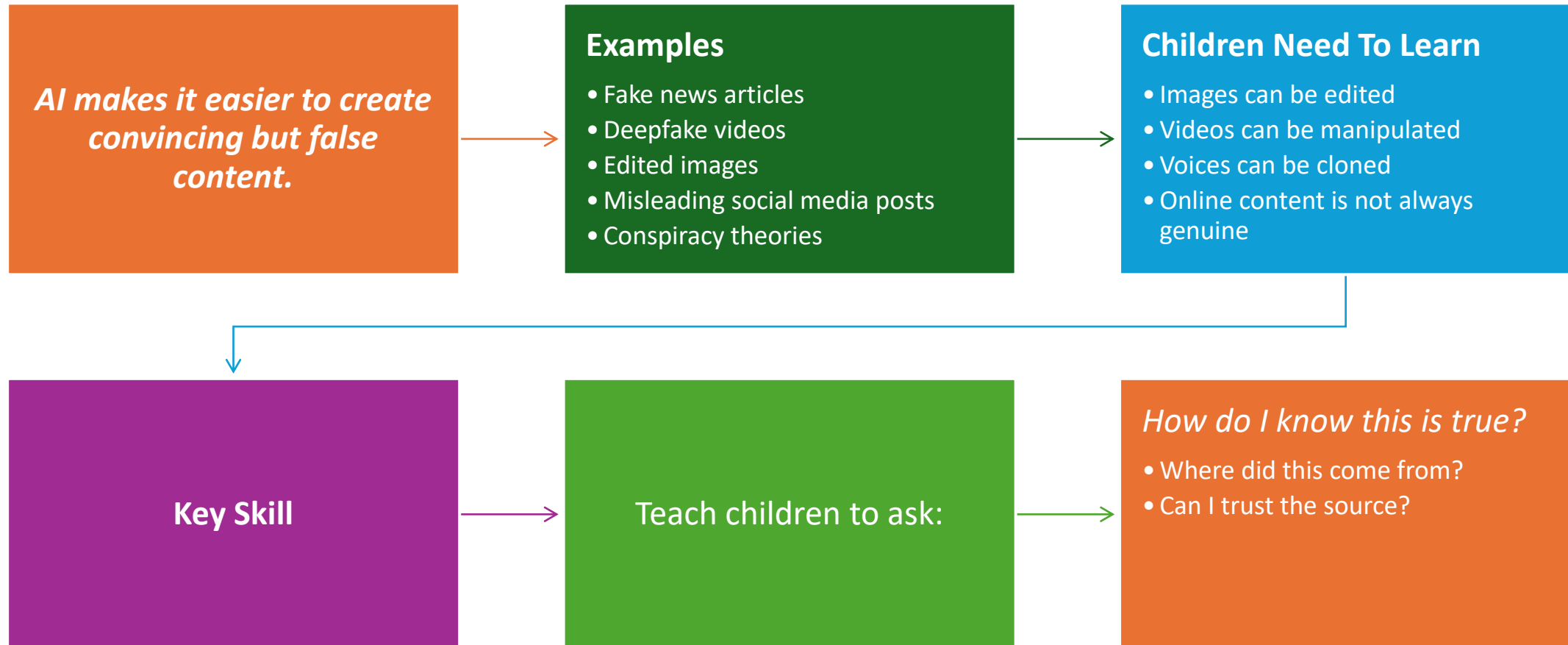
- Question information
- Check sources
- Verify facts independently

A Useful Phrase for Children

"Just because AI said it, doesn't mean it's true."

Always verify important information.

Misinformation and Fake News



Algorithms and Screen Time

Many AI systems are designed to maximise engagement.

Features Include:

- Personalised content
- Endless scrolling feeds
- Video recommendations
- Likes and shares
- Notifications

Possible Impacts

- More screen time
- Reduced sleep
- Less physical activity
- Reduced face-to-face interaction
- Mental wellbeing concerns

Example

A child watches one football video on YouTube.

The AI notices this and quickly recommends:

- More football videos
- Football shorts
- Football news
- Football gaming clips

Within minutes, the child can spend much longer online than intended.

Discussion Point for Parents

Children often think they are choosing content when, increasingly, content is choosing them.

Safeguarding Concerns

Although safeguards exist, no AI system is perfect.

Risks Include Exposure To:

- Harmful advice
- Violent material
- Extremist content
- Inappropriate information
- Unsafe online communities

Children Should:

- Speak to trusted adults
- Question online information
- Report anything concerning



What Can Parents Do?

Encourage Open Conversations

- What apps are you using?
- Have you used AI today?
- How do you know the answer is correct?

Set Healthy Boundaries

- Agree on screen-time expectations
- Encourage device-free time
- Monitor age-appropriate app use

Promote Critical Thinking

- Verify information
- Think independently
- Value effort and learning

What Are We Doing at School?

We are helping children to:

- ☒ Understand AI and how it works
- ☒ Use AI safely and responsibly
- ☒ Recognise misinformation
- ☒ Develop critical thinking skills
- ☒ Understand privacy and ethics
- ☒ Become responsible digital citizens
- ☒ Know where to seek help if worried



Key Takeaways



AI is Here to Stay

Children need:

- AI Literacy
- Digital Literacy
- Ethical Awareness
- Strong Safeguarding Knowledge

Most Important Message

The future belongs not to those who simply use AI, but to those who can think critically about it.

Home and school both working together will help children use AI confidently, safely and responsibly.

WhatsApp/Group Chats



APPS AND THEIR AGE RATINGS

13+



Facebook



Snapchat



Instagram



Twitter



TikTok



Kik



YouNow



Yubo



House Party



Monkey

16+



WhatsApp

17+



Sarahah



YOLO

18+



MeetMe



LiveMe

Top Tips

- 1 It's really important you tell someone about what is going on and it will make you feel better too. An adult at home or at school can help you figure out what to do next.
- 2 Try the report and block buttons. These can be found in most games and on social media and it's a good idea to see if you can spot them. For more information visit our page on [what does the report button do?](#)
- 3 You may want to delete a mean message as soon as you read it but remember it's helpful to take a screenshot or save it as evidence you can take to an adult.
- 4 Don't retaliate or respond unkindly. This can make things worse or sometimes even lead to you getting in trouble. Try and stay calm and get support from an adult you trust instead.
- 5 We're often told that the best way to stop bullies is to ignore them, but remember you should always speak to someone about what's been going on so that you can get support and advice.

How to keep your child safe.

We talk to children about crossing the road, bullying and speaking to strangers. But what about staying safe in the digital world?

- Having ***regular conversations*** about what your child is doing online. This is their world.
- ***Encourage them to come to you if they're worried*** and make sure they know what's ok to share online - and what's not.
- Be aware of ***age restrictions*** on social media apps. The age restrictions are there for a reason.
- ***Privacy settings*** *- modern technology has all the capability to be safe – but none of those features are activated prior to use!
- Text messaging and WhatsApp – be aware of what they are sending and being sent. These messages can be easily misread .
- <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/improve-your-privacy-online-advice-for-parents-and-professionals> *



Year 6 Parents' Meeting
Secondary School Admissions
2026



This is a very important time for you and your child as you start to consider making an application for a secondary school place for September 2027.

Q: When can I apply?

A: Now!

We encourage you to apply
online at

www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

at your convenience by

31st October 2026



Q: Why apply online?

- The online system is open 24/7 during the application period (opened on 12th September 2026)
- You will receive an email confirmation of your application
- You can make changes to your preferences online until the closing date
- You will receive the result of your application by email on the offer day (1st March 2027) if you requested this when you applied
- You can access details of all Essex maintained schools and academies and their admissions policies
- You can see a full copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2027/2028 booklet with detailed information about the application process (www.essex.gov.uk/admissions)

Q: What if I don't have
access to the Internet?

A: Don't panic!

If you need a paper application
form you can call 0345 603 2200 to
request one.

Please do not do both!



Q: Do I need to apply?

A: YES!



It is the responsibility of parents to make an application for their child's secondary school place.

It is up to you what schools you place on your application and the order you place them in.

You should put the schools in the order you really want them because a place will be offered at the highest ranked preference that can be met when considered against the admissions criteria for the schools.

Q: How many schools can I pick?

A: Six

We strongly recommend you use all of your 6 preferences to give yourself maximum opportunity to be considered for a place at a school you want. We also recommend that you list your local school, if you have one, as one of your preferences to help avoid a situation where you might be offered a place at a school several miles from your home.

Remember.....

Applying for more than one school does not in any way reduce your chances of being offered your highest preference, so please aim to use all your preferences.

Some schools, like Church schools, require you to send an additional form to them, called a Supplementary Information Form (SIF). SIF forms must be returned directly to the school as well as applying to the Local Authority.

Q: What if I am considering applying for a selective Grammar School?

A: For the selective grammar schools, you must name these schools on the common application form you submit to the Local Authority. You must also register by completing the SIF for these schools and submit it to the Consortium of Selective Schools in Essex (CSSE).

Q: What should I be doing now?

A: Visit the schools.

All secondary schools have open days or evenings when parents and children can visit schools and look around and get key information.



Q: What is happening on 1st March 2027?

A: Secondary Offer Day!

Check your e-mail if applying online.

All applications for schools have to be considered against the admissions arrangements and oversubscription criteria for each school.

Late Applications!

Applications made after the closing date of 31st October 2026 will be treated as late and therefore dealt with after all on time applications have been processed. It is absolutely vital you apply on time!

Q: What if I am moving house before the end of the admissions process?



A: If you move house after you have submitted an application, you must inform the LA immediately by email or by letter. You should provide proof of exchange of contracts if you have purchased your new home, or a copy of a signed tenancy agreement if you are renting. This evidence must be provided by published deadlines. Please do not just change your address on your online application without letting the LA know by email or letter as well.

Q: How are applications considered and places allocated?

A: Admissions Policies

- All applications have to be considered against the admission arrangements and oversubscription criteria for each of the schools for which you apply. These are shown in the Secondary Education in Essex 2027/2028 booklet which you can view at www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

- Detailed arrangements and admissions policies can also be viewed on this website

Q: How do waiting lists work?

A: After the first round of offers are made on 1st March 2027, all unsuccessful applications that are a higher preference than the school offered will be held on a waiting list, according to the oversubscription criteria for the school. This applies to both on time and late applications.

As a minimum, waiting lists for all oversubscribed schools must be held until the end of the autumn term.

Q: What if we don't get in?

A: ???

- Don't panic!
 - Approx. 95% get 1st or 2nd choice – eventually (higher here)
- If you are refused a place at a school of your preference, you will have the right to appeal to an independent panel for a place.

There is no guarantee of success with any appeal and full details about how to appeal will be made clearer in the decision letter that is posted on 1st March 2027.

A Useful Telephone Number:

0345 603 2200

Essex County Council

School Admissions

www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

Email:

admissions@essex.gov.uk



Secondary Education in Essex 2027/2028

Your guide to transferring from primary to secondary school
Closing date for applications 31 October 2026
Apply online at: www.essex.gov.uk/admissions



Moving to Secondary School



If you have any questions related to any aspect of the presentations please feel free to:

- Put a note to your child's classteacher in their Home School Diary
- Telephone the School Office (01277 223651)
- Email (admin@stthomaspri.essex.sch.uk)

