



Chase Lane Primary School and Nursery

Aspire. Strive. Achieve.

Chase Lane, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex, CO12 4NB
Email: admin@chaselane.essex.sch.uk

Telephone: (01255) 502416
website: www.chaselane.essex.sch.uk

Welcome back to the new school year, we hope you all had a wonderful summer.

We would like to welcome new staff to Chase Lane. Mrs Mills has joined us and is teaching in Willow and Little Oaks. Mrs Elmer and Mrs Dalby have also joined us as Teaching Assistants.



We would also like to say hello to our wonderful new Reception children who are settling in really well at Chase Lane.

School Uniform

Chase Lane is very proud of its school uniform. Wearing the

correct school uniform enables children to feel part of their school community. Please continue to support us in maintaining high standards of uniform.

Please can we remind you that jewellery, nail varnish and large hair accessories (including large hair bows) should not be worn to school.

Clean second hand uniform is available in the school office — please help yourself

Autumn Term Diary Dates

23rd September	Tom Bowdidge Foundation Assembly (Fun Run charity donation presentation)
25th September	School photographer—Family Groups
3rd and 4th October	Reception and Year 5 road safety
9th October	School Council trip to The Houses of Parliament
3rd November	West Cliff Theatre Remembrance Concert
4th November	Parents' Evening — look out for invitations
13th November	Parents' Evening — look out for invitations
27th November	Flu vaccinations
1st December	West Cliff Theatre Carol Service
3rd December	Reception trip to the Mercury Theatre
17th December	Year 5 pantomime trip to the New Wolsey Theatre

Dates for Christmas performances will be confirmed soon.

Year 6 to 7 secondary admission round for September 2025

The new secondary school admission round opened on Thursday 12 September 2024 for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2025.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 31st October 2024.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

If you are a parent of a Year 6 pupil, please log onto the above website and make an application by the closing date of **31st October 2024**.

The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2025-26 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.

Helping parents to understand the changes to fines for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools **after 19th August 2024**.

National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence, including the U code (late after registers have closed).

For example: a 5 day holiday would meet the national threshold.

The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

Who may be fined?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:
£80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.
Increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:
£160 per parent (who allowed the holiday),
per child, payable within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns. This may mean that cases are presented before a Magistrate's Court. Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2,500.
Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Parking

We appreciate that dropping off and picking up times are very busy around the school. Please can we remind you to park carefully to ensure the health and safety of all our children and families, as well as local residents.

The road leading from Chase Lane to the main road is private and should not be used for parking.