Unlocking potential, transforming futures...
Volume 3, Edition 6: 24 July 2026



THE BRUNTS ACADEMY

Be Proud Be Respectful Be Resilient Be Ambitious

MWP #SafeguardingFirst

Summer Wellbeing Newsletter

Culture day—20 July :)

Our **culture day** this week was incredibly successful, and supported our inclusive and respectful ethos brilliantly. A real 'feel good day'!

It was magnificent to see so many students 'being proud' to wear their traditional cultural dress and for our academy community to immerse themselves in learning about other cultures, developing awareness, understanding and acceptance of the diversity of society.

The day included themed lessons, learning, music, dance and food!

We were delighted to welcome 'Roots catering' to the academy who provided samples of their cuisine. And the samples were very popular indeed!

We have also adopted 'Bumpy' from the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust :)

Events like culture day, help to broaden horizons, build acceptance, understanding and promote community cohesion. Additionally, events like this help us to re-shape attitudes that might not be aligned with equality, Fundamental British Values and ultimately to eliminate discrimination and prejudice, building a bright future for every child to thrive.

A wonderful (and sunny) day at the Academy! Thank-you to Miss Conley and Mrs Astle for organising the event.











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Safeguarding is:

- **P**roviding early help to children as soon as problems emerge
- **P**rotecting children from abuse
- **P**reventing harm to children's development
- **P**roviding safe and effective care
- **P**romoting the best outcomes for children

Emergency Contacts:
Police: 999—101
NSPCC: 08088005000
Childline: 0800-1111
MASH: 0300-5008090
EDT: 0300-4564546
CAMHS Crisis: 08081963779
#WellbeingFirst
#**S**tronger**T**ogether
#**S**taySafe

"Safeguarding isn't a priority, it is a necessity"



Bath Lane Drive…(!)

Please remember that our 'long and windy road' has a 10mph maximum speed limit. And it is 10mph for a reason. This applies in the morning and in the afternoon for drop offs and pick ups. 10mph is VERY SLOW indeed.

If you are choosing to drive up to drop off or pick up, please remember, you will need to queue. We ask politely that adults dropping off/collecting do not 'turn around in the road' as this has caused collisions with children in the past with vehicles driving onto the pathways. Child safety will always be our priority. Additionally, there are many parking spaces on Sandy Lane, Ravensdale Road and Bath Lane. We would encourage parents/ carers to park there and for your child to walk down to be collected, or dropped off there to walk up the drive. Thank-you in advance for keeping children safe around our site.



Family Hubs and Early Help

Local FAMILY HUBS are working together with partners such as the NHS, schools, and local charities to provide joined up services and give families the right support at the right time, making it easier to get information and advice. Each Family Hub Network will include at least one main physical building and other access points across Nottinghamshire. Some of these might be in schools or libraries, as well as online from our Virtual Family Hub on Your Notts Directory.

Family Hub Networks aim to offer a range of help and support from pregnancy and throughout childhood into early adulthood, including with preparing for a baby, child development, parenting support, health and wellbeing, relationships and communication, finances and employment. Local Family hubs are a real asset to the local offer in supporting children and families and we encourage you to consider accessing them should you have a need.

Family Hub sites are open Monday to Friday:

- Ladybrook Family Hub: 0115 9773763
- Mansfield Woodhouse Family Hub: 0115 9773765
- Ravensdale Family Hub: 0115 9773740
- Oak Tree Family Hub: 0115 977 3740

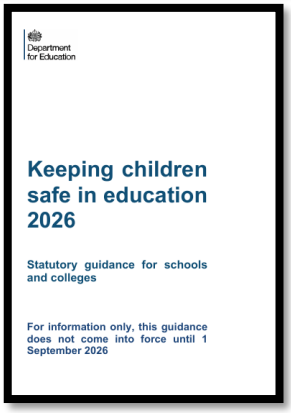
You can email them at: fhmansfield@nottscc.gov.uk



Keeping Children Safe In Education 2026 (September 1st)

Our staff training for September is ready to go! Each new academic year the Department for Education updates its statutory guidance. Our training reflects all the changes/updates and we are training EVERY member of staff, our teachers, site and admin teams, catering team, maintenance staff and invigilators/volunteers.

This year, there are more significant changes, the most since KCSIE was first published for schools in 2015. Significant updates include: online harms and AI, gender-questioning children, attendance, mental health, safer recruitment and strengthening safeguarding expectations for all staff. Our staff will be well prepared to keep all our children safe, as they always are!



Summer safety

At the time of publication, there have been **29 fatalities** in open water in the UK since the end of May, 20 of these have been children. Incredibly sad statistics...periods of hot weather and heatwaves always see young people gravitate towards water to swim, dive in, paddle etc. **90% of accidental drownings** occur at open water sites in the UK.

Most young people do not realise the dangers that open water poses.

Mansfield (and district) has many areas of open water including: Kings Mill Reservoir, Sutton Lawn, Vicar Water, Pleasley CP, Harlow Wood, Newstead Abbey, Rainworth Lakes, The River Maun, Bleak Hills and more.

The Royal Life Saving Society highlight these dangers:

- The shock of cold water can make swimming difficult and increase the difficulty in getting out of the water
- Lack of safety equipment and increased difficulty for rescue
- The height of the fall or jump
- The depth of the water – this changes and is unpredictable
- Underwater objects and hazards may not be visible
- Obstacles or other people in the water
- Strong currents can rapidly sweep people away
- Uneven banks and river beds
- Water quality, e.g. toxic algal blooms (blue-green algae) and industrial/agricultural pollution



Please ensure your child is aware of dangers and does not enter open water unless this is part of a supervised event like an open water swimming club activity or triathlon club.

Rail Safety

As part of ongoing efforts to promote railway safety, Network Rail has requested that schools support this important safety initiative by ensuring that young people receive these potentially life-saving messages and prior to the holiday period.

Secondary School Version – Suitable for ages 11–16
https://careerfriendlyprogramme.com/video/rail-safe-friendly-secondary

Accessibility/ASN School Version – Suitable for all ages
https://careerfriendlyprogramme.com/video/rail-safe-friendly-send



Children's Images online

In line with the guidance to schools, the National Crime Agency and the Internet Watch Foundation have now issued guidance for parents. AI is being used to turn ordinary photos of children into sexual abuse material. The National Crime Agency and Internet Watch Foundation have issued new guidance to help parents make informed choices about sharing images of their children online. It covers reviewing privacy settings, revisiting consent with your child as they grow, and what to do if you're worried. The parent's guidance can be found here: https://www.iwf.org.uk/resources/ai-child-abuse-imagery-parent-guide/

Academy attendance #AttendanceMatters #AmbitiousAttendance

We are very proud of our improvements in attendance this year. **Brunts overall is 93.1% compared to the National Average 91.5% (1.6% above).**

Ofsted evaluated our attendance as **'strong standard'** meaning our attendance processes and systems are highly effective to support high and improving attendance with great attendance for students with different characteristics**. We would like to thank YOU, our parents and carers for supporting us with attendance.**

Simply put, when children attend school, **they are safe**, they learn and develop their character. They develop employability skills for life and open the door of opportunity for themselves.

On 14th July we trained **50 Attendance Ambassadors** who will play a key role in the further development of attendance as student leaders. They will support other young people and their Tutor, meet with the core attendance team and promote improved attendance across the academy community. They were brilliant!


This is to certify that:

Attendance Matters
Every student. Every day.

has completed initial training in attendance and punctuality

to become an **Attendance Ambassador** at The Brunts Academy.

Congratulations!

Signed:

S Taylor (DSL and Senior Attendance Champion)

S Cashmore (Attendance Welfare Officer)

Date of training: 14th July 2026

ATTENDANCE AMBASSADOR

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THE BRUNTS ACADEMY

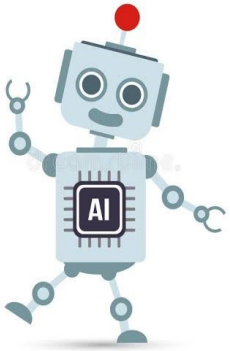




On 24th July (today) will are awarding **GOLD podium badges** for those with 100% attendance for the year and bronze/ silver badges for those who did not have 100% in Autumn but have had 100% in the Spring or Summer term. We continue to reward improving attendance too, with letters, emails and spot prizes!

Artificial Intelligence:

Our safeguarding team are increasingly using AI (Co-Pilot) to keep children safe...It has revolutionised summarising and creating reports, analysing patterns and trends, supporting presentations and enhancing our ability to put into place rapid actions that keep children safe. It will continue to be an incredibly useful tool in our armoury, supporting children and families.





Contacts:

Steve Taylor—Deputy Principal, Senior Attendance Champion and Safeguarding Lead (staylor@bruntsacademy.org)

Jayne Kirkland—Senior Deputy Safeguarding Lead (jkirkland@bruntsacademy.org)

Emma Jimmick—Deputy Safeguarding Lead (ejimmick@bruntsacademy.org)

Copilot

In the next volume… Our child friendly safeguarding policy :)