Raynsford

Church of England Academy

September 2026

Welcome

It has been wonderful to welcome all of our children and families back to Raynsford today for the start of a new academic year. After the summer break, there has been a real sense of excitement around school as the children have returned to their classrooms, caught up with friends and begun settling into their new routines.

A particularly warm welcome goes to our new preschool and Reception children and their families, as well as children who have joined Raynsford in other year groups. We hope that you already feel part of our school community and we look forward to getting to know you all over the weeks and months ahead.

We have been incredibly proud of the way the children have returned to school today. There have been lots of smiling faces, enthusiastic learners and children excited to share their summer adventures. Moving into a new class and beginning a new school year can bring a mixture of excitement and nerves, but our children have approached their first day brilliantly.

We have so much to look forward to during the year ahead, with plenty of opportunities for our children to learn, grow, challenge themselves and make wonderful memories together. As always, we look forward to sharing and celebrating all that happens at Raynsford with you throughout the year.

I hope all of our children have enjoyed their first day back and are looking forward to everything the new academic year will bring.

Meet the Team

As we begin the new academic year, we would like to remind families of the staff working with each year group. We are very fortunate to have a fantastic team of teachers and support staff across Raynsford, all committed to ensuring our children are happy, supported and able to thrive.

Preschool: Naomi, Leah, Ella, Jane, Lizzie, Denise, Lisa
Reception: Miss Williams, Miss Goggins (Fridays), Mrs Tekell, Mrs Brown and Mrs Godfrey
Year 1: Mrs Provan and Mrs Clare
Year 2: Miss Mole, Mrs Wood, Mrs Down and Miss Baulch
Year 3: Miss Wren and Mrs Mustoe
Year 4: Mr Thomas, Miss Middleton, Ms Keane and Miss Triner
Year 5: Mrs Tumber, Mrs Howell (Fridays) and Mrs Dilley
Year 6: Miss Page, Mrs Griffett and Mrs Gibson

We are delighted to welcome Miss Goggins into her new role as Deputy Headteacher this year. Miss Goggins will continue to play an important role across the school. Alongside retaining her leadership of the Early Years Foundation Stage, she will also be leading on curriculum development and inclusion.

We are pleased to introduce our Pastoral Team, led by Miss Page. The team includes Mrs Griffett and Mrs Tekell, who work in Family Support, alongside Mrs Mustoe, our Learning Mentor. Together, they provide support to children and families across our school community, helping to promote wellbeing, positive relationships and readiness to learn.

Miss Page is also our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and leads safeguarding across the school. She is supported by our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mr Wheatley, Miss Goggins,

Miss Atkins and Mrs Griffett. Safeguarding and the wellbeing of our children remain at the heart of everything we do at Raynsford. All staff receive regular safeguarding training, and our procedures follow the statutory guidance set out in *Keeping Children Safe in Education*. More information can be found in our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy on the school website.

Our school office team continues to be – Mrs Saunders, Mrs Perry and Mrs Webb – who are often the first point of contact for our families. They are always happy to help with any questions, queries or day-to-day school matters and will ensure that information is passed on to the appropriate member of staff when needed.

Supporting children across the school, we also have Miss Atkins, our SENDCo, and Mr Keating, who leads PE and sport.

We know how important strong relationships between home and school are, and our whole team looks forward to working closely with you and your children throughout the year ahead.

Meet your child's teacher

Over the next few weeks, we will be offering parents and carers an opportunity to come into school and meet their child's class teacher. We will be doing things a little differently this year, with each teacher providing a short presentation to give families a clearer understanding of the year ahead.

Teachers will share **key expectations for their year group**, the **curriculum topics and the learning** the children will be covering, as well as information about **trips, events and other opportunities** planned throughout the year. There will also be an opportunity to find out more about class routines and how you can support your child's learning at home.

We hope these sessions will provide a helpful overview of what your child can look forward to during the year and strengthen the important partnership between home and school.

Dates and further information will be shared with families as soon as possible.

School uniform

As we begin the new academic year, we would like to remind families of our expectations regarding school uniform. We are incredibly proud of our school and ask that all children come to school each day wearing the correct uniform, unless it is a specified non-uniform day.

The required uniform includes:

- Grey trousers, tailored grey shorts, skirt or pinafore
- Red school sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece *(with school logo)*
- Red & white gingham dresses *(no open-toed sandals)*
- White polo (non-logo is acceptable)
- Grey, white socks, grey tights
- Black shoes *(not trainers)*
- Red hoodies are also available for PE days / outdoor wear only

Please also ensure children's **long hair is tied back at all times**, and remember that **jewellery is limited to a watch and small stud earrings only**. Earrings and watches must be removed for PE lessons in line with our safety guidelines. You can find out more regarding our school uniform on our website

For those needing uniform items, YourSchoolUniform is our approved supplier. Alternatively, the **PTA runs a second-hand uniform stall in the school office**; donations of good-quality items are gratefully accepted

Children will also need a **named water bottle** each day. We kindly request that children only bring a **book bag** (which can be stored in their tray) and a **lunchbox** if they are having a packed lunch. As space is very limited, please avoid sending in large or bulky rucksacks.

Please ensure all uniform and book bags are clearly labelled with your child's name.

PE

A gentle reminder that children should come to school dressed in their full **PE kit** on their allocated PE days (apart from our new reception class at this moment in time).

The required PE attire includes:

- Black shorts, leggings, or joggers (without sports logos)
- Their assigned Owl family colour t-shirt (*purchased from our uniform provider - available with or without the school logo)*
- A red sweatshirt, hoodie, cardigan, or fleece with the school logo
- Black plimsolls or plain black trainers
- Earrings and watches must be removed for PE lessons in line with our safety guidelines

Please see your child's PE schedule below, beginning on **Monday 7th September:**

- **Reception:** Thursday *(Please bring PE kit in a bag to change into in school)*
- **Year 1:** Tuesday & Wednesday
- **Year 2:** Tuesday & Friday
- **Year 3:** Monday & Wednesday
- **Year 4:** Tuesday & Thursday
- **Year 5:** Monday & Thursday
- **Year 6:** Monday & Wednesday

As always, please name all PE items clearly and ensure your child arrives wearing the correct kit. This helps lessons run smoothly and ensures they can participate fully.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We are delighted to once again be offering a wide range of extra-curricular clubs for children this half term, providing opportunities to enjoy sport, creativity and performing arts beyond the school day.

Monday: Year 3–6 Football
Tuesday: Year 3–6 Art Club, Year 1 & 2 Musical Theatre and Year 3–6 Netball
Wednesday: Year 1 & 2 Art Club and Year 3–6 Tag Rugby
Thursday: Year 1 & 2 Football and Year 3–6 Musical Theatre

Club sign-up will open on Monday 7th September at 6:00pm. Places are limited and will be allocated through the sign-up process, so we encourage families to book promptly if their child would like to take part.

Sign-up will **close at 12:00pm on Wednesday 9th September**.

We are really pleased to be able to offer such a varied programme and hope that lots of children will take the opportunity to try something they enjoy. Clubs are priced at just £3 per club, per week

Key Dates

We will share more details regarding our key events nearer the time:

Monday 7th September	Sign up for extra-curricular clubs opens
Wednesday 9th September (12pm)	Extra-curricular clubs sig up closed
Wed 16 Sep 2026	Phonics Parents Information evening
Thu 17 Sep 2026	Flu vaccinations - whole school
Mon 28 Sep 2026	Harvest Festival Week
Fri 2 Oct 2026	Harvest festival Church service
Tue 6 Oct 2026	Parents Evening
Wed 7 Oct 2026	Parents Evening
Week beginning 26th October	Half Term

Thank you for your continued support, we are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead.