

## Welcome to this week's Parkfield Press

March has arrived and with it the welcome signs of spring! The days are getting longer, the evenings are lighter, and blossoms are beginning to appear on trees and around the school grounds. It has been wonderful to see everyone returning from half term full of energy and ready for the exciting weeks ahead.



We have already celebrated International Mother Languages Day and World Book Day and we would like to share with you the exciting learning that happened during safety week just before half term. As we move through this colourful and cheerful time of year, we look forward to plenty more learning, activities, and achievements to celebrate together.

We would like to confirm that the booking for after school clubs will go live on the **27<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. Whether its choir, athletics, art or girl's football, book early to guarantee your place. Please see the timetable at the bottom of the newsletter for the full club offering.

## Safety Week 2026 (9<sup>th</sup> February – 13<sup>th</sup> February)

Before half term, we immersed ourselves in 'how to stay safe' during our annual Safety Week. Each year group focussed on different aspects of Road Safety and Key Stage 2 focussed on Canal & River Safety and Railway Safety, as this is relevant to the local area. Year 6 children also made a road safety video which you can view here - <https://www.parkfieldschool.co.uk/about-us/photo-gallery/video-gallery-2025-2026>



We had lots of visitors, including the RNLI - who delivered a whole school assembly about water safety and beach flags. KS2 classes then had specific workshops learning about topics such as cold-water shock, rip currents, hazards in and around waterways and how to make emergency calls.



Alison Kramer from Network Rail also visited Parkfield and presented information to Years 4, 5 and 6 about how to stay safe around the railway. Years 2 and Year 5 looked at different aspects of fire safety, which included how to 'stop, drop and roll', the importance of fire alarms in the home, safety within the home & outside and how to make an emergency call.

Our local PSCO spoke to Year 5 and 6 about 'the age of responsibility' and how to stay safe, act responsibly and manage risks. Another area each year group focussed on were safe relationships, both on and offline, the PANTS rule and stranger danger.



We are so proud of our pupils who worked hard the entire week, paying attention on how to keep themselves and others safe. Well done Parkfield!

## UNCRC Article 24 (Right to stay safe)

## International Mother Languages Day 2026

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, the whole school community celebrated International Mother Language Day (IMLD). We celebrate IMLD to raise awareness of languages (including endangered languages), cultural diversity and multilingualism in our Parkfield community and around the world. Thank you for your support.



This year, we held a special non-uniform day and school was a riot of different colours, costumes and outfits. Children with home languages were encouraged to come to school in the traditional dress linked to their language(s) and everyone came to school in non-school uniform, matching the colours of any flag in the world.

In class, the children found out more about places around the world and their languages, and discovered some of the different home languages spoken by children and staff at Parkfield. It was great fun and gave us the chance to enjoy a selection of the 40 different languages we have in the Parkfield community.



UNCRC Article 30 (Right to learn and use the language of their family)

## Book Talk

This week's book review is by Halle H in Year 3, who will be sharing her thoughts on the book 'Football Superstars: Ronaldo Rules' by Simon Mugford and Dan Green.

**What is the book about?** It's about the footballer Cristiano Ronaldo and how he came to become a famous footballer. The book describes all of his achievements, such as the trophies he has won and how many goals he has scored each season. In 2007 – 2008, he scored 42 goals!

**What is your favourite part?** My favourite bit of the book is the very first page because it is full of lots of facts and information about him such as, 'Tricks: Awesome at back-heels, flicks and super step-overs'.

**Do you like the book? Why?** Yes, because he is my favourite football player so I can learn more about him and where he was born, who he lived with and how much money he's got!

**Who would enjoy this book?** My Dad and other football fans. Maybe people aged 6 – 50 years old. How many stars would you give it out of 5: 5/5



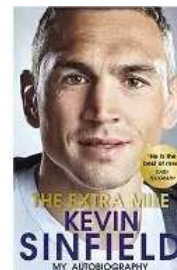
UNCRC Article 29 (Right for education to develop a child's ability and talent)

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## World Book Day 2026 with Story Explorers

Last Thursday, the children at Parkfield celebrated World Book Day with the exciting theme 'Connecting Passions to Reading'. Children arrived bursting with creativity—some dressed as their favourite book characters, while others wore costumes that proudly represented their personal interests and passions. It was wonderful to see so many unique ideas brought to life!

Our day began with a whole-school assembly in which Mr Jones talked about his passion for running and his hero, Kevin Sinfield who wrote 'The Extra Mile'. He even had a video message from the man himself wishing Parkfield a happy World Book Day and reminding us of the importance of friendship.



Throughout the day, pupils enjoyed a wide range of fun, book-linked activities. Classes got to enjoy professional-led drama workshops where stories were brought to life through performance. Afterwards, children got to practise their new drama skills through hot-seating book characters back in class. Another highlight was our 'class reading swap', where each class paired up with another elsewhere in the school to share their favourite books and read aloud to new friends—a lovely moment of connection across year groups.

At several points during the day, everybody got to 'drop and read': everyone, including adults, stopped what they were doing to read silently for two minutes. The calm atmosphere was magical! It was a fantastic day celebrating stories, imagination and all the things we love. Thank you to everyone who helped make World Book Day so memorable!

**Year 1** had a fantastic time dressing up as something that inspired them or they really enjoyed. To celebrate this, the children became illustrators and designed an alternative book cover for their chosen book. The children also enjoyed quizzing each other with a book memory game - a great opportunity to practice questioning skills as well as memorising what was on a specific page. Finally, Year 1 enjoyed spending time with pupils from Year 4 and Year 6 to show off their reading skills and discussing what they enjoyed about their chosen book.



**Year 2** had a busy day celebrating World Book Day! The children loved looking at each other's costumes and talking about why they had decided to dress up as our chosen character. They then did a book swap with Woodpecker and Swan class, where they really enjoyed sharing their favourite stories with the older children. There were some great discussions about books and the children enjoyed reading to each other. Dove and Nightingale classes also did some drama activities, creating freeze frames in groups with



the rest of the class having to guess which scene from a well-known story each group was showing – it was lots of fun! The children also thought about the feelings of characters from different stories. Lastly, they made their own bookmarks and enjoyed some World Book Day colouring. It was a really fun and exciting day!

**Year 4** enjoyed a workshop based on *The Ugly Duckling*. They created a soundscape for the different characters, acted out how each one might look and feel, and then explored what objects they might find inside the old lady's house. It was a fun and creative way to bring the story to life.

The children used drama to act out a news report from the perspective of the characters in *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. Working in teams, they discussed key events from the story and performed their reports using expression, teamwork, and creativity.

The children then drew characters from Goldilocks and the Three Bears and coloured them in the vibrant, patterned style of Romero Britto. They enjoyed experimenting with bold colours and repeating shapes to bring the characters to life. Kingfisher and Woodpecker class shared their books with Year 1 and Year 2. The children had lots of fun listening to one another and exploring a range of genres together.

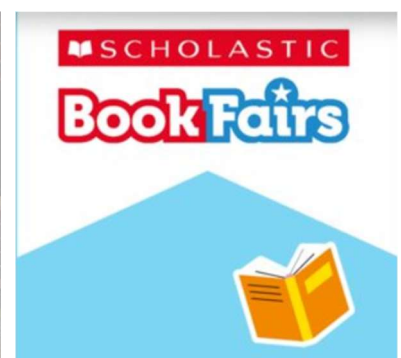


**Year 5** explored a range of different texts and discussed whether they judge a book by its cover and rated the artwork – they were surprised by their choices!

The book the children used as their stimulus was Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, zooming in on the Mad Hatter and his character. Year 5 explored his unique identity using a hot seating task and shared thoughts about his personality and demeanour. They then wrote invitations to his 'Curious unbirthday' party in his style of speech and riddles. During the afternoon, they took part in a reading swap with Nightingale and Starling classes. What a Frabjous day we had! We were lucky enough to be able to take part in a drama workshop with Leanne from Story Explorers which was themed around the popular fairy tale, Hansel and Gretel. In groups, we used drama to explore the thoughts and feelings of the main characters.



**Year 6** explored the many benefits of reading, including developing language, imagination, emotions, and vocabulary. To spark creativity, the children played 'Find The Truth', inventing opening sentences for books and guessing the real one. Throughout the day, surprise 'Drop and Read' alarms had them stopping instantly to enjoy their books. They then became detectives while reading *The Speckled Band*, listening for clues to solve the mystery. The children grew their drama and oracy skills through 'Hot Seating', interviewing characters from the story, and loved sharing books with Year 1. They ended with a lively 'Hansel and Gretel' drama workshop, proudly showcasing their skills.



Our Book Fair was well-supported yet again by our wonderful school community and we hope you all enjoy reading your new additions to your home library.

From the sale, we have earned an incredible **£919.97** in commission! This means we have over £900 to spend on beautiful new books for the children to share and enjoy.

Well done and thank you to everyone who supported the sale!

**UNCRC Article 17, 29 & 31** (Right to read reliable information, relax in leisure and culture and education)

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## Recorder Karate Success!

We are delighted to share that four more children have achieved the much-sought-after Black Belt in Recorder Karate. This is a fantastic accomplishment that reflects their dedication, perseverance, and impressive musical progress.

A huge congratulations to Kate P, Alvina V, Poppy B and Naomi L for reaching this top level! Their hard work and commitment have really paid off, and we are all incredibly proud of them. Well done, everyone — keep making music!



**UNCRC Article 29 (Right for education to develop a child's ability and talent)**

## Sports Events

### Year 5 & 6 Netball Friendly Tournament

Over the past two consecutive Monday evenings, 16 of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils took part in a friendly netball tournament. The event provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to represent the school, develop their skills, and enjoy some competitive sport in a positive and supportive environment.

Across the two evenings, the pupils demonstrated great enthusiasm, determination and teamwork. Both teams played extremely well, showing excellent communication on the court and supporting one another throughout the matches. It was particularly pleasing to see how well the players worked together, applying the skills they have been practising in lessons and encouraging their teammates during every game. We were also delighted to have two Year 4 girls step up to join the squad. They showed great confidence and commitment while playing alongside the older pupils and represented the school brilliantly.

All of the children involved should be very proud of their efforts. Their positive attitude, teamwork and sportsmanship were a credit to the school.

**Well done to all children who have represented Parkfield at these events – we are so proud of you!**

**UNCRC Article 29 (Right for education to develop a child's ability and talent)**

## Eco-Committee News – Nourish and Flourish

Last week, Team Nourish and Flourish explored how easy it can be to make healthy, comforting food using simple, seasonal ingredients. Together, they created a warming root vegetable soup, learning that good food doesn't have to be complicated to be nutritious. Using ingredients like carrots, potatoes, sweet potato and onions, they discovered how a few basic steps can turn everyday vegetables into a delicious, hearty meal.

The children practised safe chopping skills, explored different textures and smells and learned why seasonal produce is not only fresher but better for our bodies and kinder to the environment. They followed a clear, simple method: peel, chop, simmer, blend — and enjoy! By the end, they understood that making healthy choices starts with small actions, like cooking with whole foods and enjoying meals made from scratch.

Through hands-on cooking, teamwork, and tasting, they learned that nourishing our bodies helps us flourish, and that anyone can create something wholesome with just a handful of vegetables and a little bit of warmth.



## School Gates

**We would like to remind you that parents / carers must leave the school site by 9am each morning.**

We are experiencing an increase in the number of adults who are not leaving promptly after dropping off their children to class. Our school gates must be closed and locked at 9am, as this is the time that children begin to move around the school site and we must follow our safeguarding policies to ensure the children are safe.

If you are running late and cannot get to your child's class and then exit the school site by 9am, please sign your child in through the school office.

Please also be reminded that bikes / scooters should be pushed and not ridden when past the school gates.

## School Meals

We are pleased to confirm that bookings for school meals are now open until the end of the school year.

**Bookings for week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> April (the week we return after the Easter break) will close on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026. If no bookings are made, your child will need to bring a packed lunch to school.**

All other school meals must be booked **at least** two weeks in advance to ensure meals are secured prior to booking closing. A reminder that all meal bookings should be 'checked out' even if you are entitled to Universal / Free School Meals at no cost.

## Swallows

We are pleased to confirm that bookings for AM & PM Swallows sessions are now open until the end of the school year.

We would like to remind you that booking for Swallows closes at 6pm on a Thursday evening for the following week. Please ensure you book your required sessions by this time, so that we are able to plan staffing and activities effectively.

Please also be aware that the final serving for breakfast in AM Swallows is 8.15am. If your child is arriving at school for AM Swallows after this time, please ensure they have already eaten at home.

**Bookings for Summer term clubs will be opening on 27<sup>th</sup> March – please see the timetable detailed below.**

## After School Clubs

**Please could we politely request that the school office is informed if your child will not be attending a club that they have been booked into.**

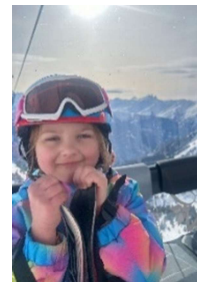
Whilst we appreciate that circumstances change and sometimes children will need to be collected at 3.30pm rather than attending their booked club, when a child is not present for the club register our safeguarding protocol is triggered. We are currently having to spend additional time each afternoon speaking with various members of staff to ensure that children have been safely collected.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

## Out of School Achievements

Congratulations to Anna B (Year 2) who completed Level 3 at the ski school during half term. Anna was very brave skiing from the 2780m peak in the French Alps.

Well done Anna, what an experience! We will look forward to seeing you in the future Winter Olympics!



Congratulations to Hugo B (Reception) who passed his Level 1 swimming award at Blackbrook Leisure Centre recently.

Hugo has been swimming since last summer and has been working really hard to move into Level 2, especially as he is always smallest in the class!

Oscar H (Year 6) recently completed in the English Championships in Taekwondo at an event in Guildford and won a silver medal in sparring!

This is only Oscar's second time competing but both times has come back with medals!

What an amazing achievement Oscar, well done!



## UNCRC Article 15 (Right to join groups and organisations)

## House Points

House points are given to pupils to reinforce and reflect the school values that they are demonstrating at the time. The total for each house is updated every two weeks, until the end of each term.

**Well done Mars – our current winners!**

<b>MARS</b> 601	<b>MERCURY</b> 503	<b>PLUTO</b> 531	<b>VENUS</b> 539
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**The winning value is RESPECT – well done Parkfield for being respectful students!**

## Key Dates

March 2026	
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 – Trip to Castle Hotel
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Carymoor Recycling Workshops
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup>	Reception – Vision Screening
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	Wren Class – Trip to Puxton Park
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup>	Robin Class – Trip to Puxton Park
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 – PTFA Cake Sale
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Week
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup>	Year 2 – Trip to SS Great Britain
April 2026	
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Easter Basket & Bonnet
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	End of Spring Term 2026
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Summer Term 2026
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 – Trip to Bristol Museum & Bristol Synagogue

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Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

May 2026	
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 4 – Ancient Greek Workshop
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	BANK HOLIDAY
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 – Trip to Kilve Activity Centre
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Reception / Year 6 – National Child Measurement Programme
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Reception – Family Learning Workshop (9.15am – 10.15am)
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 – Trip to Noah's Ark Zoo
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> – Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 – KS2 Assessments
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	Reception / Year 3 / Year 6 – Space Dome
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 / Year 5 / Year 6 – Author Workshops (Taunton Brewhouse)
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Health Week
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Little Lifesavers Workshops
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	Reception – Sports Day (2pm – 3pm)
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup>	Years 1 / Year 2 – Sports Day (2pm – 3pm)
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	Years 3 / Year 4 – Sports Day (2pm – 3pm)
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	Reception – Multi-Skills Festival (Castle School)
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 – Civic Award Evening (6pm – 7:30pm)
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup>	Years 5 / Year 6 – Sports Day (2pm – 3pm)
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Reception / Year 1 / Year 4 – Dental Hygiene Workshops
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 29 <sup>th</sup>	HALF TERM

We will endeavour to stick to the proposed dates and times. However, there could be times when events/dates will need to be changed. If this does happen, we will give you as much notice as possible.

Thank you for continued help and support.



**Gareth Jones**  
Headteacher



**Felicitas Per Ardua**  
Success and Happiness Through  
Hardwork



## Contact Details

Parkfield Primary School  
Parkfield Road  
Taunton  
Tel: 01823 282125

E-mail: [office@parkfieldschool.co.uk](mailto:office@parkfieldschool.co.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/parkfieldschooltaunton>

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Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

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STIKINS – Parkfield PTFA  
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## SCHOOL CLUBS Summer Term 2026

	Club	Cost	Year	Start Time	Finish Time	Start Date	End Date	Collection Point	No of Weeks	Venue	
Monday	AM Swallows	£3.80 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	07:50	08:50	20.04.2026	20.07.2026	Front Entrance	11	Swallows	Monday
	Ocarina	£0.00	1,2	11:50	12:20	20.04.2026	06.07.2026	–	9	Music Room	
	Gymnastics	£34.20	3,4,5,6	15:30	16:30	20.04.2026	06.07.2026	Front Playground	9	Hall	
	Athletics	£34.20	3,4,5,6	15:30	16:30	20.04.2026	06.07.2026	Front Playground	9	Field	
	Art	£34.20	3,4	15:30	16:30	20.04.2026	06.07.2026	Woodpecker Class	9	Yr 4 Woodpecker Class	
	PM Swallows	£3.80 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	15:30	18:00	20.04.2026	20.07.2026	Front Entrance	11	Swallows	
Tuesday	AM Swallows	£3.80 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	07:50	08:50	21.04.2026	21.07.2026	Front entrance	13	Swallows	Tuesday
	Recorders	£0.00	3,4,5,6	12:20	12:40	21.04.2026	07.07.2026	–	11	Music Room	
	Choir	£41.80	1,2	15:30	16:30	21.04.2026	07.07.2026	Front Playground	11	Music Room	
	Rounders	£41.80	3,4,5,6	15:30	16:30	21.04.2026	07.07.2026	Front Playground	11	Field	
	Dance	£41.80	3,4,5,6	15:30	16:30	21.04.2026	07.07.2026	Side Playground	11	Hall	
	Art	£41.80	5,6	15:30	16:30	21.04.2026	07.07.2026	Heron Class	11	Yr 6 Kestrel Class	
	PM Swallows	£3.80 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	15:30	18:00	21.04.2026	21.07.2026	Front entrance	13	Swallows	
Wednesday	AM Swallows	£3.80 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	07:50	08:50	22.04.2026	08.07.2026	Front entrance	12	Swallows	Wednesday
	Steel Pan Band	£0.00	3,4,5,6	12:40	13:10	22.04.2026	08.07.2026	–	11	Music Room	
	Choir	£41.80	3,4	15:30	16:30	22.04.2026	08.07.2026	Front Playground	11	Music Room	
	Art	£41.80	R (Reception)	15:30	16:30	22.04.2026	08.07.2026	Wren Class	11	Reception Wren Class	
	Multisport	£41.80	1,2	15:30	16:30	22.04.2026	08.07.2026	Front Playground	11	Field	
	Cricket	£41.80	5,6	15:30	16:30	22.04.2026	08.07.2026	Side Playground	11	KS2 Playground	
	PM Swallows	£3.80 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	15:30	18:00	22.04.2026	08.07.2026	Front entrance	12	Swallows	
Thursday	AM Swallows	£3.80 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	07:50	08:50	23.04.2026	09.07.2026	Front entrance	12	Swallows	Thursday
	Orchestra	£0.00	3,4,5,6	12:10	12:40	23.04.2026	09.07.2026	–	11	Music Room	
	Choir	£41.80	5,6	15:30	16:30	23.04.2026	09.07.2026	Side Playground	11	Music Room	
	Gymnastics	£41.80	1,2	15:30	16:30	23.04.2026	09.07.2026	Front Playground	11	Hall	
	Cricket	£41.80	3,4	15:30	16:30	23.04.2026	09.07.2026	Front Playground	11	KS2 Playground	
	Art	£41.80	1,2	15:30	16:30	23.04.2026	09.07.2026	Chaffinch Class	11	Yr 1 Chaffinch Class	
	PM Swallows	£3.80 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	15:30	18:00	23.04.2026	09.07.2026	Front Entrance	12	Swallows	
Friday	AM Swallows	£3.80 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	07:50	08:50	24.04.2026	17.07.2026	Front Entrance	12	Swallows	Friday
	Multisport	£41.80	1,2	15:30	16:30	24.04.2026	10.07.2026	Front Playground	11	Field	
	Multisport	£41.80	R (Reception)	15:30	16:30	24.04.2026	10.07.2026	Front Playground	11	Field	
	Football Girls	£41.80	3,4,5,6	15:30	16:30	24.04.2026	10.07.2026	Side Playground	11	Field	
	PM Swallows	£3.80 per hr	R,1,2,3,4,5,6	15:30	18:00	24.04.2026	17.07.2026	Front Entrance	12	Swallows	

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Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026



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- ★ Available to children aged 4 - 11

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★ Contact [dcrysell@premier-education.com](mailto:dcrysell@premier-education.com) for queries

**PLEASE BRING**  
A packed lunch  
Plenty of water  
Suitable clothing  
Loads of energy!

Our Holiday Clubs keep children active, safe, and entertained throughout the school holidays.

Join us this holiday period as we offer a wide range of fun activities, including sports, arts and crafts, dance and games, all at great value. There's something for every child to enjoy this half-term!

**Book now** for a holiday full of excitement!

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Disclaimer: This is not an emergency service; it operates Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and is only available by using a UK mobile number. Your messages are stored on our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who run our ChatHealth Service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of an safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may escalate the concern.

Improving LIVES

There aren't any places at my preferred school, what can I do now?

I'VE MOVED INTO THE AREA AND NEED HELP FINDING A SCHOOL FOR MY CHILD.

CAN I APPLY FOR MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL, AND CAN I LODGE MORE THAN ONE APPEAL?

IS THERE ANYONE THAT CAN SUPPORT ME PREPARING FOR MY APPEAL?

**CHOICE ADVICE**

Somerset Choice Advice is a free and impartial service which supports families with advice and practical support through the school admission and appeals processes. This service exists to ensure that parents can play an active and informed role in securing a school place for their child

Call us on **01823 356 903**

Fill in our online form  
[www.somerset.gov.uk/choice-advice](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/choice-advice)

Contact us via email  
[choiceadvice@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:choiceadvice@somerset.gov.uk)  
or scan the QR code



We take child protection extremely seriously at our school. If you have a concern, you can speak to any of the school's designated and trained Child Protection officers: **Mrs Mitchell, Mr Jones or Mrs Bowkett**. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on: **0300 123 2224** or email [childrens@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk)

## LC COUNSELLING

A safe, supportive space where individuals can feel heard, develop self-awareness, and grow in confidence.

Counselling services for adults and children

### Areas of Support:

- Separation anxiety
- Emotions
- Stress
- Self confidence
- Self awareness
- Anger management
- Loss and bereavement
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Conflict / family issues
- Relationship issues
- Trauma

Leah Cozens

Email: [lc\\_counselling@hotmail.com](mailto:lc_counselling@hotmail.com)

BACP registered  
Level 4 Diploma in Counselling Practice