



Our target attendance is 100%. As at Tuesday 22 June our attendance Year to Date is 95.44%

Dear Parent's Carers, Guardians,

As this school year draws to a close and we approach the last day of primary school for our Year 6 children, and our remaining years move to new year groups, I want to thank each and every one of you. Firstly, for choosing St Bartholomew's Primary School. Secondly for trusting us with your child's education and finally for all the support that you have given our school community. I also want to thank every child for all the warmth, memories and the learning that we have shared over the year.

As the school closes today, another door is opening for our year 6 children as they embark on the next stage of their educational journey. Our children have learnt so many things during their time with us. We are sending off to secondary school, kind, inquisitive, independent, curious children who love to learn. We are so proud of each one. Please always remember that although you are leaving St Bartholomew's you will remain a part of our school family.

Progress and attainment are important things of course, but our children have also learnt many more equally valuable things, including how to be a good friend, how to resolve conflict, how to persevere, how to find their own solutions and how to always do their best. We can't always "be the best", but we can always "do our best" and I hope the children understand this and take it away with them to their new schools, new classes and year groups next year.

I hope that all of St Bartholomew's community continue to shine their light over the summer break and that everyone returns safe and well with tales of happy adventures and fun stories. Take care of each other and if you need anything at all over the summer holiday, please do get in contact. I look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Take care, Miss Ingle

Roles & Responsibilities for 2025-26:

Head Girl:	Matilda Price	Head Girl:	Sofia Vinogradova
Deputy Head Girl:	Evie-Mae Stewart	Deputy Head Girl:	Penelope Warburton
Sports Captain:	Hollie Branton	Sports Captain:	Teodor Todorov
Curriculum Council:	Pippa Johnson	School Council:	Ruby Harrison
Eagles Team Captain:	Evie-Mae Stewart	Digital Lead:	Amara Ainley
Harriers Team Captain:	Penelope Warburton	Digital Lead:	Connor Smith
Falcons Team Captain:	Dimitar Zahariev	Librarian:	Julia Krawczyk
Hawks Team Captain:	Maggie Carter	Librarian:	Emilia Towler
		Librarian:	Harry Patel

Thank You: A huge thank you to the following people for helping us this year.

Mr Wallis	Miss L Cannon	Mrs K Cannon	Mrs Corby
Mrs Willerton	Mrs Crowson	Mrs Knight	Parent Volunteer drivers
Mrs Barnard	Mr Peatling	Mrs Ingle	Mrs Staniford
PTFA members	Mrs Thorley	Mr A Peach	Mr T Peach
Mr Szydlowski	Mr & Mrs Cox	Mrs Andleeb	Governors

School News

Trophy Winners 2024-25

Academic Most Improved:	EYFS/KS1:	Mila Rose James
	KS2:	Oscar Lee
Academic Achievement—Reading	EYFS/KS1:	Bonnie Tomizzi
	KS2:	Elliot Carter
Academic Achievement—Writing	EYFS/KS1:	Elizabeth Alseikaite
	KS2:	Caryna Barnard
Academic Achievement—Maths	EYFS/KS1:	Joseph Price
	KS2:	Felix Baxter
Academic Achievement—Science	EYFS/KS1:	Owen Carter
	KS2:	Connor Smith
Academic Achievement—Arts	EYFS/KS1:	Tyga-Lilly Tindling
	KS2:	Amara Ainley
Academic Achievement—Music	EYFS/KS1:	Sienna Everett-Burdett
	KS2:	Julia Krawczyk
Academic Achievement—Sports	EYFS/KS1:	Ronnie Rai Cooper
	KS2:	eah Brooks
Academic Achievement—Swimming	EYFS/KS1:	JJ Harrison
	KS2:	Ruby Harrison
FanTasTic (values)	EYFS/KS1:	Ella Rubin
	KS2:	Ella-Rose Lea
Reader of the Year (Home & School)	EYFS/KS1:	Ohlin Mills
	KS2:	Arlya Parnham
Reception Superstar		Zak Genever
Knight Kindness:		Finley Boswell

Attendance Winner of the Term

Congratulations to Oliver L for winning the attendance for term 6 voucher.

Attendance Winner of 2024-25:

Darwin Class are the attendance winners of the year!



Governors: Please click the link [Governors - St Bartholomew's](#) to find out what our Governors have been up to during Term 6.

Class News: Please click the link below to find out what each class have been learning during Term 6.

Dahl (Reception) - St Bartholomew's

Nightingale (Year 1 & Year 2) - St Bartholomew's

Darwin (Year 3 & Year 4) - St Bartholomew's

Franklin (Year 5 & Year 6) - St Bartholomew's

Reading Rocks Club: Please click on the following link : [Reading Rocks - St Bartholomew's](#) to find out what has been happening during term 6 and see our photos. Please see the Reading Rocks page on the school website for the Summer Reading Bingo.

Wellbeing Wednesday:

Wellbeing Wednesday initiative was launched in the summer term on a Wednesday lunchtime with Mrs Elwes. The children have had a variety of activities to keep themselves occupied including scratch art, fortune tellers, loom bands and the ever popular bead bracelets. We have relaxed and chatted through some of our worries and shared what our plans are for the upcoming summer holidays. This has been a lovely group to be part of with some fantastic conversations being had.



School Council: The School Council enjoyed a fantastic day out in London this term! They travelled via train to London, saw Big Ben, The Houses of Parliament and the river Thames. The children enjoyed lunch by the river and then entered the Houses of Parliament for a guided tour. They saw where the queen laid in state, entered the House of Commons and the House of Lords and watched some debates. We then went to see the London Eye and hopped back on the train to come home. The children were an absolute pleasure to take to our capital city and we had a blast!



Reflective Garden: The children and I have been working incredibly hard to enhance our reflective garden. We have weeded, litter picked and tidied our hearts out. The children have learned how to plant different things such as carrots, peas and plants! They have enjoyed using acrylic pens to decorate some beautiful stones to cheer the garden up. We have even created a spot for some children to dig! We have had some wonderful donations of plants, decorations and activities for the children to use in there, so we would like to say a huge thank you to those that have helped us with this project. The garden is bustling with activity now which is so lovely to see! Have a lovely summer and keep growing.

Mrs Morris 🌸



Sports: Children from Darwin and Franklin Class had the opportunity to attend the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Athletics competitions as well as the SEND competition organised by Elite Sports Academy. The children had a wonderful time and demonstrated excellent cooperation, sportsman ship and were fantastic ambassadors for our school. Thank you to Mrs Crowson, Mr Peatling and Mr Wallis for supporting the children at these event.

Dahl & Nightingale Potato Workshop:

Dahl and Nightingale Class enjoyed the second session of their potato learning this term. The children harvested their crops and the children had a competition to see who could grow the most potatoes. Well done to Ronnie-Rai who managed to grow 11 potatoes – you have won a £10 book token.



Up and Coming Events:

All calendar dates/events can be found on our school website by clicking on the link:

[Events from July 22 – December 16 – St Bartholomew's](#)

If you wish to add an event to your own calendar, you can do so by clicking on the event and pressing 'add to calendar' button.

Term Dates 2024-25

Term 1: 4th September—23rd October 2025

Term 2: 3rd November - 19th December 2025

Term 3: 6th January—13th February 2026

Term 4: 23rd February—2nd April 2026

Term 5: 21st April— 22nd May 2026

Term 6: 1st June—22nd July 2026

Pencil Cases:

School holidays are a good time to ask your child if they need any of their stationery for their pencil cases replenishing. Please be aware that children use their glue sticks in most lessons and therefore they run out frequently.



St Bartholomew's Church News:

Thirsty on a Thursday: The Church is open every Thursday between 9.30—11am for you to drop in any time for tea/coffee and a chat.

Rev'd David Sweeting's Funeral will take place at 11.30am on Tuesday 29th July at St Bartholomew's Church.

Village Show—Saturday 6th September 2025:

CHILDREN'S SECTION

ENTRIES MUST BE OWN WORK/14 YEARS AND UNDER

101. AN ACROSTIC VERSE – Using the word FLOWERS
102. A SEASIDE COLLAGE – ANY MEDIUM
103. TWO GINGERBREAD MEN DECORATED – DECORATION ONLY TO BE JUDGED
104. A MINIATURE GARDEN SCENE ON A 25CM PLATE – USE ANYTHING
105. A PORTRAIT ON A PAPER PLATE USING PIPS AND SEEDS
106. PRE SCHOOL ENTRY –A HOME MADE MASK

We will send home a miniature garden with pips and seeds for those children who wish to submit an entry

Please see the separate schedule for a full list of categories.

Tractor Run



Sun 7th September 2025
West Pinchbeck Village Hall

Driver Sign on from 9am

Tractors leave the field for the run at 10am

Refreshments served - Everyone welcome

Tractors back on field at 11.45am.

All proceeds to West Pinchbeck Church

Contact - Geoff 07736 899015

Safeguarding: Safeguarding is our top priority here at St Bart's and we would like to take this opportunity to remind you about the safeguarding information that is available on our website. The safeguarding tab includes a range of information about safeguarding in school, safeguarding at home and a list of useful contacts if you require advice and support. Please also see the safeguarding and child protection policy for further information about how we safeguard children and staff in school.

Miss Ingle (Safeguarding Lead), Miss Cannon (Safeguarding Deputy), Mrs Andleeb (Governor)

Haven Domestic Abuse Service:

Please click here ([Domestic Abuse - St Bartholomew's](#)) to access the Haven Domestic Abuse Service Summer Newsletter.



Term 1 Breakfast Club/After School Club: Bookings for our Breakfast and After School club can be made via ParentMail up until the Tuesday of the week before. After School childcare is also available in school every day from 3.15pm until 5pm. You are able to book sessions from 3.15-4pm, 4—5pm or 3.15-5pm. We have a school mobile for afterschool care. The number is: **07534725872**. It will be turned off during the school day. It will only be available for parents who have children attending afterschool care during afterschool care hours. For all other queries, please contact the school office.

PE Timetable for Term 1:

Dahl (Year R): Thursday

Nightingale (Years 1 & 2): Tuesday

Darwin (Years 3 & 4): Monday

Franklin (Years 5 & 6): Wednesday

Swimming Timetable for Term 1:

Dahl (Year R): Tuesday

Nightingale (Years 1 & 2): Wednesday

Darwin (Years 3 & 4): Friday

Franklin: (Years 5 & 6): Thursday

PTFA News:

Thank you all for your continued support. We have some exciting times ahead with new events being planned in for the next academic
Please follow us on Facebook and keep yourself up to date with all the events and monies raised.

Click here [PTFA - St Bartholomew's](#) to view our PTFA newsletter and event posters on our school website.

Thank you for your continued support and enjoy your summer !!

Your PTFA




YOUR SCHOOL'S PTFA NEEDS YOU!

WHY JOIN ST BART'S PTFA?

- **Make a Difference:** Your efforts can help improve the school environment and resources.
- **Meet New People:** It's a great way to meet other parents and build lasting friendships.
- **Stay Informed:** You'll be in the loop about what's happening at the school and have a say in important decisions.
- **Stronger Community Ties:** Social events and activities help build a supportive and engaged school community. You will have the opportunity to connect with other parents and teachers to make a positive impact on our school.

YOUR SUPPORT CAN BE ANYTHING, DEPENDING ON YOUR COMMITMENTS

CONTACT US BY EMAILING THE SCHOOL OFFICE:
enquiries@stbartholomews.lincs.sch.uk

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT
@PTFA - ST BART'S, WEST PINCHBECK



MIXED CAMPS



FREE PERSONALISED T-SHIRT, BACKPACK, BAT & BALL

SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMPS

AGES 5-11

FREE SPACES PER CAMP

SCAN QR CODE OR FOLLOW LINK TO REGISTER



<https://tinyurl.com/mrxh6yja>



MIXED & GIRLS ONLY CAMPS



FREE PERSONALISED T-SHIRT, BAT & BALL

For more information contact:
Justin.Owen@lincscricket.co.uk

LINCOLNSHIRE CRICKET

School Transport: If your child is starting primary school or transferring to secondary school in September 2025, they may be eligible for school transport. If you think your child is eligible, please apply for transport as soon as you have your offer of a school place. Early transport applications are encouraged to ensure that transport is in place in time for the start of the September term. Applications can be made online at the website below or a telephone application can be made by contacting the Customer Service Centre on 01522 782020. **Please do not apply until you have a formal offer of a school place.** For more information about the home to school transport policy and online applications please go to www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-college-transport. Queries can be emailed to schooltransportapplications@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

School Meals: Menus for term 1 are available to order via the Willoughby Foods Ltd website www.willoughby-foods.co.uk. Reception and KS1 parents/carers/guardians must order meals directly from Willoughby Foods Ltd to take up the Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM) offer. Children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) will be ordered an option 1 main meal and an option 1 pudding unless parents log on and amend. **The order deadline for ordering for term 1 week 1 is midnight on Tuesday 26th August 2025.** If you haven't ordered meals by this date, please remember to send your child with a packed lunch as the meals delivered to school are the number that are ordered, therefore there are no spare meals available. Menus are available to view on the school website by clicking:



School Meals - St Bartholomew's

Free School Meals: Click here: [Parent Portal: Home](#) to apply for Free School meals. Alternatively the link can be found on the 'about' page of our school website as well as a step by step guide to the application process.

Cool Milk: Our school milk scheme is administered by Cool Milk. To register your child for school milk, please visit www.coolmilk.com/register.

Home School Agreement 2025-26: Please complete this form before we return to school in September 2025. Thank you.

Health Care Plans 2025-26: If you have previously completed a Health Care Plan for your child then a new form is available, via ParentMail, for you to complete for 2025-26. If you feel your child requires a Health Care Plan, please contact the school office and a form can be made available for you to complete.

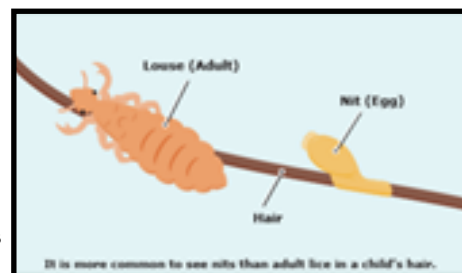
Helping the Environment:

Clothing Recycling: Our clothes recycling container is situated in the bike shed. If you wish to use it and the gates are locked, please let the school office know and a member of staff will open the gates for you. This facility is available term time only between 8.30am and 3.30pm. Your donations need to be deposited in a bag, however, please can we ask that you do not leave bags by the locked gates. This is a community facility and therefore is available for the wider community to use.

Battery Collection: Remember to bring in your used batteries (AAA, AA, C, D) for recycling. You can return your battery box or use the big battery collection box in the bike shed.

Ink Cartridges: Remember to bring in your used ink cartridges and place them in the box in the bike shed. Please note toner and laser cartridges are not accepted as part of the programme.

Headlice: Please take this opportunity to check your child's hair for headlice and treat as necessary. A whole school 'attack' on this common nuisance can be very effective when carried out over a period of time when the school is closed. We rely on parents vigilance and their commitment to checking for and treating headlice in order for outbreaks in school to be reduced. Going forward, please help us to reduce outbreaks of this common nuisance in school.



School Website: Our school website can be found at www.stbartholomews.lincs.sch.uk where you will find lots of information about the school, upcoming events, newsletters, learning links, school lunch menus.



St Bartholomew's School Facebook Page: Our school Facebook page is very popular! We have **273** likes and **406** followers. Please give us a like and a follow to keep up to date with news and activities in school. The PTFA also has a Facebook page.



Parent Mail App: The App is available for Android 4.4 devices and above and Apple iOS 8 and above devices. To download the App, simply visit the App store on your phone, and search "ParentMail". Please note, you must be registered to use the ParentMail App – you can register on a browser from the email or text registration invitation you have been sent. In order to download the PMX App you will need iOS 7.0 or higher.



Attendance: We would like to remind all families of the legal framework surrounding term-time holidays and the issuing of penalty notices for unauthorised absences, in conjunction with advice from the Local Authority.

Please be aware that **there is no right of appeal** against a penalty notice once it has been issued. The decision to authorise or unauthorise an absence rests solely with the School. It is important to remember you should discuss any concerns you have with the school **before** a leave of absence is considered.

We understand that some employers may restrict when holidays can be taken, and that travel costs can vary significantly throughout the year. However, **neither of these factors constitutes an exceptional circumstance**, according to guidance from the Department for Education, **Working together to improve school attendance (applies from 19 August 2024)** and **Resources for families/Children's Commissioner for England** and therefore cannot be considered, as a valid reason for authorising term-time leave.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in ensuring that your child's education remains a priority.

Attendance

Supporting you to understand the new rules



A National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absences, including unauthorised leave of absences in Term Time, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new government regulations will come into effect from **19th August 2024**.

What are these changes?

If a pupil has **10 unauthorised sessions**, which is equal to **5 school days**, within a **10 week period**, a penalty notice may be issued.

This will come under 3 categories: First, Second, and Third offence.



First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within **28 days**, reduced to **£80** per parent, per child if paid within **21 days**.

Second Offence

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child to be paid within **28 days**. No reduced rate will be offered.



Third offence and any further offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court.

Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a Parents future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

For any further inquiries about school attendance please visit: www.lincolnsire.gov.uk/school-attendance



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

"From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child."
#AttendanceCounts"

...

Attendance:

All schools are expected to keep their attendance over 96%. If you need any help with attendance, please come and speak to us as we will help in any way that we can.

Dr Chris Whitty released this statement via the DfE: ***"It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above."***

ESA SUMMER SPORTS CAMP



- Drop Off 8.30-9am
- Collection 3pm
- £22.50 Per Day
- Plus £5 Extra Time (3-4pm)
- Ages 4-11
- Drink and packed lunch required

@ Wygate Park Academy

Witham Road, Spalding PE11 3W

- Monday 28th July - Thursday 31st July
- Tuesday 5th August - Friday 8th August
- Monday 18th August - Thursday 21st July
- Tuesday 26th August - Friday 29th August

Booking @ www.elitesportsacademy.co.uk/eliteholidaycamps

Whacky Water Days

£22.50
Per Day
8.30-3pm

£5
Extra time
3-4pm

**ELITE SPORTS
ACADEMY**

TO BOOK VISIT

www.elitesportsacademy.co.uk



@Monkshouse Primary School

Pennygate, Spalding, PE11 1LG

Thursday 24th and Friday 25th July

Feel free to bring water guns and a change of clothes for optional water based activities each afternoon!

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI-ENABLED SCAMS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is quickly becoming a widely used tool, with lots of positive applications being discussed and developed. Sadly, however, as with most technology tools, there are those who will seek to use it for malicious and dishonest practices, with children and other vulnerable groups particularly at risk.

PHISHING EMAILS: BETTER & QUICKER

Phishing scams – emails designed to trick people into handing over login details or money – are not new, and do not rely on AI; however, AI has made them far more dangerous. Criminals can now generate highly convincing emails at speed, mimicking an organisation's tone, branding and language with ease. This makes phishing attempts harder to spot, especially for young people who may not yet know what to look out for.

ONLINE MARKETPLACE FRAUD

Online marketplaces are now a common way to buy and sell everything, from second-hand clothes to cars. Criminals are exploiting this by using AI to enhance or completely fake product photos and videos, and pressure buyers into paying deposits or full amounts upfront. These tactics are becoming more advanced, making it vital to pause, check, and verify the sale before parting with any money.

VOICE IMPERSONATION

AI can now realistically impersonate a person's voice when given a small sample of someone's speech patterns. This is especially concerning where voice has been enabled as an alternative to password-based logins. One such example was the use of AI deepfake audio as part of a fake kidnapping scam: the criminals used an AI voice clone of a 15-year-old to convince her parents she had been kidnapped and elicit a ransom.

EMPLOYMENT SCAMS

Using AI, criminals can create fake online profiles that seem completely real. These synthetic identities can chat with young people about fake job offers, asking for money to secure a visa or paperwork. In 2025, The Guardian reported a scam targeting young people with promises of quick cash, posing as TikTok staff.

INFLUENCER & INVESTMENT SCAMS

AI tools now make it easy to manipulate video and audio, with technology available that can generate entirely fake content using the likeness of celebrities or influencers. Criminals are using this to create convincing videos of well-known figures promoting fake products or services, which young people can be particularly susceptible to. Cryptocurrency scams are a common tactic, luring people into investing in schemes that do not exist. Once payment is made, the criminal simply disappears with the money.

ROMANCE SCAMS & SEXTORTION

AI chat bots can now mimic real conversations, often accompanied with realistic fake photos and videos, which makes it easier for criminals to build trust with young people – among other things, this can lead to fraud or sextortion. In 2024, the NCA's CEOP Safety Centre received 380 reports of sextortion. Alarmingly, in the first five months alone, police received an average of 117 monthly reports involving under-18s, showing how serious and targeted this threat has become.

Advice for Parents & Educators

THINK CRITICALLY

The key to addressing the increasing growth of AI-enabled scams is to think critically and show caution. Inform children that if something is too good to be true, then it probably is. Encourage them to stop and carefully consider what they are seeing and reading before taking any action. For example, if a social media post expresses urgency, proceed with caution; if content seems unusual, even from a known person, it may be that their account has been hacked.

USE TRUSTWORTHY SITES AND SERVICES

Online marketplaces are useful when buying and selling items; however, where possible, encourage children to use reputable companies and their online shopping sites. These companies are likely to have more sophisticated cyber-security safeguards in place, underpinned by consumer legislation, enabling them to control how products and services are displayed and traded on their sites.

SEEK TO VERIFY

Criminals may breach an influencer's account or spread misinformation and fake content; however, their approach will generally be limited to a single account, site or service. Where possible, show children how to verify information to check its legitimacy before proceeding. Small actions, such as phoning the person who is the subject of a suspicious email, or checking content via an individual or company website or social media sites can make the difference. The greater the risk, the more effort we should expend to confirm whether the information presented is true or false.

REPORT IT

As the sophistication of scams increases, the likelihood of being tricked by them also increases, especially when not paying attention or acting quickly. It is important that young people know how to report incidents as they happen. Show children how to report their concerns to the social media site, Action Fraud, banks, and other individuals or organisations linked or involved. If you are unsure of the most effective reporting channel, contact Action Fraud.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at Millfield, a large independent boarding school in Somerset, as well as a member of the Digital Futures Group, Vice Chair of the ISC Digital Advisory Group and an Association of Network Managers in Education (ANME) Ambassador.



The National College

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER

Enjoying time in, on, and around water plays a vital role in a young person's overall development, offering a healthy and exhilarating way to have fun. This guide outlines essential safety advice, based on the Royal Life Saving Society UK's Water Safety Code, to help ensure children can enjoy swimming and similar activities safely and responsibly.

1 STICK TO LIFEGUARDED AREAS

It's never advisable to enter unsupervised bodies of water, especially alone. Instead, it's considered best practice to accompany children to places with lifeguards, as they will be trained to respond swiftly in emergencies and provide first aid when needed.

2 LEARN SIGNS AND FLAGS

When going to a new environment, it's important to research the local area and make children aware of safety signage before entering the water. If visiting the seaside, make sure children are always supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, so they're knowledgeable of where and when they can enter the sea.

3 STOP AND THINK

Young people should be cautious before entering water, as it's difficult to know what hazards could be underneath. Use the Water Safety Code and encourage children to ask themselves questions such as, "Is the water too deep or too shallow? Are there currents, tides, or underwater objects?" Make sure children know never to enter water from a height, as what lurks below could cause serious injuries.

4 CONSIDER WATER TEMPERATURE

Even on hot days, water can be deceptively cold. Tragedies strike when young people experience cold water shock. Never let children enter water quickly; instead, ensure that they enter slowly and carefully to allow their bodies to adjust to the temperature or exit easily if needed.

5 INFLATABLE SAFETY

Although inflatables may seem like a fun idea when visiting locations like the beach, they can float further out from shore and into more dangerous water. It's advisable only to use inflatables in spaces like appropriately managed swimming pools, where they're used in more controlled and supervised environments.

6 SUPERVISION IS KEY

For young children, and particularly those under the age of five, it's important for them to be supervised at home, outside and at the pool at all times. It's essential for parents and educators to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently; therefore, anyone supervising them must maintain constant watch in case they get into difficulty.

7 DON'T GO TOO FAR

When swimming, especially in open water, it's best to teach children to stay within a safe depth. Share advice with them such as only entering water up to a standing depth, and in the case of visiting the beach, swim parallel to shorelines. This will allow a child to stay in control and get out of the water easily.

8 KEEP POOLS AND TUBS DRAINED

For parents of young children, a simple way to protect them at home is to keep outdoor spaces and bathrooms tidy after playtime. This includes removing water from paddling pools after use and turning them over, returning lids to hot tubs and taking toys out of bathtubs, so all water can be fully drained from the tub.

9 FLOAT AND CALL 999

If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should try to float on their back, stay calm, and call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should dial 999 or 112 immediately, then shout to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back, and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.

10 TEACH WATER SAFETY

Beyond swimming lessons, children should be educated in school on water safety. Use RLSS UK's accredited programme, 'Water Smart Schools', which offers free lesson plans and resources on how to be safe on, near and around water by following the Water Safety Code.

Meet Our Expert

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) is a national water safety charity that gives children the chance to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water, safely. Water safety education provided in schools is vital and, in some instances, could be a child's only opportunity to learn about the water.

