

Wishing Our Year 6 Children Every Success

As another school year draws to a close, we would like to wish all of our wonderful Year 6 children the very best as they complete their Avondale adventure and move on to the next exciting chapter of their lives.

It feels like only yesterday they were taking their first steps through our doors, and now they leave us as confident, kind and capable young people, ready to embrace the opportunities and challenges that await them. Throughout their time at Avondale, they have filled our classrooms with laughter, determination, creativity and friendship, and they have been fantastic role models for the younger children in our school community.

We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved, both inside and outside the classroom. From sporting successes and performances to acts of kindness and perseverance, each child has helped to make Avondale the special place it is today.

As they prepare for their next adventure, we hope they take with them many happy memories, lifelong friendships and the confidence to believe in themselves. Whilst they may be leaving Avondale, they will always remain an important part of the Avondale family.

Year 6, thank you for the memories, the smiles and the wonderful contribution you have made to our school. We wish each and every one of you happiness, success and excitement in the years ahead.

Good luck, Year 6 – your next adventure starts now!



**Goodbye
&
Good Luck**



Thank you & best wishes for Summer!

As another fantastic school year draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all our parents and families for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership throughout the year.

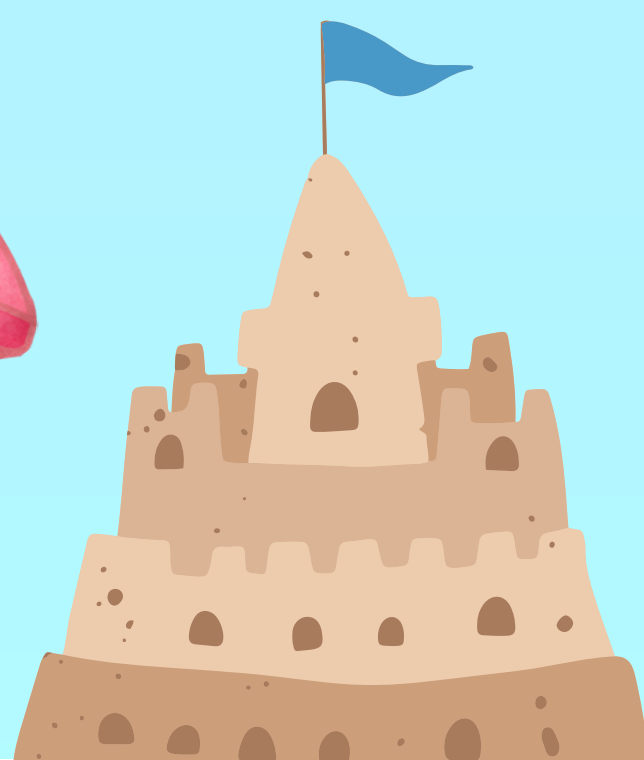
Your involvement in school life, from supporting learning at home to attending events, helping with activities, and cheering on our children's achievements, makes such a positive difference. Together, we have celebrated many successes and created wonderful memories, and we are incredibly grateful for the strong sense of community that makes our school such a special place.

We are immensely proud of everything our pupils have achieved this year. Their hard work, resilience, enthusiasm, and kindness have shone through, and none of this would be possible without the support they receive from home.

As we head into the summer holidays, we hope that everyone has the opportunity to relax, recharge, and enjoy some well-deserved time with family and friends. Whether you are travelling, exploring locally, or simply taking things a little slower, we wish you a safe, happy, and enjoyable summer break.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back when school reopens on **Tuesday, 1st September at 8:45am**. We can't wait to hear all about your summer adventures and begin another exciting year together.

Have a wonderful summer, and thank you once again for all your support. We look forward to seeing you in September! 🌞 🌻 📚



STAFFING CHANGES

GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK

A huge thank you to **Mrs Pickup** for the 32 years service and dedication she has shown to Avondale. We wish her every happiness with her early retirement. She will be missed by all!

We also say goodbye to **Miss Sears** and we would like to thank her for her work in school over the last 12 months and wish her luck in her next role.

And last but not least, **Mrs Smallridge** commences her Maternity Leave today; we wish her all the luck in the world with the birth of baby Smallridge!





A Letter from Mrs Pickup



Thank you so much to past and present pupils, past and present colleagues for the incredibly beautiful gifts, thoughtful cards and kind messages I have received for my retirement.

I have been truly touched by your generosity and the lovely words you have shared.

It has been a real privilege to teach your child and to be part of their Avondale learning journey. I will always treasure the memories I have made throughout my teaching career.

Thank you for making my retirement so special. I wish you and your families every happiness for the future.

With sincere thanks and best wishes,

Mrs Pickup xxxx

A Huge Well Done to Our Year 6 Children!

We would like to say a massive congratulations to all of our Year 6 children for their fantastic SATs results this year. Their hard work, determination and positive attitude have truly paid off, and we are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved. We are delighted to share that their results are above both local and national figures, which is a wonderful reflection of the children's commitment to learning and the support they receive from our dedicated staff and families.

Test	School results 2026	Emerging National 2026
Reading meeting the expected standard	87	75
Reading achieving greater depth	33	-
Writing meeting the expected standard	77	73
Writing achieving greater depth	16	13
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling meeting the expected standard	80	74
GPS achieving greater depth	45	-
Maths meeting the expected standard	88	75
Maths achieving greater depth	30	-
Reading, Writing and Maths combined achieving the expected standard	75	63
Reading, Writing and Maths combined achieving greater depth	13	8

These results represent much more than test scores – they showcase resilience, perseverance and a willingness to always try their best. Year 6, you have been amazing role models for the rest of the school, and you should be extremely proud of yourselves. A big thank you also goes to our staff and parents for their ongoing encouragement and support throughout the year.

Well done, Year 6 – what a fantastic achievement! We can't wait to see all that you accomplish in the future.

CONGRATULATIONS

PE Kit Update for Next School Year

We are pleased to let parents know that, from next school year, children will be able to come to school wearing their PE kit on their designated PE days.

The PE kit should consist of:

- A plain white T-shirt
- Plain black leggings, plain black tracksuit bottoms or plain black shorts
- Trainers or pumps suitable for PE activities

Please note that all PE clothing should be plain and non-branded. This helps to keep our PE uniform smart, consistent and affordable for all families.

On swimming days and Forest School days, children should continue to come to school in their normal school uniform and will change into their activity clothing before the session.

There is no requirement to purchase a separate PE jumper or hoodie. Our usual school jumper or cardigan is perfectly suitable for cooler weather. Of course, if you already have a PE hoodie or would like one, children can continue to wear these.

Looking ahead, we are exploring the design of a new PE jumper for the future. We will share further information with families as plans develop during the school year.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep our uniform practical, comfortable and affordable for all our children. We look forward to introducing this new arrangement next year.



Uniform Reminder

As we look forward to welcoming everyone back, please ensure your child returns in full school uniform each day.

A gentle reminder that red Avondale book bags or satchels are part of our school uniform and are the only bags permitted in school.

Please also ensure that children wear plain black school shoes or plain black trainers. Shoes and trainers should be entirely black, with no coloured logos, markings, or decorative features.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing all our pupils back, smartly dressed and ready for a successful term ahead.

September 2026 – New classrooms

We look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday, 1st September. Here is a list of doors to enter by:

EYFS - enter via Durham Rd

1N - to enter via the Y1 door on Durham Rd

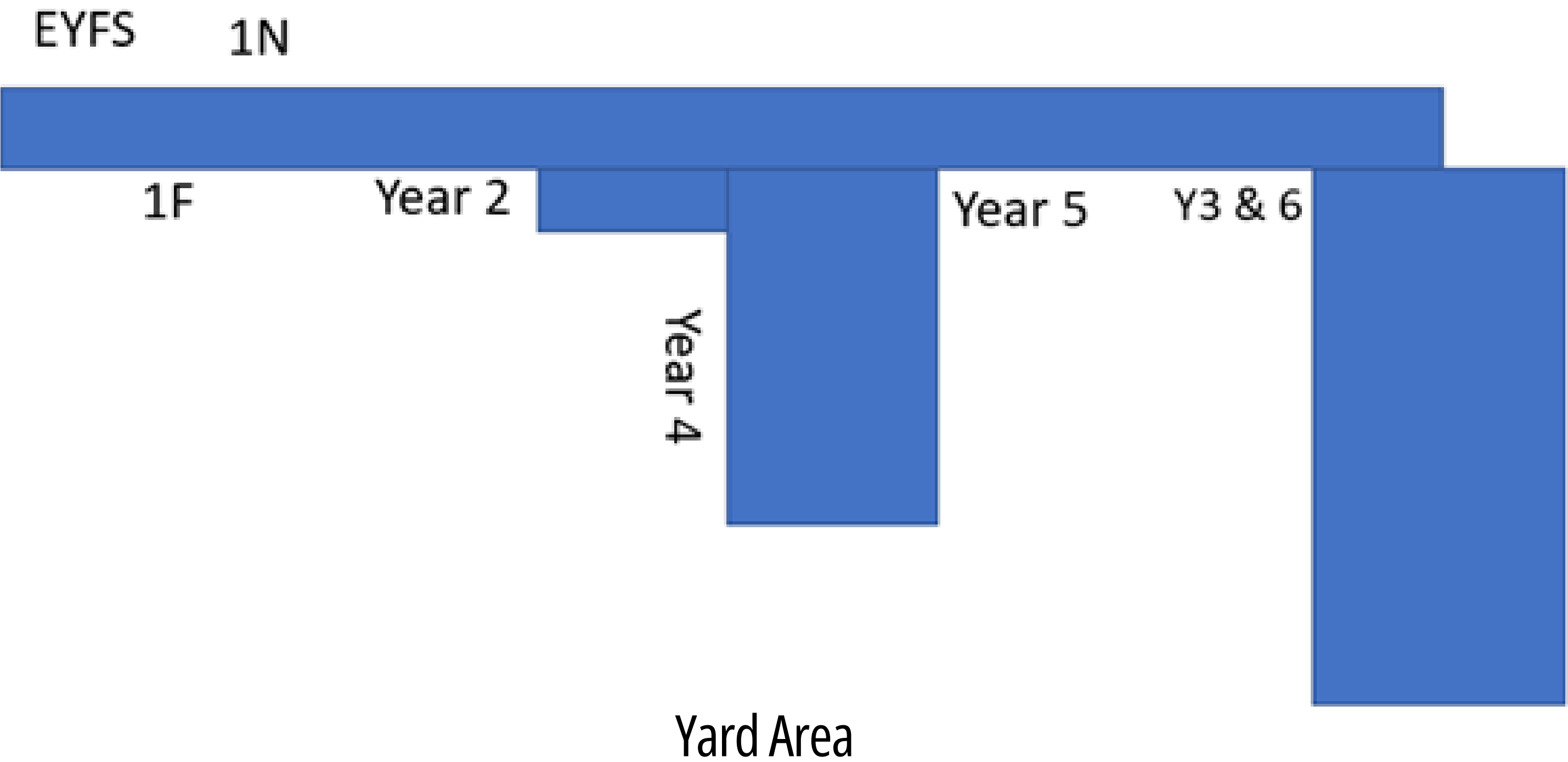
1F - to enter via the first set of steps (nearest to Avondale Rd) off the yard and the Y1 external door

Year 2 - to enter via the steps near the garden area and then down to the Y2 doors

Year 4 - to enter via the classroom doors

Year 5 - to enter via the steps in the middle of the building and then in via the external door outside 5S

Year 3 and 6 - to enter via the door right at the top of the corridor near the Y6 rooms.



IMPORTANT

New Free School Meals Rules from September 2026

Has your family's income changed? You might now qualify!

NEW: From September 2026, if your household receives Universal Credit, your child may be eligible for free school meals - regardless of your income level.

You **MUST** apply - it won't happen automatically

Even if you've been told before that you don't qualify, please apply now if you receive Universal Credit.

Why apply?

- ✓ Free meals for your child
- ✓ Extra funding for our school to support your child
- ✓ Quick and easy online application

How to apply:

Visit www.gov.uk and search for "free school meals"

Or contact the school office for help



Questions? We're here to help - just ask!



GARDENING CLUB

The year 2 children have loved planting seeds and many more things in the school garden this year.

When it was their turn to join the club they received a welcome pack of sunflower seeds. Hopefully they have planted their seeds by now and has started to grow. So over summer we would love to see how well yours has grown.

Send in your photos so we can see how tall/ well you have all have done.

Keep digging

Mrs Mears 





SEPTEMBER 2026



THERE ARE STILL
SPACES AVAILABLE

TO BOOK SESSIONS FOR
BREAKFAST CLUB AND
AFTER SCHOOL CLUB!



PLEASE LOG IN TO
SCHOOL MONEY
TO BOOK THESE SESSIONS.

BOOKING WILL REMAIN
OPEN ONLINE UNTIL
27TH AUGUST 2026



PLEASE **DON'T** ASSUME
YOU HAVE BOOKED.

ALWAYS CHECK AT

outofschoolclubs@avondale.blackburn.sch.uk



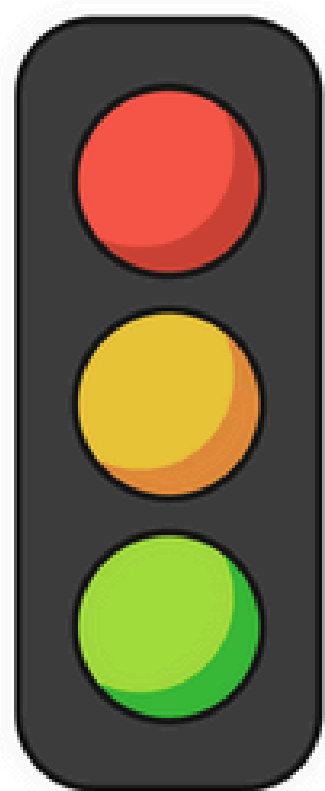
EMAILS WILL BE PICKED UP OVER THE HOLIDAYS
BUT NOT MONITORED FULLY.



Attendance

Why is it important?

Good school attendance is vital to enable all children to achieve their full potential, develop socially, forge good friendships and have a sense of belonging within their school community. Our school attendance target is 97%. Thank you to all those families who are working with us to achieve the best outcomes for your child.



89% & Below Drastic effect on academic achievement
95% - 90% Cause for concern
100% - 96% Excellent

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons

2P	1S	Elmer
99.6%	97.7%	96.8%



Well done to 2P who had the best attendance this week.





BLACKBURN COMMUNITY FIRE STATION



**PLEASE COME
AND JOIN US
AT BLACKBURN
COMMUNITY
FIRE STATION
FOR AN
AFTERNOON OF
EXCITEMENT
AND FUN.**

Children's Rides

Bouncy Castle

Raffle
Face Painting

Ice Creams and
refreshments

Games &
Activity Stalls



Byrom Street
BB2 2LE



FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



**EXPLORE THE FIRE ENGINES
MEET YOUR LOCAL
FIREFIGHTERS**



Please would you mind taking 2 minutes to complete this form Playground Improvement Consultation Survey – Fill in form?

This is to help shape investment and improvements in selected play areas/parks in the Borough.





Matthew Palmer, Public Health Registrar is keen to hear from as many respondents as possible, and your support in sharing and promoting this survey is greatly appreciated. The questionnaire is available in both English and Urdu. The closing date for responses is Sunday 9th August 2026.



Oral Health Questionnaire

We want to know how parents and caregivers look after their children's teeth.

Your answers will help us to understand our community and how we can support good oral health.

Scan the QR Code for the form in English and Urdu



Blackburn with Darwen Parent and Carer Oral Health Questionnaire





See you all on

