



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

23rd January 2026

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Our vision is for all our children to shine like STARS

"Those who are wise will shine like the sky and those who lead others to goodness will shine like the stars forever" *Daniel 12:3*

STRIVE - THINK - ACT - RESPECT

A message from Mrs Farren...

Despite the wet and wintry weather, many Norton children have had the opportunity to enjoy our outside learning area, including the new outside classroom (thanks to our PTA). Being outside is fantastic for all children's learning as well as for their well being and physical and mental health.



I had the pleasure of observing the Reception class, dressed in puddle suits, learning outside. They were digging, building and creating; thoroughly enjoying getting muddy- it's all learning. What struck me was the wonderful level of cooperation and communication between them.

Year 5 children took part in the RSPB's bird watch- purposeful outside learning.

If you would also like to take part in this over the weekend please check out page 14 and 15 of the newsletter...



Please send us any photos of anything you enjoy doing outside as a family so that we can share them and celebrate the wonderful opportunities of the great outdoors!

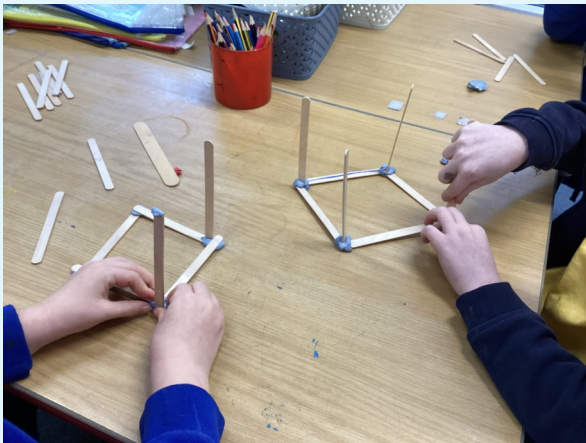
Have a wonderful weekend
Mrs Farren and Team Norton

Class News – 23rd January 2026

This week in **Little Learners** have been learning all about animals who live in the woods!

The children have shared great knowledge, and expressed their ideas through lots of creative activities. We have also shared stories linked to this theme, such as; The Gruffalo and Goldilocks and the three bears! The children have enjoyed making Gruffalo smoothies! We have been busy with phonics too this week, learning all about rhyming words. We explored this through sharing stories, playing rhyming games, and making 'silly soup' with our rhyming words!

Reception class showed great fundamental skills, listening skills and team work in hockey. Mr Spencer and Miss Smith were really impressed with their enthusiasm and progress in their physical abilities.



This week, the **Year 1** children have been learning the names and features of 2D and 3D shapes. They then had a go at building their own cubes.

In **Year 2** this week we have planned an investigation in Science. We want to find out whether plants need light to grow? Our predictions show mixed views so we are looking forward to finding out! We have written sentences to describe a setting in English and have planned our castle shape picture in Art, ready to collage next week.

This week in **Year 3**, we finished writing our instructions on how to trap our monster. The children did extremely well and were very specific when explaining each step. We also had a taste of Japan, exploring how different the culture is while practising using chopsticks. The children compared foods from Japan with those we commonly eat in England, noticing similarities and differences as they really soaked in the experience.

In English **Year 4** have been gathering ideas and planning out twisted endings to traditional tales. We used drama to act out alternative endings, we had Rapunzel getting locked in the tower forever and Little Red Riding Hood being eaten by the wolf! In geography, we have learnt about the different layers of the rainforest and in science we visited the outside classroom to look for different living things (invertebrates and vertebrates).

This week **Year 5** have learnt about which countries were involved in WW2 and their allegiances (Axis and Allies). We also looked at neutral countries and axis-controlled countries.

This week in **Year 6**, we have continued our learning into algebra by solving 1 step and 2 step equations. The class are doing an absolutely fantastic job! In Science we have moved onto a new topic - light and looked specifically at the different parts of the eye and how it receives light. Also, in Geography, we learnt how to read 6 figure grid references and used OS maps to practise.

Important Information Pages

Hi everyone!

Just a quick reminder to keep an eye on our Important Information Pages. These pages include everything you need to know about what's happening in school — from deadlines and updates to details about companies we work with, like School Trends, catering and music lessons.

Things can change week to week, so it's worth checking back regularly to stay up to date. Thanks for keeping in the loop!



LUNCHES

Fun menu choices!

This year caterlink are offering some fun menu days over the year... the first one we will be doing is on Tuesday:



They will also be offering our normal baguettes with fillings on this day too.



Are you having a spring Clean?
We'd Love Your Help!

If you're having a spring clean, we'd be so grateful if you could consider donating any unwanted items to our school.

We are currently working with a very tight budget and would love support in sourcing items for our classrooms and breakout spaces.

If you're able to help, we are looking for the following items:

- * Wooden callax style unit (four compartments or more - see picture -->)
- * cushions
- * Bean bags
- * Lights/fairy lights
- * Sensory toys
- * Tough tray
- * Games and puzzles (suitable for ages 2-4)
- * Playground/outside toys (giant chess/giant jenga/giant O's&X's etc...)
- * A bubble machine





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STRIVE - THINK - ACT - RESPECT



What's Happening

Office Staffing Update

There have been a few changes to our office staffing. Please see below for details of staff availability and contact information.

Mrs Higgins (Office Manager)

Tuesday: 8am–1pm Thursday: 8am–1pm (*Mrs Higgins teaches on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons*)

Friday: 8am–3:30pm

Mrs Higgins can be contacted via **admin@norton.gloucs.sch.uk**, by phone on **01452 730531**, via the **school text system (see updated number below)**, or through **Class Dojo**.

Eloise Smith (Finance Manager)

Daily: 8am–12pm

Eloise can be contacted regarding invoices, payments, and finance queries at **finance@norton.gloucs.sch.uk** or via the main **school phone number**.

Holly Cass (Admin Assistant)

Monday: 9am–12pm Wednesday: 9am–3:15pm

Holly can be contacted via the **school phone number** or the **text system**.

When the above staff are not in the office, other members of staff will be available during their planning time to answer the phone and monitor the front gate. Please note that the school text system or admin email may not be accessed when the office staff are not at their desks.

Text Messaging System Upgrade



We're pleased to let you know that our text messaging system is now fully upgraded and working smoothly. We're still using the same Teachers to Parents platform—this update was simply an enhancement made on their end.

If you need to contact the school by text, please use the number below.

All text messages from the school will come from: **07860 051628**



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Missing forms!

We are still missing a lot of GDPR forms across the whole school.

If you have not filled in the form below please do so ASAP and send it in to the office. If you're unsure if you have, please call Fionn or Holly in the office and we can check for you.

Copies can be found on our website or paper copies are on the wall in the front entrance of school.

Many thanks!



Norton C of E Primary School
Old Tewkesbury Road
Norton, Gloucester, GL2 9LT
Telephone: 01452 730531
Fax: 01452 739080
E-Mail: admin@norton.gloucs.sch.uk
www.norton.gloucs.sch.uk

Single Consent Form

Dear Parent/Carer,

As a school we hold (and use) **Personal Information (PI)** for you and your child. We use this PI for a range of different purposes associated with the education of your child and ensuring effective communication with you and our key stakeholders. Information regarding the specific PI that we hold, and how it is used, is detailed in the Privacy Notices issued alongside this consent form.

The majority of ways in which we use your / your child's PI are linked to the core functions of an educational establishment and the school's requirement to carry out tasks in the public interest. We also, however, access / use PI for additional purposes not covered by these core functions and for these elements we require your specific consent. Although these uses of PI may not be statutory we do consider them to be key practices and systems that enable us to ensure highly effective home / school communication and provide the best possible educational experiences for your child.

Although you may have previously given consent for these uses of PI we are now required to regain consent under the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Please complete and return this consent by return. Please note: we cannot use your PI for any of the purposes detailed within this form without your specific consent. For example, if you do not give consent for the texting service your PI will be deleted from the database and you will no longer receive any texts from school.

Child's name:	Current year group:	Form Completion date:
Parent name(s):	Parent signature(s):	Contact number(s):

Please complete one form per child and return it to school by Friday 12th September 2025

Consents (Please circle the consent option for each element)

Text Message Service (Teachers2Parents)		Consent	
Data Shared	Purpose	Yes	No
Pupil name / year group Parents' mobile numbers	To keep parents/carers updated about school events, changes to arrangements, student achievements, absences, and other important information.		

Pupil tracking and assessment systems (EYFS-Y6: Insight Tracker)		Consent	
Data Shared	Purpose	Yes	No
Pupil PI held on SIMS (taken from entry form submitted by parents). Pupil assessment data submitted by teachers.	To track each child's academic progress and share accurate, relevant updates with parents (in school reports or individual parent meetings, only ever for your child). Pupil information is securely transferred from SIMS and stored in encrypted cloud systems. This is only accessed by Norton staff.		

School website		Consent	
Data Shared	Purpose	Yes	No
Pupil images (no specific identification of individuals)	To share information regarding school activities, events and services with parents/carers and key stakeholders.		

Photos		Consent	
Data Shared	Purpose	Yes	No
Pupil images on their class dojo pages only	To share images regarding class activities / events pupils have taken part in with their class' parents/carers only		
Pupil images on whole school dojo page	To share images regarding activities / events pupils have taken part in with parents/carers for the whole school		
Pupil images taken by Norton staff (eg on trips or doing work in class)	May be used to go in books to support learning or put on classroom displays to support learning/showcase a topic.		
Pupil images taken by external agencies	Photographs taken by external agencies we've gone on a trip with (for example: sports trips images taken by Gloucester school sports network)		

Photos used in classrooms / shared areas (entrance hall, main hall, corridors etc.)		Consent	
Data Shared	Purpose	Yes	No
Pupil images in sports teams, School Councillors, work / activity linked images etc. (pupils may be named)	To support learning, to showcase pupils' work and activities they've took part in, to celebrate success and to share information regarding roles and responsibilities.		

Newsletter (includes online version posted on the school website)		Consent	
Data Shared	Purpose	Yes	No
Pupil images (no specific identification of individuals)	To share information regarding school events, pupil achievement and to share key information with stakeholders.		

Promotional publications (e.g. annual prospectus, new parent information leaflets etc.) (includes online versions posted on the school website)		Consent	
Data Shared	Purpose	Yes	No
Pupil images (no specific identification of individuals)	To share information regarding the school's facilities, performance and activities with prospective parents.		

*** Please return to school by Friday 12th September 2025 ***



Please complete the booking form for next term's before and after school club!

Due to the high number of children using this service we need to ensure we have the correct number of staff to cover it, so all children attending this club **must** have a form filled out.

NO FORM = NO CLUB!

We accept this form by handing in a physical copy or emailing it to admin@norton.gloucs.sch.uk

Many thanks.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB BOOKING FORM 25/26

Please indicate which session you would like to book from 6th January until 13th February 2026

Please indicate with a tick or with a child's name which before/after school club you would like to book

Term 3	Before	After			Before	After		
Times	8am - 8:45am	3:15pm - 5pm	3:15pm - 5:30pm		Times	8am - 8:45am	3:15pm - 5pm	3:15pm - 5:30pm
Mon 5th Jan	INSET				Mon 26th Jan			
Tue 6th Jan			Closed		Tue 27th Jan			Closed
Wed 7th Jan			Closed		Wed 28th Jan			Closed
Thur 8th Jan					Thur 29th Jan			
Fri 9th Jan		Closed			Fri 30th Jan		Closed	
Mon 12th Jan					Mon 2nd Feb			
Tue 13th Jan			Closed		Tue 3rd Feb			Closed
Wed 14th Jan			Closed		Wed 4th Feb			Closed
Thur 15th Jan					Thur 5th Feb			
Fri 16th Jan		Closed			Fri 6th Feb		Closed	
Mon 19th Jan					Mon 9th Feb			
Tue 20th Jan			Closed		Tue 10th Feb			Closed
Wed 21st Jan			Closed		Wed 11th Feb			Closed
Thur 22nd Jan					Thur 12th Feb			
Fri 23rd Jan		Closed			Fri 13th Feb		Closed	

Name of Child/ren: _____

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions on the website for the before and after school club.



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Dates for your diary for February/March:

Thursday 5th February - Reception class and Year 6 height and weight *Full information letters are on class dojo pages.*

Friday 13th February - Finish for half term at normal time

Half term: 16th to 20th February

Friday 27th February - Look who's talking KS1 finals at Norton

2nd & 3rd March - Puzzle man activities in classes

Thursday 5th March - World book day (details coming soon!)

Wednesday 18th March - EYFS/KS1 multiskills

Thursday 26th March - Easter service in the village hall

Friday 27th March - potato rolling
- last day of term, finish at 1:20pm.

Easter holidays: 30th March to 10th April

Next week - 26th January 2026:

Day:	The School Day:	After School clubs: 3:30 - 4:15pm	Lunch Menu (week 2)
Monday		Fitness Infant bench ball	Mild Mexican chilli with rice Vegan meatballs in tomato sauce with spaghetti Jacket potato & Beans/Cheese/Tuna
Tuesday	Chocolate cake day! See page 5 and the lunch menu for changes!	Junior bench ball	Sausage and mash with gravy Macaroni cheese Baguette & Ham/Cheese/Tuna Chocolate drizzle cake with chocolate sauce
Wednesday		Football (Y2,Y3,Y4) Mindful colouring Book club	Roast chicken with roast potatoes Vegetable wellington with roast potatoes Jacket potato & Beans/Cheese/Tuna
Thursday		Football (Y5,Y6) Outdoor learning	Spaghetti bolognese with garlic bread Roasted vegetable pizza with new potatoes Jacket potato & Beans/Cheese/Tuna Baguette & Ham/Cheese/Tuna
Friday	Sharing assembly 2:45pm. All welcome		Fish fingers with chips Red pepper frittata with chips Jacket potato & Beans/Cheese/Tuna



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STRIVE - THINK - ACT - RESPECT



Having a party?

Try our reusable party kit, rather than buying disposable.

Help support our school's sustainability efforts and PTA fundraising too!

*collection from, and return to, Norton
Contact: Norton.sch.pta@gmail.com



£10 per hire*

30 place settings
5 Jugs
6 Serving Platters



COMMUNITY CORNER

Ioan plays for Longford under 9 along with William Page. They both love playing for their team and play their hearts out every Saturday!! Last Saturday the team were playing away against Burton Rovers - they won 5-2 and both Ioan and William scored their penalties.



What a brilliant video of your penalty Ioan (we've only included the action shots as photos - not quite at Harry Potter level newspapers yet!) Well done to you and William for scoring the penalties - you must both be so proud!



COMMUNITY CORNER

Jemima played in a football match against Tewkesbury Town Colts on Sunday morning, her team won 1-0



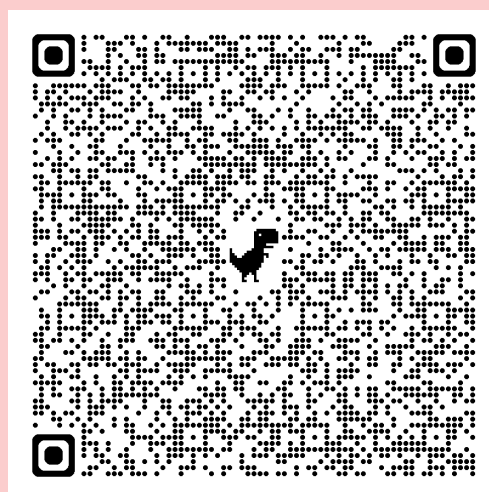
*Wow Jemima, what a super achievement - your smile says it all, you must be so proud!
Keep up the brilliant sporty skills!*



CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Inspired by the year 5 taking part in the big garden bird watch... why don't you find some time to do this at home in your own garden this weekend?

All the information you need is on this QR code:

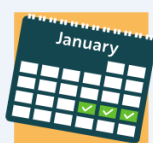


What is Big Garden Birdwatch?

Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring.

How to take part

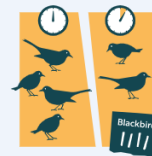
- 1 Get your free guide and stock up on supplies, with 20% off and free delivery on food and feeders at the RSPB shop.
- 2 Spend an hour watching the birds in your patch, between 23 and 25 January, and record the birds that land.
- 3 Tell us what you saw (even if that's nothing at all)! You can submit your results online or by post.



Choose an hour between 23 and 25 January



Only record the birds that land in your patch



Record the highest number of each bird species you see at any one time



Healthy recipe of the week!



Snacks for the birds...

Instead of a recipe for us this week, why not follow this recipe for the birds... Our top tip is to make this before you complete the weekly challenge to help boost bird numbers when you're doing the big garden bird watch!



How to make your own bird feeder

wildlife watch



What you need:

- dry ingredients
 - bird seed
 - cooked rice
 - grated cheese
 - dried fruit
 - breadcrumbs
 - chopped nuts
- hard cooking fat (lard or suet)
- a pine cone, coconut shell or yoghurt pot
 - Use an old yoghurt pot for this, and always recycle after it's been used
- string

1 Mix all the dry ingredients together in a bowl



2 Add the fat and give it a good mix around

3 Choose your feeder



plaster all over a pine cone



put it round the inside of a coconut shell



press into a yoghurt pot

You can hang this upside down like a bell or turn it out like a cake

4 Hang your feeders with string (you may need to make holes and tie the string in before adding the mix)



Hang your feeder where you can watch birds without disturbing them

If you need to melt the fat, ask an adult to help



www.wildlifewatch.org.uk

EXTERNAL AGENCIES ADVERTISING PAGES

Disclaimer:

**Norton School accepts no responsibility for anything
advertised on the following pages.**

**Please assure yourselves of the safety, security and suitability
of any item contained on the red pages.**

Disclaimer:

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Please assure yourselves of the safety, security and suitability of any item contained below.

**Tewkesbury Academy**
Sports Centre



Multi Activity Courses

Monday 16th to Thursday 19th February
9-4pm with early drop off from 8.30am

Suitable for ages 5-12

£24 per day

**10% OFF
EARLY BIRD
DISCOUNT
UNTIL 26TH JAN**

Use code: **EARLYBIRD10**
at checkout



Scan me to book!

More Information  01684 293953  sportscentre@ta.clf.uk

**Tewkesbury Academy**
Sports Centre



February Half-Term 2026 Swimming Crash Courses

Tewkesbury Academy Sports Centre



17th-20th February (4-day course)

Stage 1 (beginner) classes (max 4 children): £40
One-to-ones: £110

School reception age and above
30-minute classes between 9.30-11.45am

Lessons taught by experienced Level 2 teachers
Karen and Jo

CONTACT US  swimminglessons@ta.clf.uk

 Following the **Swim England** Learn to Swim Programme

**Tewkesbury Academy**
Sports Centre



Learn to Swim at Tewkesbury Academy Sports Centre



For Stages 1-7
Ages 4 and above
We offer 30 minute lessons, 6 days a week
with our qualified and friendly swimming
teachers.

£72.50 per 10 week term

CONTACT US  swimminglessons@ta.clf.uk

 Following the **Swim England** Learn to Swim Programme

Disclaimer:

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Progressive Active Camps

Enriching your child's school holidays!

**Waterwells
Primary Academy,
Quedgeley, Glos**

Mon 16th Feb - Friday 20th Feb
9.30am-4.30pm. Early drop off at 8.30am and late
pick up at 5.30pm also available all week long!
For Children 5-13 years old



BOOK NOW!

Use code **N/A**
Don't miss out on our £20
per day welcome offer!



Call: 01889 343120
Email: info@progressive-sports.co.uk
Book Online: progressive-sports.co.uk/north-gloucestershire/



Call: 01889 343120
Email: info@progressive-sports.co.uk
Book Online: progressive-sports.co.uk/north-gloucestershire/



How to book

It's super fast and easy to book!



**1. Scan our QR code above
to book today!**

**2. Or Call us on 01889 343120 and we
will help you sign up.**

We accept all major debit and credit cards.

Act quickly as spaces are limited!

Terms and conditions: 1. All applications must be accompanied by payment in full for the appropriate course. 2. Any cancellations made 7 days prior to the course starting are non-refundable. 3. Any cancellations made before the 7 days prior to the course starting will carry a £50.00 admin fee. 4. For the avoidance of doubt, no refund is permitted for any failure to attend the course. 5. In the event that a participant needs medical attention during any course then you agree to us arranging for any appropriate and necessary treatment. 6. We do not accept responsibility for any death, personal injury or loss of or damage to property other than to the extent that it results from our negligence. 7. The cost of any damage caused by you or any participant you have booked on the course to any property or facilities will be passed on to you. 8. These terms and conditions and your booking shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with English law and shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.

The Crown Building, Sandy Lane, Rugeley, Staffordshire
WS15 2LB

f ProgressiveSports- @ProgSports



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS... SORTED ✓

Trusted Ofsted-registered kids clubs children love!

Every day packed with games, sports & lots of fun!

★ WHAT WE GET UP TO... ★

GET ACTIVE Football Dodgeball Gymnastics Nerf Wars	GET CREATIVE Arts & Crafts Face Painting Slime Making Glitter Tattoos	OR CHILL Board Games Marble Run Lego Top Trumps
---	--	--

...and the best part, children always get to choose!

WHY PARENTS CHOOSE atlas camps

- ★ Ofsted-registered
- ★ Award-winning childcare
- ★ Accepts childcare vouchers &
- ★ Tax-free childcare
- ★ Designed for ages 4-14

BOOK NOW – LIMITED PLACES

Scan the QR code to see dates & venues near you, or visit:

atlascamps.co.uk

FEBRUARY HALF TERM FOOTBALL HOLIDAY COURSES

Ages **5-12** | **9AM 3PM** | All genders welcome
FOR ALL ABILITIES

Run by FA qualified, first aid trained and DBS enhanced checked coaches.

GIRLS ONLY COURSES AVAILABLE

Courses held at:
**BISHOPS CLEEVE FC
CLEEVE SPORTS CENTRE
ST JAMES' PRIMARY SCHOOL**

SCAN ME

INFO@CTFCCP.COM | 01242 518630 | WWW.CTFCCP.COM

Disclaimer:

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Gloucestershire County Council is offering Bikeability courses during all 2026 school holidays. These courses are designed for children aged 9–14 and help build cycling confidence and safety skills in small groups with qualified instructors.

2026 Course Locations & Dates:

- February Half-Term: Ashley Manor Prep School, Cheltenham
- Easter Holidays: Bournside School, Cheltenham
- May Half-Term: Kingshill School
- Summer Holidays: Skillzone (2 sessions available)
- October Half-Term: Pineholt Village Hall

Course Details:

- Cost: £10 per course (2 x 2-hour sessions)
- Bikes: Available subject to availability

Booking: <https://forms.office.com/e/vBSvziEEBk>

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Five Rivers[®] Fostering

We are looking for Foster Carers in Gloucestershire & surrounding areas

If you are interested in a life-changing vocation and can provide a safe, loving home to a child in care, we'd love to hear from you.

0333 0603 962 | five-rivers.org/fostering

Join a local Social Enterprise and a community of foster carers providing long and short-term care for children. Round the clock support and specialist training. Potential to combine with full or part-time work. Highly competitive fostering allowance of up to £28,000 a year, tax-free



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www.studysmartuk.online

**STUDY
SMART**
Free Online Courses

**Starting
Monday 2nd
February**

Fully Funded Education Support Course
Online LIVE Webinars
6 Week Course
Mon - Fri 9.30 - 11.30 & 12.30 - 2.00
Support Session 4.00 - 4.30

Levels 1, 2 & 3 Available
Accredited Awards & Certificates in:
Prepare to Work in Schools
Wellbeing
Safeguarding & Prevent
Occupational Studies
Understanding Challenging Behaviours
Principles of SEN

**Aspire
Education**

Ofsted
Good
Provider