

Hatfield Peverel Infant and Nursery School

Church Road, Hatfield Peverel, Essex CM3 2RP

Headteacher: Mrs Z Fairbairn

Deputy Head teacher: Miss C Springall

Tel: 01245 380220



17th July 2026

Dear families,

I hope you are well and looking forward to a happy and restful summer break.

I am delighted to share some of the progress we have made against our School Development Plan for 2025-2026. These successes reflect the dedication of all our staff, governors and INSA volunteers and the collective commitment to providing an excellent education for every child at Hatfield Peverel Infant and Nursery School.

This marks the end of my third year as Headteacher, and I am very proud of what we have achieved together. The strength of our Senior Leadership Team, our teachers and learning support assistants gives me confidence that we will continue to meet the challenges schools face today.

Like many schools, we have again worked within a constrained budget this year. I would like to thank Mrs Woods, our school business manager, for her steady and expert support in helping to prioritise our spending so we get the best outcomes for our children. She tells me what I am allowed to spend and what I am not allowed to spend!

After reviewing our curriculum last year, the teachers have thoroughly enjoyed teaching the new topics which have included 'Talents and Powers', 'Courage vs Fear' and 'Super Surroundings'. The children have been engaged with them too. When I asked a variety of children what their favourite topic was, they could not choose! Progression maps have been updated, training and staff meetings have taken place on inclusion, our assessment system reviewed and adapted and the website has new material on it every week.

Building work linked to St. Andrew's Junior School has been a priority. I have held many discussions with the Local Authority and the DfE about the associated works and their impact on our site. Please be assured that health, safety and safeguarding remain my top priorities at all times.

Information regarding the new Ofsted Framework will be sent out to parents early on in the Autumn term as we will be in the 'Ofsted Window'. It is very different to the previous inspection framework and as a staff, we feel that parents should be informed of the changes.

During the summer holidays we will complete several projects to improve learning environments and outdoor provision: the Year 1 classrooms will be professionally painted, corridors will be decorated by a small group of volunteers (including staff and governors), the hall floor will be stripped and re-sealed, and new play sheds will be installed in Nursery and Reception. It is always a hive of activity in school during a school holiday!

Lastly, a big thank you to parents and carers and, of course, to the children for your ongoing support in making our school such a caring and nurturing place. It was a special moment to say goodbye to our Year 2 children in their leaver's assembly this week; they were the first cohort of reception children who started school when I began as Headteacher – a year group I will never forget.

I remain committed to further enhancing our school and have many ideas for the coming year – so watch this space!

Wishing you a wonderful, well-deserved summer full of happy memories with your children.

Best wishes,

Z. Fairbairn

School Development Plan Targets 2025-2026

Target 1: To support the development of healthy lifestyles and mental health in children and families.

- Children's Mental Health week and World Mental health day celebrated in school.
- Mental Health action plan updated by Headteacher and staff.
- Mental health lead update training in Autumn term.
- Mental health page updated on website, signposting parents.
- Big focus on Antibullying Week and workshop for all children funded by INSA.
- Black History Month celebrated and workshop on diversity for all children funded by INSA.
- TPP family sessions led by Headteacher and SENCo.
- Initial Healthy Schools audit completed to identify strengths and gaps on mental health and wellbeing.
- Meetings with Health School's co-ordinator.
- Received bid of £3000 for Calm Cubby in outdoor garden.
- Installed Calm Cubby and new resources.
- PE consultant from Active Essex - training to LSAs and MDAs around active play and positive social interactions.
- Completed Creative Active Schools Framework.
- Action plan written for development of outdoor provision at lunch times and reviewed.
- School council involvement with outdoor provision at lunch times.
- Playground zoned at lunch time and new resources purchased. Zones include yoga, basketball, construction, skipping, and dressing up.
- New reading shed and buddy bench purchased by INSA.
- Mini mindfulness sessions.
- Cosy club started led by Headteacher.
- Staff meetings and training around vulnerable and disadvantaged children.
- Club Friday introduced in school so ALL children are included in club like activities.
- School lunches discussed with Junior School and more options planned for September 2026.
- School working towards Wellbeing Award with NHS Public Health England.

Target 2: To develop and improve the opportunities and quality of Writing across the school raising attainment outcomes.

- Headteacher supported writing lead.
- Advice and meetings held with English consultant once a term.
- Writing lead attended English leader updates termly.
- Literacy Tree introduced and embedded into our school.
- Training on new Literacy Tree scheme.
- Embedded sentence spines across the school and writing lenses.
- More opportunities planned for outdoor areas with a focus on writing.
- Researched handwriting schemes for September 2026.
- ERIC writing diaries a big success still!
- Book looks and revised marking and feedback policy.
- New marking stickers in books from September 2026.
- Identified further cross curricular links for writing whilst developing our curriculum offer.
- Governors have had a writing focus when monitoring.
- Phonic and writing workshops have taken place.
- Handwriting included within the EYFS writing workshops.
- English newsletters continued to be sent out termly.
- Drawing club training for all temporary EYFS staff and new Year One staff member.

Target 3: To revise monitoring and assessment throughout our curriculum, particularly foundation subjects ensuring breadth and progression for all pupils.

- Many staff meetings in Autumn term to review knowledge, skills and vocabulary covered in progression maps.
- All yearly overviews revised for September 2026 including nursery.
- Embedded new Art and Design and Technology schemes this academic year.
- Purchased new PSHE scheme of work for September 2026 which includes diversity.
- Foundation subjects set up and tracked on existing assessment system used in school as well as core subjects. In line with progression maps and National Curriculum. Positive impact on teacher's workload.
- Training and moderation around foundation data on new assessment system.
- New baseline assessment in EYFS for end of nursery and reception.
- New annual report template designed and used.
- Witham Collaborative moderation meetings with other Witham Schools.
- Assessment system for children with SEND researched, chosen and embedded.
- Using assessment data to adapt and tailor interventions for groups of children (Precision teaching, Number stacks, phonics).

Target 4: To continue to develop a strong, effective leadership team including Governors.

- Appointed a new Link Governor.
- Governors new to SEN responsibility.
- Headteacher meets with safeguarding governor termly.
- Governor Hub used by all Governors for consistency and training.
- Exclusions and suspension training completed by some Governors.
- All Governors have completed training on Ofsted.
- Revised monitoring schedule for Governors to include action plan reviews, subject assemblies, monitoring visits.
- Weekly SLT meetings, office meetings and staff meetings.
- Advice from school effectiveness partner around inclusion and Ofsted.
- Detailed monitoring schedule in place including subject monitoring reports, staff questionnaires, book looks, drop ins, climate walks, data, pupil progress meetings).
- Liaison with Howbridge Infant School Governing Board to share good practise.

Plus more...

- More website development!
- Weekly newsletters.
- School council—design a playground game, development of playtimes and lunchtimes and our newest annual event... Careers Week and 'Dress up as a job day'.
- Transition arrangements for new Reception children. Stay and play sessions and an evening induction meeting. Home visits a big success in September 2025.
- Coffee mornings held for reception parents, new intake.
- SENCo coffee mornings led by SENCo and supported by SEND Governor.
- INSA – Events have included discos, Christmas decorations, Mother's day and Father's day gift shops, Easter Eggstravaganza, Fun Run and Summer Fete.
- INSA have supported the school by paying for subscriptions: Purple Mash, Espresso, Sing Up.
- Pumpkin competition – always a big hit!
- External club providers –Gymnastics, dodgeball, breakdancing as well as musical theatre, cheerleading.
- Singing club and Cosy Club led by Headteacher.
- Visits have included St. Andrew's Church, village walks, allotment visits, Hedingham Castle, Boydell's Farm, Chelmsford Museum.
- Mystery readers and Afternoon reads continue.
- Sponsored events like book week, minibeast hunt which allow us to top up our reading books each year and provide valuable resources for the children to use.
- Year group assemblies, Christmas concert (Year 1), Easter concert (Reception), Leaver's concert (Year 2) and termly workshops. Harvest visit to St. Andrew's Church.
- Special weeks—Book Week, Science week, Around the world week.
- Visitors into school including Chelmsford Vineyard Church visits, Little City, Animal Encounters and Library service. Parent and Grandparent mornings, Author visit, Reverend Howard from St. Andrew's Church.
- Visits to Howbridge Infants and Chipping Hill School.
- Visits to Becker's Green and Wickford C of E to see Reception practice.
- Visits to Silver End School regarding Ofsted.
- Visiting Every Member Club at village hall.
- E safety workshops.
- Number Stack intervention used in school.
- Sports Day with support from SCS sports coaches.
- Staff training – Ordinarily Available.
- School Prospectus and nursery prospectus rewritten.
- Ofsted training for Governors.
- Witham Collaborative meetings.
- Attendance courses completed by Headteacher.
- Volunteers from secondary schools, Anglia Ruskin University.
- Numerous policies and risk assessments have been written or updated.
- Safeguarding training updates and refresher training for Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher.
- Sustainability climate action plan reviewed.
- New Office Administrator employed.
- Oversubscribed open morning tours for new parents.
- Discussions over building works and many on SMART meters!
- Headteacher teaching!
- And of course... boombox Friday!

Please note that this list is not exhaustive: there are many other activities that go on behind the scenes, involving finance and budget setting, health and safety, staffing and safeguarding, all of which we are continuously improving.