

# BIDSTON AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Tollemache Road, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH41 0DQ

Tel: (0151) 652 1594

Email: [schooloffice@bidstonavenue.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@bidstonavenue.wirral.sch.uk)

Web: <https://www.bidstonavenue.wirral.sch.uk>

HEADTEACHER: Mr. S.G. Brady B.Ed.(Hons), NPQEL, CGA, CMgr FCMI, FCCT



Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

## RE: Welcome Back to Bidston Avenue

Now that all our children have arrived at Bidston Avenue, including our new Nursery and Reception children following their staggered starts, I wanted to officially welcome everyone to the 2026–27 school year... and welcome to the Bidston Avenue family.

This September is also a bit of a personal milestone for me. It is the start of my 20th year as Headteacher of Bidston Avenue and my 58th term as Head. When I first became Headteacher here in September 2007, I certainly could not have imagined everything we would go on to do together or how much the school would change over those years.

What has remained constant is the importance of the people. I feel very fortunate to work with such a committed and caring staff team. Some colleagues have worked alongside me for much of those 20 years and, remarkably, we also have members of staff who have been part of Bidston Avenue for even longer than I have. That experience, alongside the enthusiasm and ideas of newer colleagues, gives our school a real sense of continuity and family.

After all this time, I am still delighted to be Headteacher of BiddyAve and genuinely excited about the year ahead.

## Starting the year by building relationships

We have deliberately spent the first couple of weeks giving children time to settle, reconnect and build strong relationships with the adults and other children around them. Alongside getting classroom routines established and learning properly underway, we have added extra opportunities for teamwork, cooperation and simply spending time together. We know that children learn best when they feel safe, happy and that they belong.

Classes have been out walking, spending time together in Birkenhead Park and up Bidston Hill and taking part in a range of team-building activities.

Wheels Extreme have also been back with us. As always, they gave our children the chance to try something different, practise new skills and, most importantly, show real resilience when things did not work first time. There are some great photographs and videos on our school Facebook and Instagram pages if you have not seen them yet. It has been a positive way to begin the year.



Find us on: Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn

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## Attendance and punctuality matter

One of our biggest priorities this year continues to be attendance. Put simply, children need to be in school to benefit from everything we provide.

Regular attendance makes a real difference to children's learning, friendships, confidence and eventual outcomes. Missing occasional days can very quickly add up to a significant amount of lost learning over a school year.

Punctuality matters too. Children arriving late miss the start of lessons, recapping of learning, important instructions and the routines that help them settle successfully into their day.

Mrs Hackett has already relaunched Attendopoly, which proved very popular last year. We want to recognise excellent attendance, but also improvement, persistence and families working with us to overcome barriers.

We understand that children become genuinely ill and that some families face circumstances which make attendance more difficult. Where this happens, please talk to us. Our approach will always be to work with families wherever we can.

Leave of absence and exceptional circumstances are far tighter than ever. To remind yourself of the rules, please head to: <https://www.bidstonavenue.wirral.sch.uk/page/?title=Attendance&pid=69>. What we cannot replace is the learning that takes place when a child is not here.

## Looking really smart

Thank you for the support you have given to our school uniform policy. The children look fantastic. Having a clear and consistent uniform helps children feel part of Bidston Avenue and means our expectations are the same for everybody.

Our full uniform policy is available on the school website if you need to check any of the requirements during the year.

## A lot to look forward to

As always at Bidston Avenue, learning will extend well beyond the classroom. There are already lots of trips, visits, visitors, performances and residential experiences being planned across the school.

Our international work continues to grow too. During this school year, children from Bidston Avenue will have opportunities connected with both **China and Chile**, building on the international experiences and friendships we have developed over recent years.

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We are also delighted to be developing a new partnership with the **Liverpool Empire Theatre** – the UK's largest two-tier theatre. This will create further opportunities for our children to experience live theatre, performance and the many different careers that exist behind the scenes as well as on the stage.

These experiences matter. We want our children to achieve academically, but we also want them to leave Bidston Avenue curious about the world, confident enough to take opportunities and with memories of primary school that stay with them for a very long time.

## Here's to another great year

The start of a school year always brings a mixture of excitement, nerves and new challenges. Two weeks in, I have been really impressed by how quickly our children have settled and by the positive atmosphere around school.



We have also begun the year with some wonderful news. Bidston Avenue Primary School has been shortlisted for two **Educate Awards 2026**:

- **Outstanding Commitment to the Environment & Sustainability**
- **Outstanding Commitment to Sport in Primary School**

The standard of entries was extremely high, so being shortlisted in both categories is a brilliant achievement. It reflects the commitment of our children, staff and wider Biddy Ave family, and we are incredibly proud of everyone involved.

Thank you to our staff for everything they have done to make such a positive start possible and, importantly, thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support.

Here's to a happy, successful and memorable 2026–27 at Bidston Avenue.

Yours sincerely,

S.G. Brady



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Headteacher