



Parbold Douglas

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

CLASS INFORMATION LETTER: YEAR 6 2025/26

Dear Parents and Friends,

It is our absolute pleasure to welcome Year 6 to their final year at PDA. We are looking forward to a wonderful year together and are excited to work in partnership with you to support your child. Below, you will find some helpful information to guide you as we begin this important year.

The Year 6 team

The teaching team in Year 6 consists of Mr. John Boden, Mrs. Kate Jonker, Mrs. Bonnie Halsall and Mrs. Robbin Ross.

Your main contact for Year 6 will be with Mr. Boden as he will be teaching every morning and two afternoons during a typical week. Mrs. Jonker will usually be teaching Year 6 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. We're very excited to be able to work together to help Year 6 have a great year and get ready for secondary school!

Our school day

As a reminder, school begins at **8:55am** for all pupils – **please ensure children are consistently punctual so that learning is not missed**. Our classroom door will open from 8:45am and we begin each day with a 'Morning Task' as soon as they arrive. Children who arrived at this time last year were most successful due to their daily retrieval of information. Punctuality is also important so that they can start their day in a calm and positive way. The school day ends at **3:25pm**.

Attendance

Excellent attendance at school is vital to securing the greatest possible personal development and academic progress for each child. **As we begin the new school year, we expect all families to be committed to excellent attendance.**

What to bring?

Each day, your child should bring a water bottle, snack box and, if needed, a packed lunch. Other items, such as reading books, will also be brought to school regularly. In winter, children will need additional items such as hats and gloves.

School 'book bags' are available from our uniform suppliers. Children can bring their belongings to school in a small backpack.

PE days (Autumn Term)

Our PE days will be **Monday and Friday (for this half term)**. After the October Half term the days will change to a **Thursday and Friday**. On these days, pupils should attend school in PE uniform (in line with our policy) – other sports clothing is not uniform and should not be worn to school.

For more information about uniform, please see the school website (or the 'September 2025' information letter circulated at the beginning of the summer holidays).

We encourage children to avoid wearing earrings to school. Children who wear earrings must deal with these themselves when preparing for P.E. They must either: leave them at home on P.E. days; provide own plasters and cover the earrings independently or remove them unaided.

Twitter

You can follow our learning journey as a class family via our X page **@PDA_Y6**: https://twitter.com/PDA_Y6
If you are an X user, be sure to 'follow' us.

Curriculum

The Year 6 curriculum map is available on the school website: <https://ww.pda.lancs.sch.uk/year-6/>

We encourage you to refer to the curriculum map so you can talk to your child about their learning.

Homework

Homework will be set on a Monday and will be due in on the following Monday. It will be one piece of English **and Maths in Year 6**. It is important to note that I do not expect a child to spend an excessive amount of time on homework. If you feel your child has spent more time than should be expected, stop them and send in a brief note with the unfinished work/ message on Showbie/ email me. They also will have opportunities to speak to me about homework on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Late homework will be required to be completed in their own time - this in readiness for the expectations (and significant increase!) at high school. As we approach SATS, additional homework support will be offered.

- **Maths:** Children will be encouraged to use Times Table Rockstars to retain learnt times table facts. Some additional challenges will be introduced over the course of the year. Most homework this year will be revision of content previously taught in previous years and this year. We will also use a range of resources to help support the learning and preparation for the SATS later in the year.
- **English:** This will be a mix of Grammar based activities and some comprehension work. Children will be using a platform called spag.com for the majority of their homework – they used this last year. They will be expected to review their answers as part of their homework.
- **Spelling:** As we did last year, spelling will take high priority. Spelling Shed is a brilliant way for children to learn spelling- it has a phonic foundation and also means children who find spelling hard can still access more 'tricky' words! I am able to see children's usage on this application and this will form part of the expected homework.
- **Reading:** In addition to any homework set, I cannot emphasise enough the importance of daily reading and discussing the text. Even if your child is already a fantastic, fluent reader it is the comprehension and understanding of the text that is important and this can never be practiced enough. Books are changed by the children and this should be done at before school, break and lunchtimes. For the first few weeks, we will remind them in class time. Children will be supported in choosing an appropriate book for their ability and age. **They should keep their Reading Record on Showbie updated weekly**. See the video on our YouTube Channel for more information.

There is also a wide variety of independent tasks that children can access throughout the year. These are materials that will support self-study opportunities to help prepare for the SATS. This will be incredibly useful after the Christmas break and will be communicated with both parents and children closer to the time.

Communication

We greatly value the relationship we have with you and are usually available at the beginning or end of each day if you wish to speak with us. You can also contact us through the communication box as part of your child's Home Learning Showbie account. Please also feel free to email Mr. Boden or Mrs. Jonker directly: j.boden@pda.lancs.sch.uk / k.jonker@pda.lancs.sch.uk. We will respond, during the school week, by email or phone (or will speak to you at collection / drop-off if appropriate). **For more urgent messages during the school day, please email or phone the school office** (e.g. if arrangements have changed in relation to who is collecting your child at home time).

Diary dates

Please refer to the calendar on the school website (and the monthly newsletters) for up-to-date information about upcoming events. We will have a Zoom meeting about our upcoming visit to Patterdale Hall in the coming weeks.

Labelling items

Please ensure all items sent to school are clearly labelled. This significantly improves the likelihood of items returning to the correct child if they are misplaced. Please ensure that the children becoming increasingly more responsible for their own personal items as we prepare for the secondary school transition.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding and the safety of children is our first priority. Our partnership with you, as parents, is an essential aspect of this. If the school has a concern in relation to your child, we will contact you to discuss how we may be able to offer help and support. We strongly encourage you to communicate with us if you have any concerns regarding your children's welfare, including their mental health and emotional wellbeing. The school can often offer or signpost support. You can find more information on the safeguarding page on our website. The school also is part of Operation Encompass. This alerts the school to any domestic abuse/ violence within the home to help support both the parents and the children. More information on all the above can be found [HERE](#).

A number of concerns in recent years have stemmed from student's use of social media and games where they can contact each other. The school has a strong internet safety ethos and will continue to support pupils and their parents in navigating this safely and positively.

KS2 National Tests (SATS)

There is no additional preparation, stress or worry for these tests in May. School will ensure each child is able to show their true ability and not be worried and stressed in the process. These will take place between Monday 11th May 2026 and Thursday 14th May 2026.

Year 6 and Reception Buddies

Year 6 will this year take on roles as buddies for the Reception children – no doubt you will hear about this during the first few days. I know they are all excited to meet them.

Leadership Roles in Year 6

All Year 6 will be a 'Leader' this year. There are a plethora of roles they can apply for and each role will have a different focus and work with a different member of the PDA staff team. The children have already begun to apply for their roles and these will be assigned in the coming week.

Mobile Phones

In Year 6, we allow the children to bring in a mobile phone if they are walking home alone after school. The phone will need to be turned off and put into our secure box at the start of the day and the children will collect them at the end, before returning home. If you would like your child to walk home alone, please consent using the Parent App.

We are pleased to meet you and very much look forward to working alongside you throughout the year ahead.

With best wishes,

Mr. Boden, Mrs. Jonker, Mrs. Halsall and Mrs. Ross

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