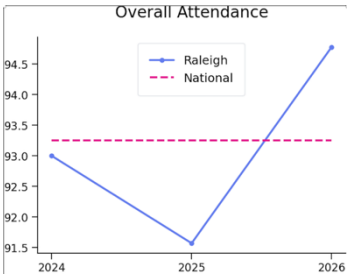
Bulletin 22 – Summer 2 '26

Raleigh & Admirals Academies

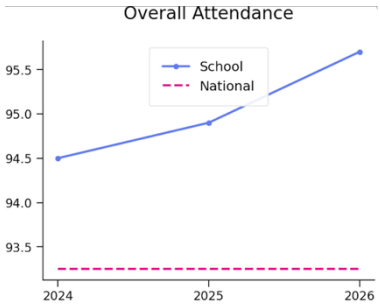
A Principal's view – Thank you !

As we reach the end of another successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, partnership and commitment to our school community. It has been a year filled with achievement, growth and memorable experiences for our children, and none of this would be possible without the support of our families.

A particular highlight of the summer term has been the wonderful attendance and enthusiasm shown at both our Sports Day and Summer Fête. It was fantastic to see so many families joining us to celebrate these important community events. The children thoroughly enjoyed showcasing their sporting talents and teamwork on Sports Day, while the Summer Fête provided another opportunity for families, staff and friends of the school to come together and celebrate the end of the year. Thank you for helping to make both events such a success.



I would also like to offer my sincere thanks for the significant improvements we have seen in school attendance this year. Regular attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children achieve their very best, and the positive difference made by families prioritising attendance has been clear to see. Every day in school counts, and your commitment to ensuring that children arrive on time, ready to learn, has played a vital role in supporting their progress and success. Admirals



Throughout the year, our pupils have demonstrated resilience, kindness, determination and a genuine love of learning. Whether through their academic achievements, performances, sporting successes, charitable work or simply the way they care for one another, they continue to make us incredibly proud. I would also like to thank our dedicated staff team for their hard work and unwavering commitment to providing the very best opportunities for every child.

To our Year 6 pupils, we wish you every success as you begin the next stage of your educational journey. You leave us with wonderful memories and many achievements to celebrate. Finally, as the summer holidays begin, I hope that all our families have the opportunity to rest, relax and spend quality time together. Please remember to keep safe, look after one another and enjoy the weeks ahead.

Greg Sadler, Executive Principal

Upcoming Term Dates 26/27

Thursday 3rd September '26

Autumn term '26/27 begins

Friday 23rd October '26

PD Day – Academies closed

Monday 26th October '26

Half term begins '26/27

Fete '26 success

Our Summer Fete was a wonderful success, bringing together pupils, families and staff for an afternoon of community spirit, fun and celebration. Visitors enjoyed a fantastic range of stalls, delicious food, exciting games and activities, including a popular pupil-run stall that showcased our children's creativity and enterprise. Thanks to the incredible generosity of everyone who attended, we raised an impressive £900 for the school. A special thank you goes to Sharon Azzapardi-Thomson for her excellent organisation and hard work in making the event such a success. We are also grateful to all parents and families for their support and spending on the day.

School Attendance

Every day counts...

Good attendance helps with...

Academic Achievement
Regular attendance helps children stay on track with the curriculum and achieve stronger academic results.

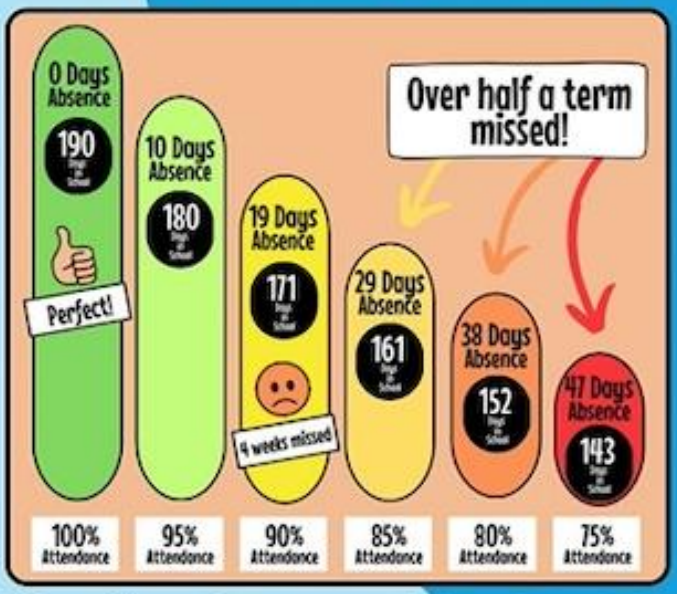
Social Skills
Being in school every day helps children make friends, develop important social skills and feel part of the school community.

Routine & Responsibility
Attending school regularly teaches the importance of commitment, routine and responsibility, helping children build valuable life skills.

Focus & Engagement
Children who attend school regularly are more likely to stay engaged in their learning and develop a positive attitude towards education.

Building Confidence
Regular attendance can boost a child's self-esteem and confidence, as they see their progress and achievements over time.

Enhanced Learning Opportunities
School offers more than academic learning - it provides clubs, activities and enrichment opportunities that help children discover new interests and talents.



Did you know there are...

- 365 Days in a Year
- 190 School Days
- 175 Non School Days

Having 90% over 5 school years, is half a school year's work missed!

Tips for Supporting Good Attendance...

Set a regular routine
A consistent bedtime and morning routine helps children feel ready for school and reduces last-minute stress.

Aim for every day
Try to make school attendance the default. Only keep your child off if they are genuinely unwell.

Plan appointments carefully
Where possible, book medical or dental appointments outside school hours so your child doesn't miss lessons.

Talk positively about school
Ask about your child's day and celebrate the little things they enjoy. Your positivity helps them look forward to school.

Stay in touch
When a child is struggling, early communication with the school helps everyone find solutions and makes things easier for the child.

Prepare the night before
Pack bags, lay out uniforms and check homework in the evening to make mornings smoother and less stressful.

Silly School Education

Reception – Stories from the past

Reception have loved exploring their final learning theme of the year, 'Stories from the Past'. Throughout the half term, the children have taken part in a range of exciting experiences that have helped bring their learning to life and deepen their understanding. Some of our highlights have included becoming storytelling detectives and investigating fairy tale crime scenes, re-enacting *Prometheus and the Fire* and sculpting our own Greek Gods while exploring Greek myths, as well as toasting marshmallows around a 'campfire' as we discovered West African folktales like *Anansi the Spider*.

Our growing knowledge of stories from around the world and throughout history, combined with the love of books we have developed across Reception, has inspired us in so many ways. We have written our own stories, created puppet shows, performed for one another, and let our imaginations flourish. As we reach the end of our Reception journey, we have also enjoyed retelling the story of our year together, reflecting on all the wonderful experiences, friendships, and learning that have made this such a special year. We are certainly amazing storytellers in the making, and we are excited to continue our stories in Year 1.

Year 1 – Saving our World

This term, Year 1 has been learning about how we can help to save our world by reducing waste, recycling and caring for our environment.

The children explored different types of pollution and discussed how pollution can affect people, animals and habitats. They also took part in a litter pick around the school grounds, helping to keep our environment clean while learning that everyone can play a part in protecting our planet.

As part of our learning, the children worked together to create a fantastic recycling wall. They carefully painted it with bright colours and important messages to raise awareness about the importance of recycling and looking after our planet. The finished display reminds everyone in our school that even small actions can make a big difference.

We have also explored simple ways to help the environment, such as using the correct recycling bins, saving water, turning off lights when they are not needed and reusing everyday items wherever possible.

We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm and creativity Year 1 has shown throughout this topic. Well done, Year 1, for helping to make our school a greener place!

Year 2 - Science

This half term, Year 2 enjoyed an exciting visit to Explorazone in Norwich. Throughout the day, the children explored three interactive rooms packed with opportunities to investigate, experiment and learn through play. They took part in a range of hands-on activities that brought chemistry, physics, astronomy and the human body to life, helping to develop their scientific understanding in an engaging and memorable way. The excitement continued in the spectacular Lights Room, where the children experienced the incredible space-time tunnel, navigated the tricky mirror maze, challenged themselves in the tilted room and tested their skills in the laser maze. It was a fantastic day of exploration, discovery and fun, creating wonderful memories for both the children and the adults.

Year 3 – Geography, History & Maths

Year 3 have enjoyed a fantastic Summer Term filled with exciting learning opportunities and memorable experiences. One of the highlights of the term was our educational visit to the Great River Ouse in Ely. The children returned to school full of enthusiasm, eager to share the fascinating facts and experiences they had discovered throughout the day.

During the visit, the children took part in a range of hands-on activities, including river dipping, conducting a river survey, exploring the river on a guided walk, and learning about traditional eel fishing. They thoroughly enjoyed identifying river wildlife and developed their understanding of the local environment while learning new vocabulary such as *moorings* and *marina*.

It has been wonderful to see how much of this learning has stayed with the children, with many continuing to discuss their experiences back in the classroom. Several children even described the trip as "the best ever", which is a testament to how much they enjoyed it.

The day also included a picnic in the park and an opportunity to create some beautiful drawings of Ely Cathedral. Throughout the visit, the children were outstanding ambassadors for the academy, demonstrating our core values of aspiration, respect and kindness. Their excellent behaviour and impeccable manners were noticed and praised by members of the public on several occasions, and we are incredibly proud of them.

Year 4 – Design Technology (DT)

Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic Design Technology (DT) Day, where we learnt all about apples before using them to make our very own apple crumbles!

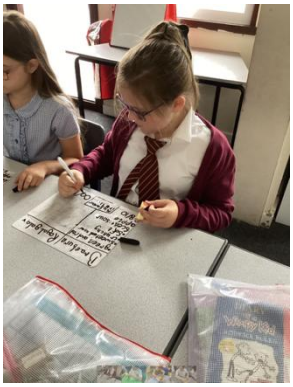
We began the day by discovering where apples are grown and learnt that many different varieties are produced in orchards across the UK. We explored the seasonality of apples and compared a range of varieties before carrying out a taste test of Braeburn and Royal Gala apples to decide which we preferred.

During the practical 'make' section of the day, the children learnt how to safely peel, chop and remove the core from apples before having a go themselves. Some of us found these new skills quite challenging, but we persevered and showed our school value of kindness by helping and encouraging our friends.

Once the apples were prepared, we moved on to making the crumble topping using flour, butter and sugar. The delicious smell of baking apple crumbles soon filled the corridors as they cooked in the oven over lunchtime! After lunch, the moment we had been waiting for finally arrived – tasting our creations. Most of us thoroughly enjoyed our crumbles, and we were especially proud of those children who had a try, even if they thought they might not like it.

To finish the day, we evaluated our apple crumbles and discussed what had gone well, as well as what we might do differently next time. It was a fun-filled day of learning, teamwork and delicious results!

Coregulations to Year 4 on a fantastic year!



Year 5 Geography – Local Study

As part of the Year 5 Local Study work, we discussed the traffic on Admirals Way and decided to do a survey to see just how busy it actually is. After planning what data we were going to collect, we headed out and started tallying immediately. We were all amazed at how many cars drove down the road but were disappointed not to see any lorries or buses during the time of our data collection. After graphing the data, we discussed if the half hour survey we carried out reflected the general amount of traffic on Admirals Way. The children realised that if we were to carry out the survey at different times of the day and on different days of the week, our results would probably be very different.

BMX & Skateboarding Workshops

The sun was shining brightly for our exciting Skateboarding and BMXing workshop with Mike and Danny from BMX Academy. The children loved having a go, learning new tricks and cheering one another on throughout the session. There were plenty of smiles as they practised balance, control and confidence. Most importantly, they discovered how resilience helps when a challenge feels tricky, and how rewarding it can be to keep trying.

Year 6 – Busy Busy

As we approach the end of a very busy term, our year 6 pupils have had a week of adventure and fun to mark the end of their primary school years. Forty pupils attended the residential trip at Thorpe Woodlands where the children were challenged to take on a range of activities including caving, ziplining, tree-trekking, archery, canoeing and many more. For some, they breezed through but for others their resilience and fears were tested.

Both the team at Thorpe Woodlands and the accompanying staff were blown away by the children's kindness towards one another, courage and open-mindedness when approaching some of the more challenging sessions.

For those that did not attend, the fun was not missed. The remaining children took part in cooking, drumming, art and PE whilst also having Outdoor Explore deliver similar sessions to that of a residential on the school field. Whilst they were very much missed, we were glad they that they had a great time too.

Uniform Reminder for the Autumn term '26

Taken form the Set Uniform list available on our website

At Raleigh Infant Academy children are able to wear:

- Blue Raleigh sweater or cardigan
- White or blue polo shirt
- Dark grey trousers, shorts and skirts
- Blue checked summer dresses

At Admirals Academy children are able to wear:

- Maroon Admirals sweater or cardigan
- White shirt
- Maroon & gold Admirals tie
- Dark grey trousers, shorts and skirts
- Blue checked summer dresses

Footwear

- Plain black shoes that are suitable for play – we allow plain black trainers without heavy design. We also allow plain non-heeled boots but would suggest that these be light weight so not to impede the children running.
- Sandals, heeled, and open-toed footwear are not safe for school and therefore, we would ask this to be replaced.

If the warm weather continues through to September, additional Summer Attire will be useful to keep the children cool.

- A hat within the second half of summer term, preferably one that covers the neck.
- Children will be asked to stay in the shade without a hat.

Pupil Questionnaire – What do our pupils think ?

We asked our children a range of questions from the standardised Ofsted inspection survey which are utilised during inspections. The answers from the pupils provide us with a range of responses that will help us plan for the future, allowing us to continue developing our offer.

Admirals Survey	**All or most of the time**	**Some of the time**	**Almost Never**	**Never**
1. I enjoy coming to school.	76%	17%	4%	3%
2. I enjoy my learning.	75%	15%	4%	1%
3. Adults help me do my best.	75%	23%	1%	1%
4. My work makes me think and learn new things.	80%	15%	5%	0%
5. I feel safe at school.	81%	15%	4%	0%
6. I know an adult I can talk to if I am worried.	80%	17%	2%	1%
7. Adults listen to me and care about what I think.	87%	11%	1%	1%
8. Children behave well in school.	78%	20%	2%	0%
9. Adults deal with bullying well.	80%	16%	4%	0%
10. School helps me stay healthy and make good choices.	79%	18%	3%	0%
Raleigh Survey	😊 Always	🙂 Usually	😐 Sometimes	☹️ Never
1. I enjoy coming to school.	82%	15%	2%	1%
2. I enjoy my learning.	87%	8%	5%	0%
3. Adults help me do my best.	84%	15%	1%	0%
4. I know an adult I can talk to if I am worried	93%	4%	3%	0%
5. I feel safe at school.	91%	95	0%	0%
6. Children are kind to each other	80%	14%	6%	0%

A Celebration of Sport, Community and House Spirit

After our original Sports Day was unfortunately postponed due to the extreme heat, pupils, families and staff were delighted to come together for a fantastic day of sporting fun and friendly competition.

The atmosphere throughout the event was truly special. With music playing across the field, plenty of cheering from the sidelines and an exceptional turnout of parents and carers, the school grounds were buzzing with energy and excitement. It was wonderful to see so many families joining us to support the children and celebrate their achievements.

Pupils competed with enthusiasm, determination and great sportsmanship in a range of events, earning valuable points for their house teams. The encouragement shown by both participants and spectators created a real festival atmosphere, with every race and challenge met by loud applause and support.

The competition was closely contested, with all four houses performing brilliantly. Congratulations to Rockall House, who claimed the Sports Day trophy with an impressive 3,775 points. They were followed by Biscay House with 3,627 points, Fastnet House with 3,513 points, and Trafalgar House with 3,433 points.

(Word has it performance of the day went to the Winning Frog x)

Leavers 2026 – Farewell and Best Wishes

As we come to the end of another successful year, we would like to take the opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you and farewell to three valued members of our school team.

Mr Smith will be leaving us this summer as he returns to Norwich with his young family. We are incredibly grateful for the commitment, care and enthusiasm he has shown during his time with us. He has made a positive difference to the lives of many pupils and colleagues, and while we will miss him greatly, we wish him and his family every happiness and success in this exciting new chapter.

Mrs Wright will also be leaving us as she begins her maternity leave and prepares to start her own young family. Mrs Wright has been a wonderful member of our Year 6 team, supporting pupils through an important stage of their education with warmth, dedication and professionalism. She will be greatly missed by both staff and pupils, and we send our warmest congratulations and best wishes for the months ahead. We look forward to seeing her next year!

Mrs Wickers joined us on a one-year contract and has quickly become a much-loved and highly respected member of our teaching team. As she leaves to take up her next teaching post in Bury St Edmunds, we would like to thank her for the enthusiasm, dedication and care she has brought to the school. She has been a fantastic teacher who has made a real impact on the children in Year 5, helping them to grow in confidence and achieve their very best. We know that her next school is gaining a wonderful colleague, and while we are excited for her next chapter, she will be greatly missed by pupils, families and staff alike. We wish her every success and happiness in her future career.

We are also sad to say goodbye to Mr Reynolds from Premier Education. Over his time with us, Mr Reynolds has been a fantastic asset to our school community. His energy, enthusiasm and commitment have enriched our PE lessons, lunchtimes and after-school clubs, providing countless opportunities for pupils to develop their skills, confidence and love of sport. We are very grateful for all he has contributed and wish him every success in the future.

Our Raleigh Year 2 leavers – we look forward to seeing you all in Admirals!!!

ATTENDANCE WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything.
Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine.
The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160

2

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.

+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 1 parent = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

5

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

10 IN 10

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = 2 Sessions

3

FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS

+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 2 parents = £1280

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

4

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

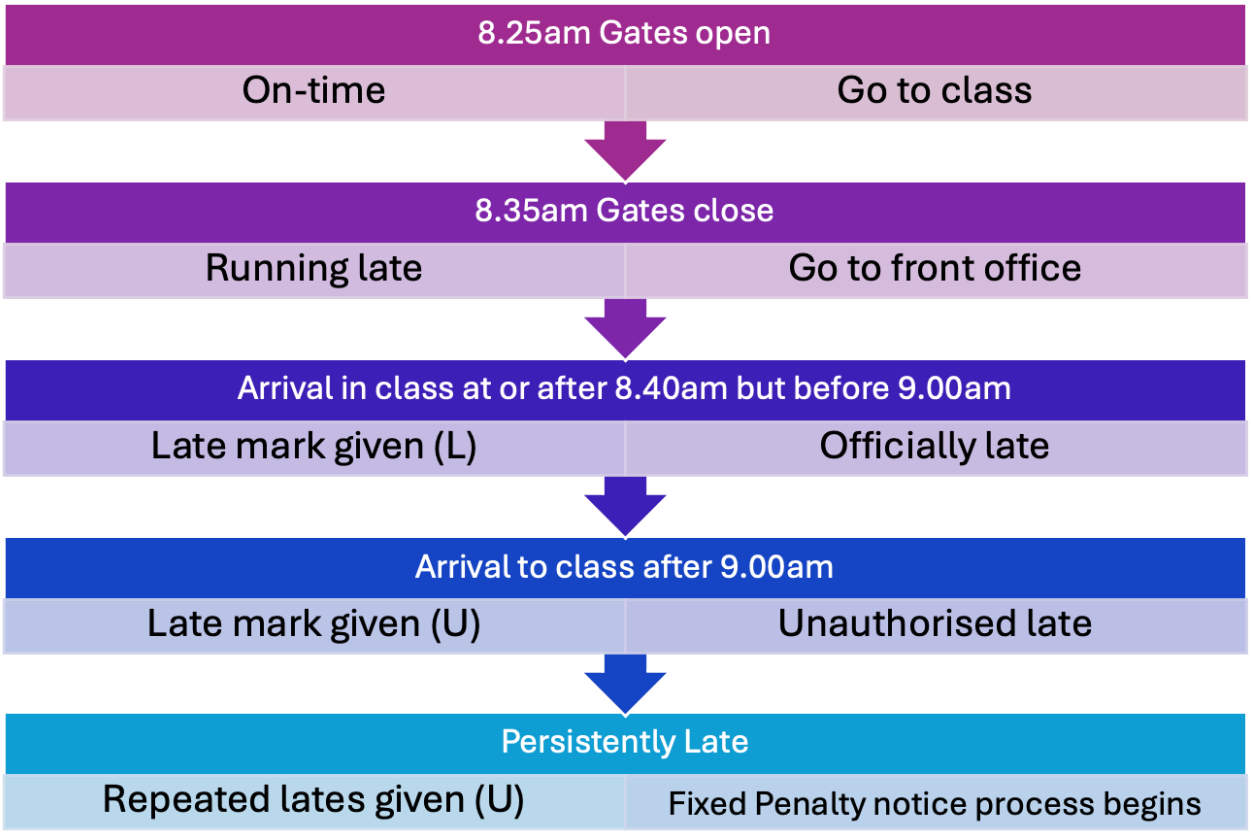
2ND TIME

2 parents and
1 child = £320
2 children = 640
3 children = 960
4 children = 1280
No discount for early payment

3RD TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court.
A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child
1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents & 4 children = £20,000

Our 'Late to School' Flowchart



We would like to clarify our morning start procedures to ensure all families understand how lateness is recorded and why punctuality is so important.

School gates open at **8:25am**. Children arriving during this time are considered on time and should go straight to class. Gates close promptly at **8:35am**. Any child arriving after this time is classed as running late and must report to the front office to be signed in.

If a child arrives in class at or after **8:40am but before 9:00am**, they will receive a late mark (L). This is recorded as officially late. While this may seem like a short delay, valuable learning takes place at the start of each day, and arriving late can disrupt both your child's learning and that of others.

If a child arrives **after 9:00am**, this is recorded as an unauthorised late mark (L). This is a more serious mark and is recorded as absence for the session. Where children are persistently late and receive repeated (L) marks, the fixed penalty notice process may begin in line with national guidance.

We appreciate your support in ensuring children arrive on time each day, ready to learn and make the most of every lesson.