

# Robert Browning, Snowsfields and Tower Bridge Primary Schools

We learn and succeed together



 [@robertbrowning.bsky.social](https://www.instagram.com/robertbrowning.bsky.social) [@towerbridgeschool.bsky.social](https://www.instagram.com/towerbridgeschool.bsky.social) [@snsprimary.bsky.social](https://www.instagram.com/snsprimary.bsky.social)  
Find us at: [www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk](http://www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk)



## Newsletter 15th November 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for attending the parent, pupil and teacher meetings on Wednesday, we really value the time to talk with you about how your child is progressing at school and to hear about their learning at home. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you were unable to attend the meeting.

Don't forget to complete your parent questionnaires. These will stay open until Wednesday 20th November.

Please check google classroom for this terms homework project sheet. We are always impressed by the projects that the children complete at home. Our expectation is that all children complete at least one homework project each half term.

You will also find on google classroom updates from your child's class showing some of the brilliant learning that is taking place in school. You are also welcome to share your child's homework projects on google classroom or any additional learning opportunities your child enjoys out of school such as clubs attended or outings.

Also congratulations to the children who received a red wristband for 100% attendance and punctuality for autumn 1 and the three families who won the attendance hamper raffle for 98% attendance for autumn 1.

Have a lovely weekend the school gates open at 8:45am.

### Applying for a Reception place

If your child was born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021, you must apply for a primary or infant school place for September 2025. You will need to apply online. Please click on the link here: [eAdmissions](#)

As you know, The Magna Groups are now running the after school club facility for Snowsfields and Tower Bridge pupils. Should you wish to register your child please follow the link below to register: <https://magna.childcare-online-booking.co.uk/>



### Dates For Your Diary



#### Tower Bridge

**Thursday 12th December** -KS1 Performance to parents with small children 10am

**Thursday 12th December** -KS1 Performance to parents no small children 2pm

**Tuesday 17th December** -EYFS Winter Performance

**Tuesday 17th December** - class parties - wear your own clothes

**Wednesday 18th December** - Christmas Dinner

**Friday 20th December** - Festive Jumpers

**Friday 20th December**- Break Up

**Monday 6th January** - Spring Term Starts

#### Robert Browning

**Tuesday 17th December** -EYFS Winter Performance

**Tuesday 17th December** - class parties - wear your own clothes

**Wednesday 18th December** - Christmas Dinner

**Friday 20th December** - Festive Jumpers

**Friday 20th December**- Break Up 1pm

**Monday 6th January** - Spring Term Starts

#### Snowsfields

**Friday 13th December am** - KS1 Christmas Show

**Tuesday 17th December am** -EYFS Winter Performance

**Tuesday 17th December** - class parties - wear your own clothes

**Wednesday 18th December** - Christmas Dinner

**Friday 20th December** - Festive Jumpers

**Friday 20th December**- Break Up at 1pm.

**Monday 6th January** - Spring Term Starts

Term Dates for 2024-2025 are on the Federation website

[Term Dates – The Bridges Federation](#)

**Term time holidays will not be authorised.**

Other important dates for this year can also be found on the school website here:

[Diary – The Bridges Federation](#)

# Robert Browning, Snowfields and Tower Bridge Primary Schools

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[@robertbrowning.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/robertbrowning.bsky.social) [@towerbridgeschool.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/towerbridgeschool.bsky.social) [@snsprimary.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/snsprimary.bsky.social)

Find us at: [www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk](http://www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk)

## ATTENDANCE UPDATE

**Being in school and having the best attendance possible underpins all the many benefits of school for your child, such as their learning, wellbeing and wider development. We want to work with you to ensure that attendance for pupils at the Bridges Federation is the best it can be.**

As a parent, you are legally responsible for making sure your child gets a suitable full time education. This means making sure your child is in school every day except when

- Your child is too ill to go to school.
- You have permission for a leave of absence from your child's school for them not to attend. You should only ask for this in exceptional circumstances. Generally, a holiday will not be classed as an exceptional circumstance.
- Your religious body has a day especially for religious observance.

### **If my child needs to be absent from school, what do I need to do?**

You should contact us as early as possible (no later than 10am) on the first day of absence to explain why. If you do not, we will contact you to find out where they are.

### **My child is ill. What should I do?**

If your child is ill, read the NHS's 'Is my child too ill for school?' advice to help you decide whether they can go to school. Contact us as soon as possible to let us know that they will be absent.

### **Do I need to provide medical evidence to support my child's illness related absence?**

We may ask for medical evidence when your child is absent due to illness. This may be in cases where:

- Your child is regularly absent due to illness, to assess how we can help by putting support in place.
- We have reason to believe your child was not too ill to attend and a conversation has not resolved the issue.

If you are asked to provide evidence this does not need to be a letter from your doctor or consultant, and doctors will not usually provide such letters. It can, instead, be appointment cards, prescriptions, or notes of previous consultations (including from the NHS App.)

To avoid disruption to your child's attendance, medical and dental appointments should not be booked during the school day whenever reasonably possible.

### **My child is struggling to attend school. What can I do?**

The first step is to talk to us about why your child is missing school, and what help we can give. You should still do everything you can to help your child attend as much as possible whilst waiting for help and support to be put into place. Information on who you can contact for help, including the school's senior leader responsible for attendance, can be found in our attendance policy on the website. We follow the expectations laid out in the DfE guidance 'Working together to improve school attendance.'

<https://assets.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wpuploads/2024/07/aaa-guide-for-parents-on-school-attendance-19th-Aug-version.pdf>

<https://thebridgesfederation.org.uk/home/attendance/>





On Monday, Year 5 and 6 attended the Remembrance Day service at Guy's Hospital. At school, we made poppies or remembrance art and observed the two minute silence.



**ATTENDANCE  
RAFFLE WINNER**

Congratulations to our attendance raffle hamper winner.



To enter the raffle, children need to have at least 95% and have no term time holidays.

**end of term**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Thursday 12th December**

- KS1 Performance to parents with small children 10am

**Thursday 12th December**

- KS1 Performance to parents no small children 2pm

**Wednesday 18th December**

- Christmas Dinner

**Tuesday 17th December**

- EYFS Winter Performance 9.30am
- Class Parties (wear own clothes)

**Friday 20th December - wear Festive Jumpers and Break Up 1pm**

**Thank you!**

Thank you to all the parents and carers who came into school this week to meet with staff about your children's progress. Thank you for all your kind comments and supporting your children's learning so well. If you haven't completed your questionnaire, please do before Wednesday 20th November.



THE PEAN SCHOOL  
SPORTS NETWORK

Red and Orange Class have been lucky enough to start working with Samuel from LPESSN to work on their multi skills in sport.





## Parent and Pupil Review Meetings.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended their appointments on Wednesday. We always enjoy talking to you about your child's progress. If you were unable to make the appointment, please make sure that you arrange a new time with the class teacher.



Thank you to all our parents and carers for your understanding and flexibility on Monday after the tragic events that occurred in the market.

We understand that many of you may be concerned or worried about keeping your family safe, or how to talk to your children about events such as these.

There is a Groundwork Coffee Morning on Tuesday 19th November, where you can talk about any anxiety or worries that your child may have. There is also a free workshop organised by the Ben Kinsella Trust called 'Keeping our Children Safe'. This takes place on 11th December and is online. You can register here:

[Ben Kinsella Trust](#)

The Met Police have also asked us to share some information with you. They offer a service called Walk, Talk & Do, which is specifically for women- to support them in feeling safer in the local area. They also have StreetSafe- where you can report anti-social behaviour, poor lighting and other things that may concern you.

Please see the posters below and speak to us for more information.

## Remembrance Day

On Monday we marked Remembrance Day with a special assembly.



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST HERE

SOUTHWARK



**As a woman, do you feel unsafe in your local area?**

Come and chat to our friendly local officers on a 'walk and talk' of the local area. We're inviting you to tell us your experiences and concerns. If you feel unsafe in a particular area, let us know so we can work with partners to improve safety on our streets.



Save

**STREETSAFE:**  
HELPING TO MAKE THE STREETS SAFER FOR EVERYONE

FIND OUT MORE AT  
[WWW.POLICE.UK/STREETSAFE](http://WWW.POLICE.UK/STREETSAFE)




Home Office

In partnership with




## Attendance Winners!

Congratulations to the winner of our attendance hamper for the first half of the autumn term. We also gave out wristbands to the children with 100% attendance for the first half of the term.



# Snowsfields Primary School



The children in year 5 have started making their lanterns ready for the Annual Lantern Parade on December 5th!

This half term, the Year 1 and Year 2 children are helping the Unicorn Theatre to develop ideas for future shows!



On Thursday, they had their second session, during which they played games and had fun drawing what they thought Father Christmas might look like!



This week, some of our KS2 classes attended the Remembrance service at Guy's Hospital. The organisers were really impressed with the children's respectful behaviour.

We were thrilled to receive a generous donation of beautiful wooden toys from some of our former pupils! The children in Rainbow Class had a fantastic time exploring and playing with them during Golden Time.



Our amazing garden volunteers teamed up with families for a fun and hands-on bulb planting session.

Well done for winning the attendance hamper for the 1st half-term!



In Green class, children enjoyed writing play scripts based on the myth of Romulus and Remus.



Well done to all the children who have earned a red wristband for perfect attendance!





Reading Raffle and Homework Project Winners

Our school value this week is: G - Goals Are Aspirational



Our core value this week is: Creativity

Reading Raffle Winners



Times Tables Rock Stars



Our school value this week is: L - Love of Learning

Reading Raffle Winners





	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	7 ½	1	675
Year 2	2	6	1175
Year 3	3	6	450
Year 4	6 ½	9	100
Year 5	4	8	200
Year 6	3	4	700

**Overall whole school attendance for week beginning 4/11/2024: 93.83%**

**1st Place Attendance: Year 2  
1st Place Punctuality: Year 1**



**Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 4/11/2024: 95.65%**

**1st Place Attendance: Y2  
1st Place Punctuality: Y2**

	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	4	3	97.22%
Year 2	0	1	100%
Year 3	8	3	95.40%
Year 4	4	4	97.44%
Year 5	10	4	94.05%
Year 6	16	4	91.11%




	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	8	8	<b>500</b>
Year 2	7	11	<b>125</b>
Year 3	2	3	<b>1000</b>
Year 4	10	7	<b>325</b>
Year 5	6	14	<b>375</b>
Year 6	7	8	<b>600</b>

**Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 04/11/2024: 95.46%**


**1st Place Attendance: Y3  
1st Place Punctuality: Y3**



# Family support



## FITNESS & WELLNESS FOR WOMEN



- BREATHING
- STRETCHING
- DANCING
- YOGA TECHNIQUES
- AND MORE

**Venue**  
The Lewington Community centre  
9 Eugenia road  
Rotherhithe SE16 2RU

**TUESDAYS STARTING 17TH SEPTEMBER 2024 10AM - 11:30AM**

For more information  
02035369609, 07394662602  
Admin@parentskills2go.com  
Parentskills2go.org

crèche will be provided

Connect with Us  
@parentskills2go



Southwark Young Carers

We support young people living in Southwark aged 8-24, who provide unpaid care or support to a family member with a long-term illness, disability, mental health condition or a substance misuse issue.



For further information, please contact our Hub: youngcarers@imago.com





## Free Workshops for Parents and Carers

Do you want more guidance on how to talk to your children, teens and young people about vaping, alcohol or drugs? Do you want to be informed on the current themes and trends we come across working with young people in the borough?

Substances are more accessible today than ever before. For parents, carers or anyone responsible for children and young people, it can feel overwhelming and difficult to know how to respond.

We're offering FREE online workshops for parents and carers in Southwark, to give advice and guidance to help you navigate this quickly changing landscape.

**We'll cover:**

- Current trends amongst young people
- Strategies for talking to young people about substances in an open and supportive way
- Practical advice on how to keep your children safe from the dangers of substance misuse

For further information contact:

- Email: [Southwark.YoungPeople@cgl.org.uk](mailto:Southwark.YoungPeople@cgl.org.uk) or scan the QR code for a direct link to the eventbrite page.
- You can call us on: 020 3404 7499



## The Nest - Wellbeing Hub

The Nest operates a drop-in service every **Saturday between 10:30 and 14:30**. Therapeutic practitioners and support workers can offer 1:1 emotional support, information & advice and signpost you to the appropriate services.

[Drop-In Service | The Nest](#)



## BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF AUTISM

(6 WEEKS ONLINE PROGRAM)

Understanding Autism & How to support Your Children At Home or Early Years Setting

Starts Monday 16th September, 2024  
6:00pm-7:30pm

For more information  
02035369609, 07394662602  
Admin@parentskills2go.com  
Parentskills2go.org

Zoom details will be sent after registration

Connect with Us  
@parentskills2go

## HELPING YOUR CHILD MANAGE THEIR FEARS AND WORRIES

NOV-DEC 2024



5 WEEK ONLINE GROUP FOR PARENTS/CARERS AIMED AT HELPING YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD IN OVERCOMING ANXIETY WHILST DEVELOPING THEIR INDEPENDENCE AND BRAVE BEHAVIOURS.

THIS COURSE IS BASED ON CBT EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDED SELF-HELP TECHNIQUES.

**WEDNESDAY 1-2PM**  
13TH NOV, 20TH NOV, 27TH NOV, 4TH DEC, 11TH DEC

TO SIGN UP, PLEASE CONTACT ROSA OR ANNA:

[ROSA.KORNFEIN@GROUNDWORK.ORG.UK](mailto:ROSA.KORNFEIN@GROUNDWORK.ORG.UK)  
07999 402 360

[ANNA.GEISSMANN@GROUNDWORK.ORG.UK](mailto:ANNA.GEISSMANN@GROUNDWORK.ORG.UK)  
07912214700





family  
info

Parent Skills 2Go  
Community Interest Company

# VOLUNTEER WITH US & GET SKILLED UP

## FREE TRAINING PROGRAM

**TRAINING DATES:**  
4TH OCTOBER 2024:  
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION  
SYSTEM TRAINING (ONLINE)

19TH OCTOBER 2024:  
TEAM BUILDING & CONFLICT  
RESOLUTION

8TH FEBRUARY 2025:  
READING & STORYTELLING  
DELIVERY/PLANNING AND  
DELIVERY OF ACTIVITIES

6TH & 13TH MAY 2025:  
COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR  
VOLUNTEER

4TH JULY, 2025:  
ANNUAL & MANDATORY  
SAFEGUARDING  
TRAINING

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**  
ALL VOLUNTEER TRAINING  
IS FREE TO ATTEND,  
HOWEVER, YOU NEED  
TO COMMIT TO A MINIMUM  
OF 15 TO 18 DAYS OF  
YOUR TIME TO  
VOLUNTEER WITH US  
(EXPENSES PAID)

For more information:  
02035369609, 07394662602  
Admin@parentskills2go.com  
Parentskills2go.org

Connect with us  
@parentskills2go  
parentskills2go

Supported by  
Impact on Urban Health

Parent Skills 2Go  
Community Interest Company

In partnership with  
SOUTHWARK ADULT  
LEARNING SERVICES

Southwark Council

# ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

CLASSES ARE STARTING!

Come to test your level on  
**WEDNESDAY 6TH  
NOVEMBER 2024**  
Time :10am - 1pm

Venue: The Lewington  
Community centre  
9 Eugenia road  
Rotherhithe SE16 2RU

**CRÈCHE WILL  
BE PROVIDED  
(FIRST COME  
FIRST SERVE  
BASIS)**

For details and  
to register: 02035369609, 07394662602  
ParentsSkills2go.org

Supported by  
Impact on Urban Health

Parent Skills 2Go  
Community Interest Company

# SEWING SKILLS

## 10 WEEKS DRESSMAKING COURSE FOR BEGINNERS & INTERMEDIATE LEARNERS

### FREE SEWING MENDING STATION

(SUPPORT ON HOW TO MEND CLOTHES)

**DATE:**  
FRIDAY 13TH  
SEPTEMBER  
10AM -12PM  
(EVERY FRIDAY)

**Venue**  
The Lewington  
Community centre  
9 Eugenia road  
Rotherhithe SE16 2RU

For details and to register:  
02035369609, 07394662602  
Admin@parentskills2go.com  
Parentskills2go.org

**crèche will be provided**

**COST MAY APPLY**

Supported by  
Southwark Council  
Impact on Urban Health

Enjoy **FREE** access  
to classes

Sign in or **download the Southwark Leisure App** and click on the 'free online classes' button.

Over 20 adult class programs, Kids Born To Move classes, 2000 plus workouts, plans and challenges. Stream from the web, your mobile and TV.



Family fun

**Parent Skills SYNERGIC**

OCTOBER HALFTERM

**YOUNG & FUN**

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (5-11)  
(BLACK WEDNESDAYS)

**RECLAIMING OUR NARRATIVE**

MONDAY 28TH - WEDNESDAY 30TH  
OCTOBER 2024 | 10AM - 2PM

ACTIVITIES: MUSIC AND GAMES, ARTS AND CRAFTS, STORY TELLING, HOT FOOD, PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES & MORE!

THE LEVINSON COMMUNITY CENTRE  
11 BURGESS ROAD, READING RG1 2JG

THURSDAY 25TH OCTOBER, 2024 | 10AM - 4PM

THE LEVINSON COMMUNITY CENTRE  
11 BURGESS ROAD, READING RG1 2JG

CONTACT: 0118 951 1000

PerseusSkills.org

**Parent Skills SYNERGIC**

OCTOBER HALFTERM

**FAMILY FUN**

PARENTS, CARERS AND CHILDREN (0-11)  
(BLACK LUSHERY MONTH)

**RECLAIMING OUR NARRATIVE**

MONDAY 28TH - WEDNESDAY 30TH  
OCTOBER 2024 | 10AM - 2PM

ACTIVITIES: MUSIC AND GAMES, ARTS AND CRAFTS, STORY TELLING, HOT FOOD, PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES & MORE!

THE LEVINSON COMMUNITY CENTRE  
11 BURGESS ROAD, READING RG1 2JG

THURSDAY 31ST OCTOBER, 2024 | 10AM - 4PM

THE LEVINSON COMMUNITY CENTRE  
11 BURGESS ROAD, READING RG1 2JG

CONTACT: 0118 951 1000

PerseusSkills.org

**PE & SCHOOL SPORTS NETWORK**

**FREE GIRLS FOOTBALL**

**EVERY MONDAY (17:00-18:00)**

@ **BURGESS PARK ASTRO TURF**

WORLD CATS

OPEN TO ALL GIRLS AGES 5-11

OPEN TO ALL GIRLS AGES 5-11

SQUAD

\*BRING YOUR OWN FOOTBALL TO REGISTER\*

**Free Tickets!**

**UNICORN**

Our school is in a partnership with the Unicorn Theatre and they are offering free tickets for local families to see their shows!

To book to see a show, please email us at [creativehub@unicorntheatre.com](mailto:creativehub@unicorntheatre.com) stating the following information:

1. Name of the school your child attends
2. Name of show you'd like to book for
3. How many adult tickets and child tickets do you need

If you need help booking, please ask your child's teacher!

The Unicorn's friendly team will then email dates for you to choose, confirm your booking, along with your E-tickets!

See What's On!  
[www.unicorntheatre.com/whats-on](http://www.unicorntheatre.com/whats-on)

Supported by the Buffini Chao Foundation!

**TOTO KERBLAMMO!**

**HUDDLE**

**THE FIRST GIANTS**

**BANKSIDE OPEN SPACES TRUST**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Autumn is here again, and our programme of FREE afterschool sports coaching at Marlborough Sports Garden is back! [Check out our incredible range of free sports coaching sessions for your children!](#)

All levels are welcome at our free sessions - they are a great way of trying out a sport, honing skills, and staying active and sociable with friends after school! See below and [on our website](#) for our full autumn programme 2024.

**Tuesdays:**

- Touch Rugby: 3.45-5.15pm for ages 5-11, delivered by LSBU
- Girls' Football: 3.45-5pm for ages 5-11 (girls only), delivered by [Girls United](#)
- Roller-skating to music, **advanced**: 3.45-5.15pm for ages 5-11, delivered by [Empower CIC](#)

Please note: Unfortunately, this time we cannot provide equipment for everyone, so please bring your own rollerblades or roller-skates, helmets and pads.

**Wednesdays:**

- Beach Tennis: 3.45-4.30pm for ages 5-7 and 4.30-5.30pm for ages 8-11, delivered by [Deacon Beach Tennis](#)
- Basketball: 3.45-5.15pm for ages 5-11, provided by [London Basketball Association](#)
- [Samira Soccer Schools](#): 3.45-5.15pm for ages 5-11

**Thursdays:**

- Beach volleyball: 3.45-5.15pm for ages 5-11, delivered by [Deep Dish](#)
- Roller-skating to music, **beginners**: 3.45-5.15pm for ages 5-11, delivered by [Empower CIC](#)
- Cricket: 3.45-5.15pm for ages 8-11, delivered by [Surrey Cricket Foundation](#)
- Wall Ball: 3.45-4.30pm for ages 8-11 and 4.30-5.30pm for ages 11+, delivered by [Lil' Wall Ball](#)

Please register for afterschool sports here:  
<https://tinyurl.com/bostautumn2024>

Get the free after-school sports sessions - **Free Tuesday to Thursday for ages 5-11!**

Find local events to watch online from each night, trackable, track, connecting, fun, inspiring.

**WEEKLY SPORTS SESSIONS!**

AT MARLBOROUGH SPORTS GARDEN

See [www.banksideopen.org.uk](#)

Bankside Open Spaces Trust

**WEEKLY SPORTS SESSIONS**

MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER - FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER

Day	Time	Activity	Delivered by
Monday	3.45-5.15pm	Touch Rugby	LSBU
Monday	3.45-5pm	Girls' Football	Girls United
Monday	3.45-5.15pm	Roller-skating to music (advanced)	Empower CIC
Tuesday	3.45-5.15pm	Beach Tennis	Deacon Beach Tennis
Tuesday	3.45-5.15pm	Basketball	London Basketball Association
Tuesday	3.45-5.15pm	Samira Soccer Schools	Samira Soccer Schools
Wednesday	3.45-5.15pm	Beach volleyball	Deep Dish
Wednesday	3.45-5.15pm	Roller-skating to music (beginners)	Empower CIC
Wednesday	3.45-5.15pm	Cricket	Surrey Cricket Foundation
Wednesday	3.45-4.30pm	Wall Ball	Lil' Wall Ball
Thursday	3.45-5.15pm	Touch Rugby	LSBU
Thursday	3.45-5pm	Girls' Football	Girls United
Thursday	3.45-5.15pm	Roller-skating to music (advanced)	Empower CIC
Friday	3.45-5.15pm	Beach Tennis	Deacon Beach Tennis
Friday	3.45-5.15pm	Basketball	London Basketball Association
Friday	3.45-5.15pm	Samira Soccer Schools	Samira Soccer Schools

**FUN FLIPPERS**

**Swimming Lessons**

Evelyn Lee Gardens and Pool, (The Garden SE1, Marlborough Grove, London, SE1 5JT)

Times available: Wednesday 1-4 pm, Saturday 9-11 pm

Baby & Pre-School Swimming

Swim: Acrobatic (for all ages & abilities)

Private lessons

Disability, SEN & Adult lessons

Aqua Aerobics

Holiday Courses

Maximum group sizes of 4-1 per class

**Memorial & Private Birthday parties**

Contact: Jules: 07850082775 [jules@funflippers.co.uk](mailto:jules@funflippers.co.uk)

www.funflippers.co.uk Facebook.com/funflippers

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**AGES 5-12**

**SEND SATURDAY SPORTS CLUB**

OPEN EVERY SATURDAY

OPEN EVERY SATURDAY FOR ALL AGES

OPEN EVERY SATURDAY FOR ALL AGES

OPEN EVERY SATURDAY FOR ALL AGES

**Parent Skills SYNERGIC**

**AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: ARTS AND CRAFTS, STORY & PLAY, MUSIC AND DANCE, GAMES, FUN WITH HATTS ETC.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays  
Starting Tuesday 10th September | 3-5pm-6pm

0209339606, 07504062602

The Levenson Community centre @ Burgess road, Reading RG1 2JG

**GO JAGS**

**SOUTHWARK JAGUARS PLAYERS WANTED**

SCAN THE QR CODE OR BUSTLE MAIN FOR MORE INFORMATION

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

WELCOMING ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

INFORMATION



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

## 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

## 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

## 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening; that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

## 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

## 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

## 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

## 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

## 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

## 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

## 10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

## Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: