



# Ash Lea

working together to be our best

# Summer Newsletter 2025

## Headteacher

As the school year ends, we'd like to thank you all for your support to your child(ren)'s learning and the wider school community. This year the progress that the school has made in implementing its new curriculum, the excellent provision, particularly in personal development as well as learning it offers its pupils was recognised through February's Ofsted inspection. The inspectors loved meeting your children, who were an absolute credit to you all in how they confidently communicated with and welcomed our visitors during the time that they were in school.

Thank you to those of you who have contributed to our consultation about the governors' decision to join the Raleigh Education Trust. The overwhelming opinion in what was shared was that you don't want Ash Lea to change. The school and its pupils are incredibly precious to me and I am as confident as I can be that RET's support will enable the school to grow and develop whilst maintaining all that you value and cherish.

This term we will be saying a sad farewell to some of our staff members. Michele Niven who has been our school's business manager since September last year will be leaving Ash Lea and will be continuing in this role within another maintained school. We have realigned our admin team and Kelly Ginley will be leading the team next year, with the support of Rachel Day. Kerry Harris will take over Kelly's role as receptionist. Helen Lovell who started with us in January as EHCP and life after Ash Lea co-ordinator is leaving for a wonderful career progression opportunity working with AP 'Stone Soup'. We thank them both for their excellent work in their time at Ash Lea and wish them both very well in their new schools. Mark Richardson, who has taught art at Ash Lea for 4 years will be retiring this year. Mark has implemented and delivered exemplary art provision across school and has driven the subject's curriculum development in this time too. Mark had returned to Ash Lea after a long career in special education and educational leadership (including a considerable period as Deputy Headteacher at the school). We recognise the exemplary service that Mark has made in his two careers at the school and to the wider SEND world and he will be sorely missed by us all.

As the school year ends we'd like to thank you all for your support to your child(ren)'s learning and the wider school community. We wish you all a wonderful summer break and will see the pupils on our return on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September.

Kate Davies



## Governors

As we reach the end of another school year, the Governing Board would like to take this opportunity to wish all our pupils, families, and staff a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

We would especially like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the entire team at Ash Lea School. Your dedication, positivity, and tireless efforts throughout the year have been truly inspiring. It was a proud moment for the whole school community to see your hard work formally recognised by OFSTED earlier this year.

We hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved rest over the summer, and we look forward to welcoming you all back—refreshed and smiling—for the start of the new school year.

With best wishes, **The Governing Board**



## Term Dates

### Autumn term 2025

School open: Thursday, 4 September 2025

Half term: Monday, 20 October 2025 to Friday, 31 October 2025

Schools closed: Friday, 19 December 2025 (evening)

### Spring term 2026

School open: Monday, 5 January 2026

Half term: Monday, 16 February 2026 to Friday, 20 February 2026

School closed: Friday, 27 March 2026 (evening)

### Summer term 2026

School open: Monday, 13 April 2026

Half term: Monday, 25 May 2026 to Friday, 29 May 2026

School closed: Friday, 24 July 2026 (evening)

## School Closures

**Admin day:** Monday, 1 September

**INSET day:** Tuesday, 2 September 2025

**INSET day:** Wednesday, 3 September 2025

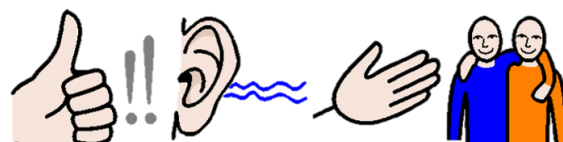
**INSET day:** Friday, 13 February 2026 (TBC)

**INSET day:** Friday 3 July 2026

**INSET day:** Monday 27 July 2026



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**Listen** carefully to what others have to say  
**Help** others whenever we can  
Always be polite and **friendly**



## Sports Day

Sports day was a huge success this year with a record number of parents attending for the annual games! Fun was had by all our pupils, staff and parents ending with the yearly races where all contenders get to show their prowess on the track! A huge thankyou to everyone that joined us, we hope you had a good time as we did!



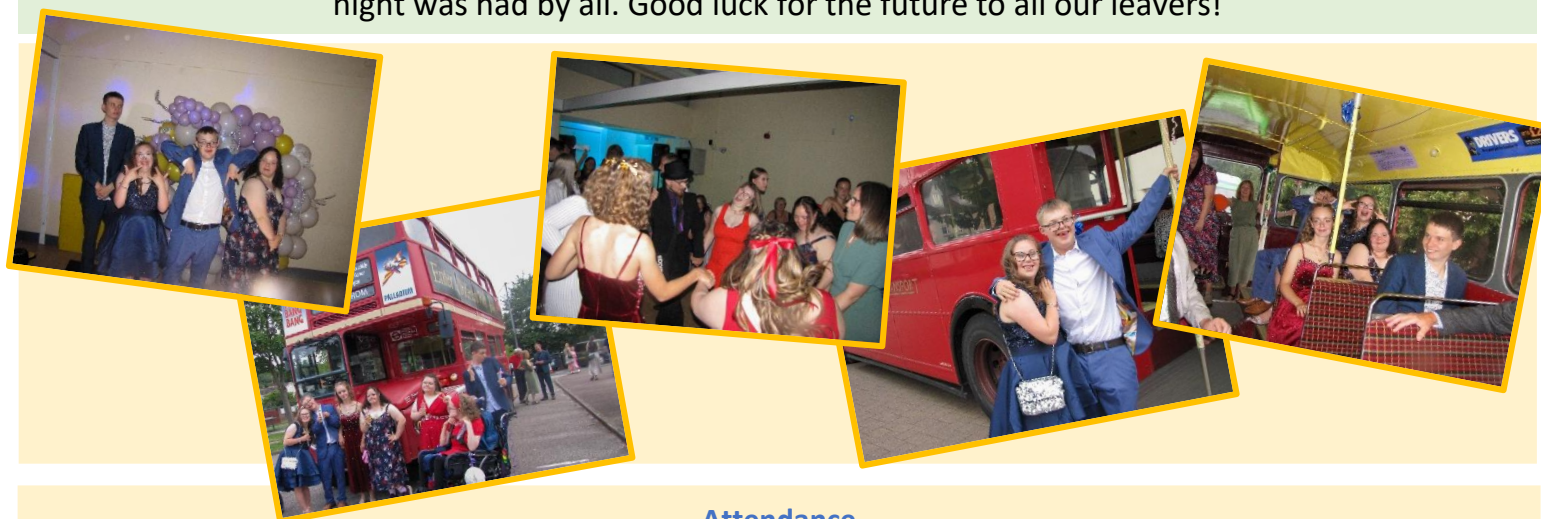
## Friends Of Ash Lea School

As always, a huge thanks to **FOALS** who have continued to support us this year providing workshops for pupils, additional resources for classrooms and organising discos, swimming sessions and other activities for pupils and their families. **FOALS** are always looking for new members so if any parents are interested, please contact the school reception.



## Prom

Prom was a joyous occasion this year, despite saying our farewells to 9 leavers who are moving on in their education careers. The leavers bus (kindly paid for by **FOALS**) went to collect all our leavers before arriving at school to be greeted by pupils, staff and parents ready for chips cobs, mocktails and dancing. A brilliant night was had by all. Good luck for the future to all our leavers!



## Attendance

Whole school attendance for this term is **91.00%**. Please remember the importance of regular attendance for your child's learning, well-being, and future success. The school is always happy to offer support for families facing attendance challenges.

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