



# Ab Kettleby Primary School



Working in partnership: Ab Kettleby and Somerby Primary Schools

Ab Kettleby Primary School  
Warnaby Road  
Ab Kettleby  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE14 3JJ  
01664 504870  
admin@abkettleby.org  
www.abkettleby.org  
Executive headteacher: Andrea Brown

July 2025

## End of Summer Term Roundup!

Dear parents and carers,

### Reflections of the year

I can't believe this is the end of my 4<sup>th</sup> year here at Ab Kettleby Primary School and couldn't be prouder of the journey we have been on: the dedication of the team I work with and the support we get daily from our families makes my job worthwhile. The children at Ab Kettleby are just the best (alongside the children of Somerby of course, as I can't possibly have favourites!)! They bring a smile to our faces every day and continue to make us proud.

The year, as always, has been busy with the usual school events as well as welcoming a new CEO to Mowbray Education Trust and getting our heads around Bromcom's "My Child At School"! But we have survived to tell the tale as we come the end of yet another academic year.

### Year 6 Goodbyes

This is the hardest part of our year - saying goodbye to our Year 6 team - and what a team they are. I first met them as a Year 3 cohort and to watch them grow as an individual, as a friend, as a learner and an integral part of our small, but mighty school, fills us with pride. They have all worked so hard, this year especially, and deserve every success. Each one of them hold our school values at the heart of what they do, and I have no doubt they will hold onto these values as they step into the big wide world and move into the next phase of their education.

### Hello New EYFS

As we say goodbye, we also say hello! We can't wait to have our newest 11 EYFS children starting in August. They have already spent some time with us at our Stay and Play sessions and our Transition sessions and already feel part of our family!



### Part of Mowbray Education Trust

Mowbray Education Trust, Pera Business Park,  
Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE13 0PB  
01664 565901 [info@mowbrayeducation.org](mailto:info@mowbrayeducation.org)  
[www.mowbrayeducation.org](http://www.mowbrayeducation.org)



## Staff Goodbyes

We will be saying goodbye to three members of staff this summer!

- Miss Digioia, as you know, is spreading her wings outside of teaching, as she starts a job working for Nottingham County Council, supporting vulnerable families. This ends her 2<sup>nd</sup> year working with us. This is a huge loss for the teaching profession, but the door will always be open if she ever wants to return.
- Mrs Ferris has decided to leave Ab Kettleby to take up a role that involves working from home. This ends her 5<sup>th</sup> year of working at Ab Kettleby.
- Mr Batey who started in the Autumn term working as a 1:1 which a child in Bumble Bees has decided a general LSA is his natural next step as he moves towards his goal of being a teacher and has secured a permanent position in a Grantham school.

We have enjoyed having Miss Digioia, Mrs Ferris and Mr Batey being part of our small, but mighty team and I am sure you will join me in wishing them well as they move onto pastures new!

## Hello New Staff!

We are delighted to introduce you to three new staff who are joining our team from August.

- Miss Barlow, as you know, will replace Miss Digioia as our Lead Teacher and Class teacher of The Hive. Miss Barlow leaves a large primary school in Leicester, where she has taught across all year groups from Y1 to Y5, leading a team of 12 staff. Her own children attend Sherard Primary School, so is familiar with the Trust schools, and has spent time with us in the last half term getting to know the children and our school.
- Miss Moxham will replace Mrs Ferris and will be joining Honey Bees as an LSA. Miss Moxham is an experienced LSA who currently works at Hose Primary School and is also a trained ELSA. She will be an asset to our school.
- Miss Cox will replace Mr Batey and will join us, on a part time basis, from 8:30am-1pm to support a 1:1 children in Bumble Bees alongside Miss Bray. Miss Cox currently works in a nursery and has experience working with Early Years.

We are looking forward to these three joining our small, but mighty team!

## Staffing Structure 25/26

### The Hive - Year 4,5,6

Miss Barlow will start as our new Lead Teacher and teacher in the Hive. She will be joined by Miss Oliver who will be an integral part of helping Miss Barlow to settle into the daily routines.

### Honey Bees - Year 2,3

Mr Dash will continue as teacher of Honey Bees Class and will be supported by Miss Moxham in the mornings.

### Bumble Bee - EYFS, Year 1

Miss Bray will continue as teacher of Bumble Bee Class and will be supported by Mrs Gent in the mornings. Miss Cox will support as a 1:1 in the morning and Miss Moxham will move from Honey Bees to Bumble Bees to support as a 1:1 in the afternoons.

Mrs Triggs will continue to support Bumble Bee and Honey Bees from August, covering the teachers when they have their planning and preparation time and Mrs Lee will continue to support The Hive when Miss Barlow has her planning and management time.

### New SENCO

We are sad to say goodbye to Jess Watson as our SENCO, however she isn't going far! She is staying in her role as Assistant Head and SENCO at Sherard but is reducing her hours to 4 days a week. As from August we welcome Natalie Jones, SENCO from Buckminster. She is going to be working across all 3 village schools (Ab Kettleby, Somerby and Buckminster). Currently we have a SENCO for ½ a day per week, however, Natalie will be with each school for 1 day a week and will be more involved in observations and interventions for our children who need a little more support. Jess is Natalie's mentor and so will be working alongside her and will still be on hand for advice when needed, to ensure a good handover is in place.

### New Website

All Mowbray Education Trust Websites have been revamped and ours is now up and running. The website is a wealth of information so please take some time to find your way around it.

### Uniform

School uniform is really important part of life at Ab Kettleby Primary School. It promotes a sense of pride, a sense of belonging and maintains an equality, all of which positively contributes to the wellbeing of children. From time to time, incorrect uniform tends to creep into our school (e.g. incorrect hair accessories or sock colour, incorrect jewellery or logo shoes/trainers on non-PE days). We need parents to help us maintain our high expectations and double check the correct uniform is being worn for school and for PE days. As a reminder, the full uniform can be found on our website:

<https://www.abkettleby.org/page/?title=School+Life+and+Term+Dates&pid=29>

### Attendance and Punctuality

This is just a reminder to all parents of the new statutory guidance which came into force as of August 2024, regarding the importance of good attendance, punctuality, and penalties for unauthorised absences. The learning day is so full, that even one day off school can cause gaps in children's knowledge and understanding and this can have a negative effect on their self-esteem and mental health. Our aim is for children to attend school 96% or above, this gives leeway for genuine sickness, which may occur, in the academic year.

Children are required to be in school at 8:45am, when learning starts. Arriving after this time may disadvantage your child as they will miss the introduction of the first learning task, cause unnecessary anxiety and affect their self-esteem. Our gate opens at 8:40am to support this, and any time arriving after this time is lost learning time for your child. The gate will be closed at 8:55am. Anyone arriving after 8:55am will need to report to the office and will be marked as late.

### Music Provision Summer 2026

Leicestershire Music Services has offered to support children in The Hive for another year of music tuition. For 25/26 academic year this will take place in the Summer Term of 2026 and more information will be available nearer the time.

### Clubs Complete /School Club Offer

As you know, we have had concerns for some time about the quality of provision that has been offered at Ab Kettleby, for wraparound care by Clubs Complete. Despite numerous meetings, support from LCC and an improvement plan written by Clubs Complete, significant improvements were not seen. I am still working with LCC to try and find alternative provision, but from August we will revert back to offering 3 school-led clubs Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 3:15-4:15pm. Kat at Urban Movement has kindly offered to run two of these evenings and details of these clubs will be sent out in time for the new academic year.

### Trip Consent

Mrs Holland spends too many hours of her day chasing consent for trips and therefore we have decided to streamline this process from the autumn term. One letter will be sent to all parents, at the start of the new term, which will ask for consent for all trips that occur during the 2025-2026 academic year, which take place within the school day, such as class trips or sporting events. Separate consent will be required for overnight trips, such as the residential, and any trip which leaves before the beginning of the school day or returns after the end of the school day. Hopefully, this will make things easier for us all!

### Yearly Planner 2025-2026 and INSET DAYS

A yearly planner will be finalised during our August inset day and sent out to parents with our usual annual events, so you can start filling up your diary! A copy of the term times has also been attached, please note two new inset days have been added, giving us 7 inset days:

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2025  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### End of year reports

I hope you have enjoyed reading your child's end of year reports as much as we enjoyed writing them. Each and every one of our children have made great progress, not just academically but emotionally and as a valued member of our small, but mighty team. We are proud of all of them.

### Thank you FOAKS

Before I end, I would like to thank Team FOAKs for their endless fundraising activities that have been on offer yet again this year. The summer fair was well organised, well attended and helped raise an incredible £2114! Being 54% of the way towards a running target after just one year of fundraising is amazing and we are truly grateful for their efforts and for the generosity of our families who continue to support these events to make this possible. This time next year we should be ready to start the first dig! These events do not just happen - they take a great deal of time, organisation and planning and many of our FOAKs team hold down a full-time job

on top of this. Parental support in any form is greatly appreciated in order to raise money for our small, but mighty school.

The running track will be a fabulous addition to our school - it is not just for runners, despite its name and the rumours!! It is basically a track that will go around the outside of the field, made of astroturf, so children can use it all year round. At present, from October to Easter the field is out of bounds as it becomes too wet and muddy. This means that 70 children have to be squashed into the playground area - limiting physical space for everyone to enjoy. The all weather track (or running track, as we call it!) will mean children can go on the field to walk, sit or run, whenever they like - and not get muddy!

My final thank you go to my fabulous team, who continue to strive for high standards, excellent teaching and above all provide a safe and inspiring place to learn. It is time for them to down tools and take a well-earned break from school life and spend time with their own families to re-charge the batteries.

On behalf of my team at Ab Kettleby, we would like to wish our families a safe and happy summer break and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August.

Andrea Brown  
Headteacher