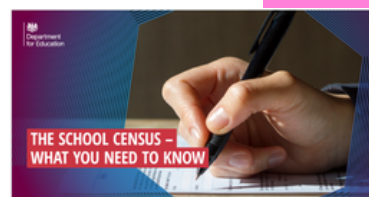


# Brindishe Federation Newsletter

## Friday 19th September 2025



Brindishe  
Federation



## School Census - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

One of the DfE's (Department for Education) key roles is monitoring the school system to understand how well it is working and how things are changing. A key tool in doing this is the **School Census**, which is where they gather information about how many young people are in the school system, their backgrounds, their needs and more. This census happens every term in schools up and down the country.



### What is the School Census?

The School Census collects information from primary schools, secondary schools, special schools, maintained nurseries and academies and pupil referral units three times a year. It's done electronically and private schools are not included.

### What data do they collect?

The census collects information like pupil's background details, special educational needs, free school meals eligibility, as well as educational history. It also collects data on absence, exclusions and their reasons, indicators of armed forces or children in care. The data, creates a "lifetime school record" of characteristics, testing and tracking to form a single longitudinal record over time.

### Why do you collect information about children?

Collecting this data is important as it helps the DfE develop a picture of the education sector, including how well it is performing.



### Why is the school census so important for schools?

It also helps **determine core school funding**, which pupils attract pupil premium, support for disadvantaged students, universal infant free school meals funding and free early years entitlement allocations.

### What can parents/carers do to help support Brindishe Schools?

With ever dwindling budgets, now more than ever we must work hard to secure the core school funding we are entitled to, to support our children in school. The school census is collected x 3 times a year and the data is used from that day **ONLY**. On census day this term (**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**) Brindishe Schools will be offering a special lunchtime menu. Every child who has a school meal on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>

October secures funding for Brindishe Schools. If your child is normally a packed lunch but would like to enjoy the Space Themed Menu they simply have to let their teacher know at registration. Radish are offering *Asteroid Chicken Subs*, *Cosmic Cheese and Tomato Whirls* and *INTELLA Ice Lollies*. This space themed menu coincides with 'World Space Week' which runs from 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. In Brindishe Schools we will be marking Space Week with assemblies and themed classroom activities.

*So, please 'join us for dinner' on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October and help Brindishe Schools secure school funding!*



# Online Safety Bulletin

## Salt & Ice Challenge – Risks to Children and Young People

### Background

The “Salt and Ice Challenge” is an online trend where young people place salt on their skin and press ice on top for as long as possible. This creates a chemical reaction, rapidly lowering the temperature and causing cryogenic (cold) burns, similar to frostbite. Children and young people may underestimate the harm as the cold numbs the skin, masking pain until significant damage has occurred.

### Risks

Second- or third-degree burns, potential need for skin grafts, lasting scarring, nerve damage, and impact on wellbeing. Peer and online pressure amplify the likelihood of wider uptake.

### Immediate First Aid Advice

Cool the affected area under lukewarm running water for at least 10 minutes.  
Do not apply ice, creams, or fluffy dressings.  
Cover with clean cling film or smooth plastic.  
Seek medical attention for deep, blistered, or extensive burns.



## Rights Respecting Article of the Week

**The International Day of Peace (“Peace Day”)** is observed around the world each year on **21st September**. Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution at the General Assembly, it has been declared as a day devoted to “commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples.”

Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to peace above all differences and to contribute to building a culture of peace.

### Article 38 (war and armed conflicts)

Governments must not allow children under the age of 15 to take part in war or join the armed forces. Governments must do everything they can to protect and care for children affected by war and armed conflict.

### Article 39 (recovery from trauma and reintegration)

Children who have experienced neglect, abuse, exploitation, torture or who are victims of war must receive special support to help them recover their health, dignity, self-respect and social life.

### What does peace mean to you and your family?



Feeling calm, quiet, still  
Feeling safe wherever you are (in school, at home, in your community)  
Knowing you can trust the people around you  
Living in harmony with others  
Being the person you want to be without fear  
Supporting others who need help  
Living in a world without conflict or violence  
Living in a world where people respect and value each other  
•No discrimination



Explore the [International Day of Peace website](https://www.un.org/peace) to find out what the International Day of Peace is all about.



International Day of Peace  
21 September

[un.org/peaceday](https://un.org/peaceday)

# Advice and support for Lewisham parents whose children are starting secondary school in September 2026

Lewisham is holding its annual transfer to secondary school event and they are asking schools to encourage parents to attend. It is an informal event for parents to ask questions about the admissions process and to meet staff, parents and students from our secondary schools.

Parents can book a place at one of the school talks, to understand the application process. This will help you to be aware of the timetable and closing date for submitting your application. Each session will start with a short presentation about the process, and a Q&A with our Admissions team.

**The school talks will commence on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at:**

- 1) 5pm - 5.45pm**
- 2) 6pm - 6.45pm**
- 3) 7pm - 7.45pm**

Below is the link to the Eventbrite page to book tickets for the event:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/starting-secondary-school-in-2026-tickets-1412472105089?aff=oddtcreator>

After each school talk, parents will have the opportunity to meet a representative from each Lewisham secondary school and also members of the SEN and Free School Meals Teams to find out more about them and ask questions. The school uniform shops will also be in attendance.

About this event

***\*\*PLEASE NOT BOOK ALL THREE SESSIONS - THESE ARE REPEAT SESSIONS & PARENTS ONLY NEED TO BOOK ONTO ONE TIME SLOT\*\****

This is an informal event for parents who are just about to start the application process for their Year 6 child to start secondary school. Parents are asked to leave their children at home for this event if they are able to do so, as spaces are limited and we want to let as many parents as possible have the opportunity to attend.



# Key Federation Dates

- **October Half Term - Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025**
- **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November - INSET DAY - Schools closed to all children.**
- **Secondary Application Deadline - Friday 31 October 2025** (*we recommend that you submit your online application by Friday 24 October 2025*)
- **End of Autumn Term - Friday 19th December 2025**

## Brindishe Schools Governing Body

Governing Body meetings are regular and meet every half term. Parents/carers are more than welcome to attend our meetings as 'observers'. This means you can sit and observe the meeting but will be unable to speak/comment and would need to leave the meeting during confidential items.

If you would like to know more about the governing body or you would like to attend one of our meetings, please email Rachel Waite - [rawaite@brindisheschools.org](mailto:rawaite@brindisheschools.org). An email to confirm attendance at the meeting will need to be received before a parent/carers can join the meeting.

***Our first meeting for 2025/2026 will be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at Brindishe Green School - 6pm.***