

HAWLEY HEADLINES



1ST MAY 2026

What is the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026?



The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026 is now law. It gives the government the power to introduce new requirements. The Act aims to better protect children and raise standards in education. We don't need to make any changes today – some of the guidance is still being consulted on or finalised, and we're awaiting secondary legislation.

However, I wanted to keep you informed about the key changes that will be coming over the next year or so.

Allergy Safety (Benedict's Law)

We will be required to comply with Benedict's Law from September 2026. When published, the guidance will set out requirements around how we manage allergies in your school. This will help us ensure all children with allergies are kept safe at school.

Smartphones in Schools

Under the statutory guidance, the government will expect all schools to have a policy that prohibits the use and possession of smartphones by children during the school day (with exemptions for medical devices). As a primary school, this reinforces our existing approach to keeping children focused on learning during the school day, smartphone free. Our most recent policy edit will be going to the Governors at the end of the month, which I will then share with you all.

School Uniform

From September 2026: schools should limit the number of compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to 3 or fewer. This is in line with our current uniform policy.

Free Breakfast Clubs

Free breakfast clubs will be required in all state-funded primary schools – targeted at all children. This is wonderful news for our school community. The government has already begun rolling these out in some schools – more schools will be added over time. We'll keep you updated on when this provision will be available at Hawley Primary and what it will look like for our families..

Attendance Matters

Congratulations to Gorilla & Tiger Class who won our Attendance Awards this week with over 99% attendance. Remember...



Healthy, Happy, Hawley!

Ask your child about what they learnt from the Healthy Schools Officers who did a wonderful assembly this week to share healthy habits to eatwell.

