



**KIDGATE
ACADEMY**

Fortnightly Newsletter 'Growing Kind Hearts and Curious Minds'

Friday 19th December 2025

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership. It has been a wonderful term, and we are extremely proud of all that the children have achieved. Your encouragement at home and involvement in school life makes a real difference, and I, and the staff, truly appreciate it.

The final weeks of term have been especially enjoyable, with several memorable events that brought our school community together. Our Christmas Fayre was a great success, with over £1100 raised. We are very grateful to everyone who supported the event through donations, volunteering, and attendance. The children also thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Christmas Crafts with their parents and carers where their creativity and enthusiasm were a joy to see.

Unfortunately, due to illness I was unable to attend our Christmas Church Service, but I understand it was a lovely and reflective occasion, with a special rendition of 12 days of Christmas by the staff. Thank you to all who joined them and helped to make it such a special event.

As we look ahead, I wish all our children, staff and families, a happy, peaceful Christmas and a well-deserved break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year and continuing our work together.

With warmest thanks and best wishes,

Mrs Cook

Websites for supporting your children in school and at home...

[Supporting-Toolkit-Eating-Disorders-Resource-for-Educational-Settings-1.pdf](#)

[The Lincolnshire Autistic Society - Lincolnshire Autistic Society](#)

[Healthy Minds Lincolnshire :: Lincolnshire Young Minds](#)

[Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service \(CAMHS\) :: Lincolnshire Young Minds](#)

[Home :: Lincolnshire Young Minds](#)

Wolds School Sport Partnership

We were thrilled to be asked to be part of a video by the Wolds School Sport Partnership to help educate and raise awareness among parents, carers, staff and the wider community about why developing a love of movement is so important for us all. The link below showcases the benefits of staying active and features a number of local schools, including Kidgate. Please give it a watch!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1BTjNpVHop/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/reel/D-R-LXOpjMhD/?igsh=dWlla3VucHFxMDdv>

Digital Device Time

Recommended Screen Access by Age

These recommendations are based on global child health guidelines and current research. They are not rigid rules; they are starting points to support healthy development.

Under 2

Avoid screens other than video calls with family. The developing brain depends on real-world interaction, movement, and eye contact.

Ages 2–5

Aim for around 1 hour per day of high-quality, adult-guided content. Break screen time into short periods rather than long passive sessions.

Ages 5–11

Aim for balanced use: around 1-2 hours daily of recreational screen time. Prioritise sleep, physical activity, social interaction, and outdoor play before screens.

Ages 11–14

Focus on routines and boundaries rather than strict minutes. Protect sleep by avoiding screens at least one hour before bedtime. Encourage tech-free mealtimes and shared family spaces.

Ages 14–18

Guide young people toward self-regulation: discussing dopamine loops, online safety, body image, cyberbullying, and how screens affect mood and sleep. Maintain clear expectations around routines and night-time boundaries.

If you'd like the full bitseize Healthy Screen Habits Info Sheet to go with today's visual, comment SCREEN below and I'll DM it to you.
The Contented Child

Attendance Matters

Please remember that the government expected level of attendance is 96%. Please make sure that your child only stays at home if they are very unwell. A mild cough or cold is not a reason for them to stay at home. Please also ensure that your child arrives punctually in the mornings – school begins at 8.50 a.m., the gates close at 8.55 am, and if your child arrives after that time, they will be marked as late.



Primary School Applications – September 2026 Intake

We would like to inform all parents, guardians, and carers of children born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 that the closing date for applications for Primary School places to be received by Lincolnshire County Council is **15th January 2026**.

Further information can be found at: <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/apply-school/2>.

Parents will be informed via Lincolnshire County Council on **16th April 2026**. If you experience any issues or require further support, please speak with the school office.

Dates for Diary

- **Monday 5th January 2026 – Return to school**
- **Tuesday 27th January 2026 – Year 5 Mosque Trip**
- **Tuesday 13th January – Class 4B to start swimming**

