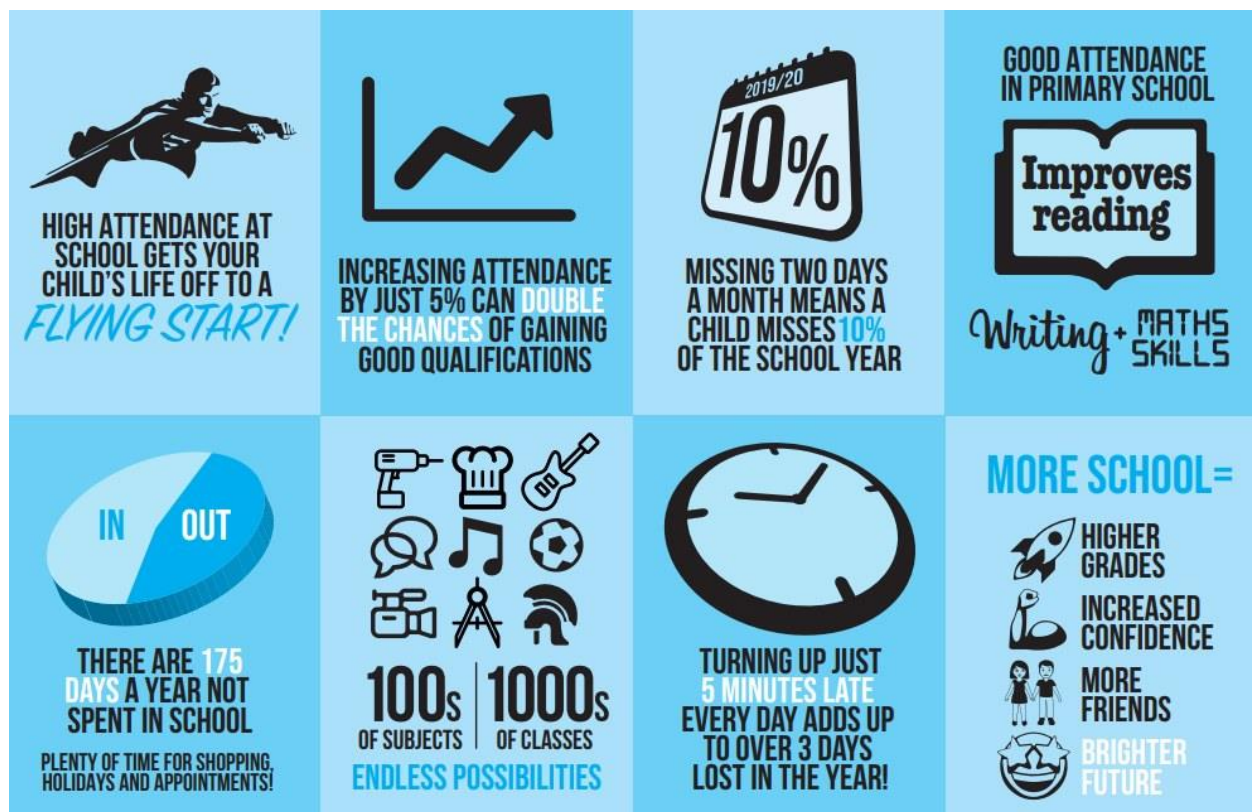




Newsletter for 20th December 2024

Every lesson counts - your child must attend school every single day for the best chance of success!





**"THIS MORNING, HE
WAS WORRIED ABOUT
SCHOOL... BUT LOOK
AT HIM NOW!"**


**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



HM Government

Head to the Education Hub to find out more.





Top Attendance for the Week

1st Place – Crimson 97%

2nd Place – Teal 96.7%

3rd Place – Ochre 95.7%

Courage Resilience Gratitude Respect Aspiration Kindness

Headteacher's Message



Dear Families,

Many thanks for all of your support at our recent Community events, such as the Festive Singalong and the Festive Christmas Fayre. It was wonderful to bring the community together and to enjoy these special times together.

Our entrance Community display is now complete; we really appreciate the support of those families who were able to volunteer to take part as it looks amazing and the photographs are a great representation of the wonderful diversity of our school community.

Well done to Year 1 who completed their 11BEFORE11 Break a Record Promise today in assembly. They did star jumps non-stop for 1 minute and our highest numbers were over 100 star jumps! We also had a competition between 2 members of staff and the winner was Mr Yaseen.

School reopens for all pupils on Monday 6th January.

In our first week back, we will be starting our BOA (Birmingham Ormiston Academy) workshops which will teach the children in Year 2-5 how to develop their presentation and performance skills. We really value the opportunity to work with the Academy and you can find out more about them at <https://www.boa-academy.co.uk/>.

Other visitors next half term include Severn Trent Water representatives, NSPCC volunteers, Wheelchair Basketball trainers, and Firefighters so it's going to be really busy! These visits support your child's learning in Personal Development, as well as in a broad range of curriculum subjects.

We are really excited to be welcoming Chris Tawiah, who has played basketball at FIBA Europe Cup and the Basketball Champions league in his athletic career, into school. Children will be bringing home sponsorship forms for their challenge workshop that is taking place in school on 31st January. You can find out more later in the newsletter which includes a link to the Crowdfunding page for the challenge.

I wish all of our families a safe and happy holiday, and a happy New Year!

Kind regards,

Christine Chapman

Headteacher

Sports for Champions



Becoming an athlete is an expensive career path and many exceptional young athletes can not afford to pursue their dreams in professional sports.

Sports for Champions work tirelessly to provide financial support for young, talented athletes. Please click below to make a donation towards this amazing charity.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/manor-park-primary-academyfundraiser>

And this is the famous athlete, Chris Tawiah, basketball player, who will be visiting Manor Park next year!

[Chris Tawiah | Visiting You Soon! - YouTube](#)

A very generous donation...



Dear Parents/Carers,

Every year, we hold a special raffle where each child's name is entered, and lucky winners across the school are chosen to receive a hamper from Manor Park.

This year, we are delighted to share that a generous family, not connected to Manor Park, along with their friend and colleagues from their organisation, have kindly put together wonderful

family bags filled with treats for our families. We are incredibly grateful for their thoughtful contribution. The winners have been notified and have already collected their gift bags.

Our families said:

"Thank you so much, what a lovely thought!"

"Always lucky at Manor Park and when my children leave, I'm going to be a dinner lady at MP!"

(Screamed down the phone) "Yes!! I'm so happy! I'm so overwhelmed thank you very much MP!"

Have a lovely Christmas,

Miss Green

Apply for free school meals



[Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Did you know that by registering your child for free school meals, you're not only ensuring they get a nutritious, hot meal every day but also supporting our school's funding? Every child who is registered for free school meals generates extra funding for the school, which we can invest directly back into your child's education and wellbeing. This funding helps us provide more resources, better learning environments, and additional support for our pupils. While all children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 (as well as those under the Mayor's Meals scheme in London) automatically receive free school meals, we only receive extra funding if you officially register your child. Please read the attached letter for information on how to apply.

FREE Vouchers for Milk and Food



What is Healthy Start?

If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk.

If you're eligible, you'll be sent a Healthy Start card with money on it that you can use in some UK shops. We'll add your benefit onto this card every 4 weeks.

You can use your card to buy:

-
- *plain liquid cow's milk*
 - *fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables*
 - *fresh, dried, and tinned pulses*

- *infant formula milk based on cow's milk*
-

You can also use your card to collect:

- *Healthy Start vitamins – these support you during pregnancy and breastfeeding*
 - *vitamin drops for babies and young children – these are suitable from birth to 4 years old*
-

*For more information and **to apply online**, please click the link [Get help to buy food and milk \(Healthy Start\)](#)*



We have a number of children (and grown ups!) who have nut allergies in school. With such allergies, sometimes just being around nuts (smell and touch) can trigger a dangerous allergic reaction.

Please do not send any products containing nuts into school.

Thank you,

Becky Lewis

Deputy Headteacher

Safe Treat List - Important



We do not want to prevent children from bringing in treats for their friends if it is a special occasion such as a birthday. This is a long standing tradition that we would like to continue but it must be safe for all children.

Please see ideas for safe treat options that do not contain nuts below;

-
- Cadbury Dairy Milk
 - Cadbury Twirl
 - Cadbury Caramel
 - Cadbury Wispa
 - Cadbury Eclair
 - Cadbury Fudge
 - Cadbury Crunchie

- *Cadbury Buttons*
 - *Galaxy Minstrels*
 - *Galaxy Milk Chocolate*
 - *Galaxy Caramel*
 - *Galaxy Ripple*
 - *Mars bar*
 - *Kitkat (original)*
 - *Halal Haribo*
 - *Cadbury's Heroes (but remove mini Double Deckers - they are not made with nuts but made in a factory that processes nut products)*
-

School Term Dates for Next Year - 2024/25

Please see the calendar below showing all of the school term dates, bank holidays and teacher training days for the next academic year.



Manor Park Calendar 2024/25

August 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
31				1	2	3 4
32	5	6	7	8	9	10 11
33	12	13	14	15	16	17 18
34	19	20	21	22	23	24 25
35	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
35						1
36	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
37	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
38	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
39	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
40	30					

October 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
40		1	2	3	4	5 6
41	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
42	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
43	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
44	28	29	30	31		

November 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
44					1	2 3
45	4	5	6	7	8	9 10
46	11	12	13	14	15	16 17
47	18	19	20	21	22	23 24
48	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
48						1
49	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
50	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
51	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
52	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
1	30	31				

January 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
1			1	2	3	4 5
2	6	7	8	9	10	11 12
3	13	14	15	16	17	18 19
4	20	21	22	23	24	25 26
5	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
5						1 2
6	3	4	5	6	7	8 9
7	10	11	12	13	14	15 16
8	17	18	19	20	21	22 23
9	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
9						1 2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8 9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15 16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22 23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29 30
14	31					

April 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
14		1	2	3	4	5 6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
18	28	29	30			

May 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
18				1	2	3 4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10 11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17 18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24 25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
22						1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
24	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
25	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
26	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
27	30					

July 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
27		1	2	3	4	5 6
28	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
29	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
30	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
31	28	29	30	31		

Bank holidays 2024/25

26 August '24	August Bank Holiday	26 December '24	Boxing Day	18 April '25	Good Friday	5 May '25	Early May Bank Holiday
25 December '24	Christmas Day	1 January '25	New Year's Day	21 April '25	Easter Monday	26 May '25	Spring Bank Holiday

Teacher Training Days

2 September 2024	3 September 2024	29 November 2024	31 March 2025	21 July 2025
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Star of the Week



Congratulations to our Stars of the Week - The children of Manor Park!

The children have been amazing in their performances this week - they are all stars!

School Policies

Please find our school policies on our website by clicking here:

<https://www.manorparkacademy.co.uk/about-us/policies/>

Have you moved house or changed your number?

Please let the main office know if any of your details change such as:

-
- *Your address*
 - *Your phone numbers*
 - *Your emergency contacts*
-

Just call 0121 3271023 or email enquiry@manorparkacademy.org

Thank you!

Apply for our Nursery or Reception Classes!



Do you have a child or know another parent with a child born between 01.09.2020 - 31.08.2021? We have spaces available in our lovely Nursery!

If you also have or know a parent with a child born between 01.09.19 - 31.08.20, we have spaces in our amazing Reception classes too!

Please contact the school office for a tour and a chat with our friendly team. You can also see more information here on our website: [Early Years – Manor Park Primary Academy \(manorparkacademy.co.uk\)](http://manorparkacademy.co.uk)

Dates for your Diary



Last day of school - Friday 20th December

First day of school - Monday 6th January

Year 5 and 6 Residential Scout Adventures - 28th to 30th January

Attendance Procedures



Please call 0121 327 1023 to report your child's absence by 9.30am

If you need support with your child's attendance, please contact Jo Green via email at enquiry@manorparkacademy.org or call the school office.

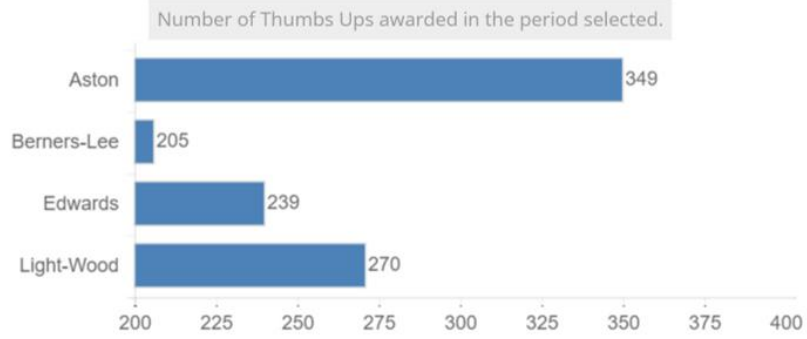


— AND — THE WINNERS *are...*

*House Points are now collected using Marvellous Me. **You can see you child's individual house points by clicking on the 'thumbs up' button.** However many 'thumbs up' they've had, this is the number of house points they have received in school!*

This week's winners overall are Aston - again!

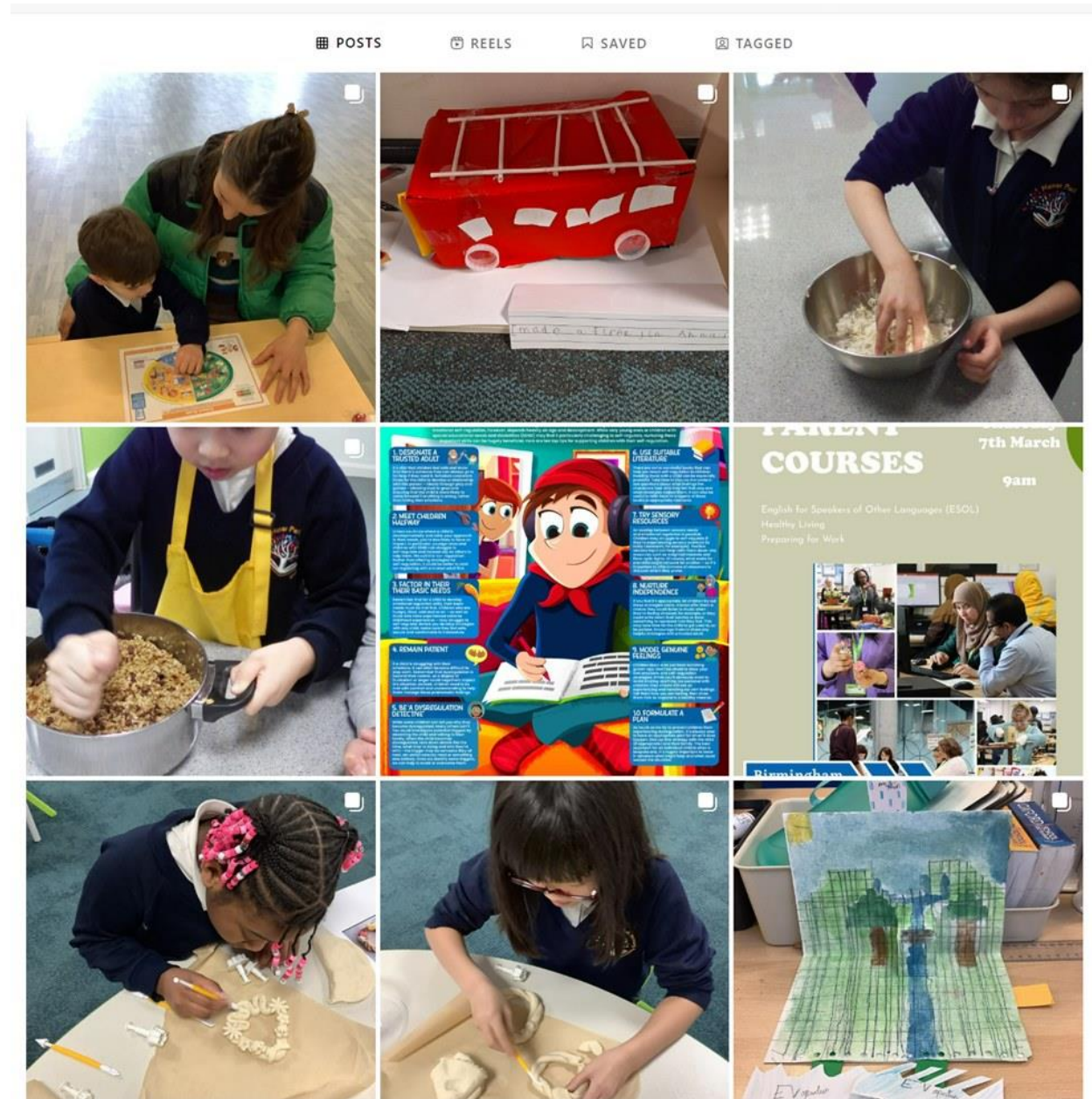
Thumbs Ups



**Total
Thumbs Ups
Awarded**
1083

Give us a follow on Instagram!

<https://www.instagram.com/manorparkprimaryacademy/>



Safeguarding and Wellbeing Update - Safety on Social Media



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerning how common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of endlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep apprised of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screentime; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screentime can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screentime, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screentime and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also overusing social media, it can turn screentime reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screentime is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

Meet Our Expert

John Insley is a senior leader in a Birmingham secondary school and has vast experience in leading schools over the past 15 years – including the development of computing curriculums across primary and secondary schools, writing e-safety policies and supporting schools with computing and e-safety advice.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: see full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/top-tips-for-safety-on-social-media>

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.12.2024

e-Visas Important Information



The UK Government is replacing physical immigration documents with eVisas, a digital proof of immigration status.

Parents and guardians of children who are not British or Irish citizens, and whose children have either a biometric residence permit (BRP) card expiring on 31 December 2024, or a passport with an indefinite leave to remain ink stamp or vignette sticker, should take action to [access their eVisa now](#), and do so on behalf of their children too.

An eVisa cannot be lost or stolen and can be accessed online by visa holders at any time to prove their rights in the UK. It's free and their immigration status won't be affected

Click link above or here

https://homeoffice.brandworkz.com/BMS/albums/?album=3435&lightboxAccessID=9DCD0592-A9F9-45D9-BE76EEF9D44B9B30&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery



**At Manor Park Primary
Academy everyone
has the right to feel safe.**

**At Manor Park Primary
Academy everyone
has the right to learn.**



**We are your Designated Safeguarding Leads.
We can help you.**



Ms Christine Chapman
Headteacher
DSL



Mrs Saima Mahmood
Teacher
DSL



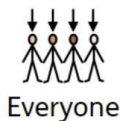
Miss Becky Lewis
**Deputy
Headteacher**
DSL



Mrs Natalie Brindley
SENDCo
DSL



Miss Jo Green
Lead DSL



Everyone



has

a



right

to



feel safe.



Please



talk to



us.

