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Teaching Children... Reading... Changing Lives

PRESENTS

HERE BE TREASURE

Bootle Children's Literary Festival 2025

OCT HALF TERM
THURS 30TH - SAT 1ST NOV
& SAT 8TH/15TH

THE STRAND SHOPPING CENTRE

FIND US IN THE HIVE, NEXT TO SHOEZONE

11 - 3PM

- DIG FOR TREASURE
- WALK THE PLANK
- PIRATE TRAINING
- MEET PIRATES
- LEARN THE PIRATE CODE
- PIRATE CRAFTS
- TREASURE HUNT

FREE



Visit bootlechildrenslitfest.co.uk for more information!

Registered Charity No. 1141530 Company No. 7150747



NUGENT PANTRY DONATIONS



At St Anne's Church, Overbury Street, Liverpool, the Nugent Pantry brings families and neighbours together while tackling food poverty.

Your donations help provide healthy, nutritious food and support local families when they need it most.

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- Biscuits
- squash



Please Drop off donations at 99 Edge Lane, L7 2PE, Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.

Find out more:

- fundraising@wearenugent.org
- 0151 261 2000
- wearenugent.org

Scan to learn more!



Thank you for your support!

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together we are
nugent

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Pirates invade The Strand

Shiver me timbers and brace the yard arm, for PIRATES will be visiting the Strand Shopping Centre this half term as part of the Bootle Children's Literary Festival.

From Thursday October 30th to Saturday Nov 1st there will be free piratey festivities for all the family from 11am – 3pm at The Bootle Hive, next door to Shoezone.

Meet Captain Jack and Pirate Red Beard, dig for treasure in our giant sand pit, walk the plank, pirate crafts, interactive treasure Hunt, children's pirate themed dress up competition, and free pirate themed family workshops at Kingsley and Co.

For more information and full programme check out our website www.bootlechildrenslitfest.co.uk



Pick a Pumpkin!

Opening Saturday 27th September to Friday 31st October, Holmeswood Pumpkin Place is a family run red tractor assured produce farm in the northwest. Find us on Facebook, Instagram, Google Maps Holmeswood Road Ormskirk(B5246) L40 1UA. Pick your own pumpkins, squash, sweetcorn and ornamental gourds. Fun for all the family, there are bouncy castles, face painting, games, hot food, drinks, toilets, artisan stalls, lots of photo opportunities and they are dog friendly (on a short lead).

No booking required, no time restrictions, cash and card payments accepted.

Entry fee £3 per person, Under 1's free *Entry fee does not include a pumpkin*

Monday to Friday 10am till 4pm - Saturday and Sunday 10am till 5pm, last entry at 4pm.

Step into the World of Oz at St Helens Theatre Royal

Step into a world of wonder this season as Regal Entertainments proudly presents The Wizard of Oz— a dazzling pantomime adventure for the whole family at St Helens Theatre Royal!

This spellbinding production promises jaw-dropping scenery, glittering costumes, toe-tapping musical numbers, and belly-laughs galore— all wrapped up in the classic panto magic that Regal Entertainments is known for.

This spectacular show is packed with energy, heart, and timeless charm. Whether you're 5 or 95, there's something for everyone over the rainbow!

Tickets available from: www.sthelenstheatreroyal.com

A Historic First: North West's Largest Display of Archaeological Treasure Comes to Life!

Viking Silver, Bronze Age hoards and gold set jewels. Museum of Liverpool invites visitors to rethink what treasure really means in its new exhibition: Treasure: History Unearthed featuring the largest and most significant collection of archaeological treasure ever displayed in the North West.

Curated with care by National Museums Liverpool's archaeology team this extraordinary showcase brings together discoveries from across Merseyside, the North West, and North Wales.

Discover the remarkable stories behind these objects from their unexpected discoveries during construction work or metal detecting, to chance finds while walking and exploring. Treasure is often found where we least expect it.

Treasure: History Unearthed opens at the Museum of Liverpool on 13 September 2025 – 29 March 2026.





St Helens College

OPEN EVENTS

Many of our parents found an open event incredibly helpful when supporting their son or daughter with making decisions about what to do after school, now it's your turn to discover what St Helens College has to offer them!

2025

**Wednesday
15th October**

5pm - 7pm

f @ /sthelenscollege

🎵 /sthelensknowsleycollege

2025

**Wednesday
26th November**

5pm - 7pm



SCAN ME!



Register to attend!

We Dream of Our Freedom From Sat 25 Oct | Free, drop in

Free family friendly exhibition and creative activities in the gallery.

Artist and activist **Lou Miller** has collaborated with children from **St Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary School** in Liverpool to ask children about their vision of freedom. Miller has transformed their voices into a powerful exhibition, where you can explore their vision, and share your own.

Open Tue – Sun, 11am–5pm

Part of 'Our Freedom: Then and Now' from Future Arts Centres, a UK-wide project commemorating the 80th anniversary of VE/VJ Day



Find out more: thebluecoat.org.uk

Join us in October Half Term for a variety of **creative activities** themed around the exhibition, including screen printing, zine and badge making, and more.

Sat 25, Tue 28, Wed 29, Thu 30 Oct and Sat 1 Nov, 1–4pm | Free, drop in



Visit the **Bluecoat** this autumn for lots of family fun....

Manchester-based artist and activist Lou Miller has collaborated with children from St Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary School in L1 to explore their vision of freedom. The resulting exhibition at the Bluecoat transforms the voices of the children, aged 8–11, into a series of textile banners, clay, and print works for adults and children alike. Miller's practice has a strong collaborative focus, exploring themes of community, work, health, and social change.

For We Dream of Our Freedom, the gallery will become a community studio, inviting audiences to share their own ideas of freedom and respond to the children's vision.

There will be a series of free, family-friendly creative workshops based on the themes of the exhibition. Stop by the Bluecoat for print screening, zine and badge making and more on Sat 25, Tue 28, Wed 29, Thu 30 Oct and Sat 1 Nov, 1–4pm. Free, drop in.

We Dream of Our Freedom is part of **Our Freedom: Then and Now**, a UK-wide, locally-led arts and creative programme from **Future Arts Centres**, which is producing 60 new pieces of work reflecting on what 'Our Freedom' means to local people and their communities, following the 80th anniversary of VE/VJ Day.

To see the Bluecoat's opening hours and to find out more about what's on for families, visit www.thebluecoat.org.uk/family



Here We Found A Safe Place, collaboration with Ciara Leeming and SWAP Wigan for Open Eye Hub, 2025



OCTOBER
HALF
TERM

EXPLORE THE **SUPER NATURAL**

This Halloween, escape the ghouls and goblins and step into a super natural adventure that will leave big and little nature fans spellbound.

Search WWT Martin Mere

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WWT
For wetlands. For life.

Discover a great read for your child...

Bluey First Ever Piano Book

Composer: Joff Bush
Publisher: Faber Music Ltd

Bluey: First Ever Piano Book starts little ones playing the piano using games, imagination and stories from Bluey's world. Kids and their favourite grown-up can learn together – no musical know-how is needed. Just bring your imagination and have fun at the piano together! With full-colour illustrations throughout plus a page of colourful illustrated stickers.

The composer of Bluey, Joff Bush, introduces the book, saying: "A very warm welcome to the piano! This book is a shared experience for grown-ups and kiddos – for you both to enjoy the magic together. Before writing the music for Bluey, I was a piano teacher. Seeing students discover the joy of playing was always a highlight. This book contains the ideas I used with beginners, plus plenty of Bluey-themed games! I hope you have lots of fun."



**OUT
29/10**

The Majorly Awkward BFF Dramas of Lottie Brooks

Author: Katie Kirby
Publisher: Penguin
Random House Children's UK

From hilarious number one bestselling author, Katie Kirby, comes a brand-new Lottie Brooks story.

Lottie Brooks is BACK and she's as BRILLIANT as ever!

At long last Lottie and Daniel are an official couple and everything seems to be going brilliantly (except for Amber being increasingly mean and jealous, but what's new there?).

Meanwhile Toby's new year's resolution is to get a dog, and for once Lottie and him see eye to eye. Pot Noodle, the cockapoo, becomes the newest member of the Brooks family. He's VERY cute but also not toilet trained AT ALL.

Lottie soon finds having a new boyfriend and a new dog means she has little time for anyone else, leaving her best friends pretty upset. How is Lottie meant to keep everybody happy and stop Pot Noodle from pooing on the carpet?!



**OUT
NOW**

Unfairies

Author: Huw Aaron
Publisher: Penguin Random
House Children's UK

Prepare to enter the world of the Unfairies! A hilarious new full-colour graphic novel series from breakout talent Huw Aaron, where the epic adventure of Amulet meets the super silly humour of Bunny VS Monkey and Dog Man... all on the scale of The Borrowers. Some stories will tell you fairies are sweet, kind, magical creatures. Well, those stories are WRONG. It's time everyone knew the truth: fairies are sneaky, violent and about as magical as slugs. Join our RECKLESS, FEARLESS and, well, CLUELESS, hero Pip on a breakneck adventure among the warring unfairy tribes of The Garden. Expect sinister plots, dubious ancient prophecies, thrilling centipede chases, a bit of bug-bum honey... and a hero who doesn't give two hoots about anything.



**OUT
NOW**

Timmy Failure: The Book You're Not Supposed to Have

Author: Stephan Pastis
Publisher: Walker Books Ltd

Timmy Failure returns once more in the fifth book in the New York Times bestselling series. Fans of Wimpy Kid and Tom Gates will love the hilarious fifth instalment from Timmy Failure, aka the world's greatest detective. The only thing you need to know about Timmy's latest memoir is that it was never meant for publication. Timmy's detective log was stolen, and if this book gets out, Timmy will be grounded for life. Or maybe even longer. Because while Timmy was meant to be focusing on school-work, he was continuing his detective work in a garden shed. You don't need the details. Just know this: there's a Merry, a Larry, a missing tooth and a disappearing friend. But don't tell Timmy's mother!



**OUT
NOW**

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St. Mary's College & Preparatory School



**FOR ST. MARY'S COLLEGE &
PREPARATORY SCHOOL FROM
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
INSPECTORS**

St. Mary's College & Preparatory School in Crosby has received the seal of approval from inspectors from the UK's national independent schools watchdog.

Following a three-day visit earlier this year assessors from the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) say that the school meets all five key standards they have set.

This is the best possible outcome the school could achieve under the ISI's revamped assessment system which no longer uses one-word, Ofsted-style gradings.

The assessors' verdict on the school covered key areas such as the quality of education, the physical and mental health of students, safeguarding, leadership and management and the social and economic education of pupils and their contribution to society.

The report praises school leaders for 'creating an environment in which pupils demonstrate a love of learning and flourish academically'. This helps them to develop as 'mature individuals with strong moral values' and become 'successful and caring citizens'.

A key element in this success is St. Mary's 'engaging curriculum that ensures the acquisition of core knowledge and skills, while offering scope for pupils to pursue their individual interests'.

Teachers are also recognised by inspectors for their 'good subject knowledge' and for 'planning well and using a wide variety of techniques to enable pupils to make good progress'.

Elsewhere in the wide-ranging report the ISI assessors say they were impressed by pupils' behaviour and by St. Mary's extensive extracurricular programme 'that enables pupils to develop their interests and aptitudes in sport, music, drama and a wide range of other activities'.

St. Mary's Principal, Mike Kennedy, commented: *"We're delighted with the assessment we have received from the ISI inspectors. It recognises many of what we regard as the key strengths of the school which is very encouraging."*

Overall the assessors were clearly impressed with what they saw, and by the many pupils and staff members they met and spoke to."

"I would like to thank everyone associated with St. Mary's whose ongoing commitment and effort have contributed to making this first-class ISI report possible," added Mr Kennedy.

Key dates:

Open Evening: Thursday 18th September, 4pm - 7pm

Open Morning: Saturday 20th September, 10am - 12pm

Entrance Examination (2026 admissions):

Friday 14th November

0151 924 6302

www.stmarys.ac/open-events



St. Mary's College & Preparatory School

Join us for our 2025 Open Events:

Thursday 18th September, 4pm - 7pm

Saturday 20th September, 10am - 12pm

Entrance Examination (2026 admissions):

Friday 14th November

To register, visit www.stmarys.ac/open-events

The independent Catholic school for boys and girls of all faiths aged 0-18



Spook-tacular fun at Liverpool ONE this Autumn

Halloween and half term are round the corner and there's no better time to plan a family day out at Liverpool ONE.

Spook-tacular Fun

Mark your diaries as the free **Liverpool ONE Halloween Party** is back on Sunday 26 October, bringing a free day of spooky fun for families. Expect street performers, ghoulish characters, and the ever-popular fancy dress competition – perfect for witches, ghosts and little monsters of all ages, enter for your chance to win prizes.

River of Light

As the nights draw in, **River of Light** once again will illuminate Liverpool with stunning installations across the city from 24 October to 2 November. Liverpool ONE will play host to one of the must-see artworks on the trail, perfect for an evening family walk. This year's theme is Optics – Science and Light.

Fun For All Ages

There's no shortage of things to keep the kids entertained at Liverpool ONE! For action-packed fun,



Gravity MAX is the ultimate destination, with everything from e-karts and AR bowling to VR adventures and immersive games spread across two huge floors. If you're after something a bit different (and the perfect selfie opportunity) step into the **Upside Down House**, where nothing is as it seems and every room is an illusion.

Right outside Waterstones, sits a very special visitor... **Paddington Bear** is waiting, with a marmalade sandwich in hand, for children of all ages to meet him and snap a selfie.

And when it comes to shopping, Liverpool ONE has something for the whole family. From pocket-money treats and stationery gems at **Kenji** and **MINISO**, to timeless toys at **LEGO**, **The Entertainer**, **Build-A-Bear Workshop** and **John Lewis & Partners**, there's something for everyone!

All that excitement is bound to work up an appetite, with family favourites including **PizzaExpress** and **wagamama** to grab & go options like **Mooboo** and **Bagel Factory**, there's something to suit every taste.

For families with accessibility needs, Liverpool



ONE offers a range of support, from accessible toilets and Shopmobility services to apps like WelcoMe, Sociability and Waymap.

Join PLUS+ Member Rewards

Liverpool ONE PLUS+ is your key to unlocking offers, birthday rewards, early access to events, competitions and much more... and it's totally free! The perfect way to make your visits to Liverpool ONE extra special.

Find out more and plan your visit at www.liverpool-one.com





AINTREE HALLOWEEN FAMILY DAY IN SUPPORT OF NUGENT

Get ready for a spooktacular day out this October as Aintree Racecourse opens its gates for the Halloween Family Day, all in support of local charity Nugent.

It's a day packed with excitement for the whole family. Alongside the thrills of live horse racing, there will be plenty of Halloween-themed fun to keep little ones entertained, from fancy dress and face painting to family activities that will make this half-term one to remember!

But this special day is about more than just fun. By joining us, you'll also be helping Nugent continue its life-changing work across the North West. Nugent supports children, families, and vulnerable adults by:

- Providing safe and welcoming homes
- Helping people learn new skills and find jobs
- Supporting families facing poverty
- Creating opportunities to make happy memories

Jo Henney, Nugent's Chief Executive, explains:
"Every ticket sold and every pound raised through our hospitality package helps us to give children and families the support they need to build brighter, happier futures. This event is a chance for our whole community to come together, celebrate, and make a difference."

Dickon White, from The Jockey Club, adds:
"We're so excited to welcome families for this year's Halloween Family Day. It's going to be a fantastic day of racing and entertainment, all while supporting Nugent's incredible work in our communities."



How you can join in:

- Enjoy a fun-filled day of racing and family activities
- Upgrade your experience with Nugent's exclusive charity lunch - the perfect way to enjoy premium dining with family, friends, or colleagues, while directly supporting Nugent's vital work.

When: Sunday 26th October

Where: Aintree Racecourse

For more information about the event, sponsorship opportunities, or ways to support Nugent's work, visit: wearenugent.org/event/aintree-halloween-family-day-in-support-of-nugent. You can also follow Nugent on social media.

Day tickets for the Halloween Family Day are available now at

www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/aintree



Volunteer with Nugent and Help Change Lives

At Nugent, volunteers are at the heart of what we do, helping to support children, families, and older adults in meaningful, practical ways. Whether you're lending a hand in our charity shop or supporting our food pantry, helping out at events, or spending time with care home residents, your support makes a real difference. Right now, we're especially in need of volunteers to help in our Allerton Road charity shop, sorting donations, serving customers, and helping raise vital funds for our services. If you have a few hours to spare and enjoy working in a friendly, community-focused setting, we'd love to hear from you.

You don't need special skills to volunteer, just compassion, commitment, and a little spare time. Whether you can help regularly or occasionally, we'll provide training and ongoing support.

Interested in joining our amazing team?

Email: volunteers@wearenugent.org or visit wearenugent.org/support-us/volunteering to learn more.



together we are
nugent



together we are
nugent

Corporate Trustee: Nugent Care 2019 Ltd, Registered Charity 1187072
Nugent Care Registered Charity: 1187072-1

**Supporting children, adults and families
in our communities for over 140 years**

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Children In Sports

With the new school term well underway and families readjusting to routines after the summer holidays, some young people will be looking to take part in new challenges and activities.

Following England's victory at the Women's EUROs earlier this summer and the Women's Rugby World Cup drawing more attention than ever, plenty of children are likely to feel inspired to try out new sports and join local clubs.

Sports and activity clubs provide lots of benefits for children and young people. They offer opportunities to build friendships and to stay active. However, it's understandable that some parents may have concerns about leaving their children in the care of others at clubs.

RECORDED CONCERNS

Last year, the NSPCC Helpline received 623 contacts from adults across the UK who had concerns about a child's welfare in a sports setting, as well as 135 contacts from sports professionals who were concerned about a child in their group.

The most common concerns were about sexual abuse or exploitation, emotional abuse and physical abuse.

A parent/carer told the NSPCC Helpline: "My 14-year-old daughter has told me about a dance teacher at her school who has been engaging in relationships with other pupils that I believe are inappropriate. Apparently, this teacher communicates with some of the girls over text and meets up with them outside of class."

A rugby coach who trains under-12s told the Helpline: "Tonight, I witnessed a parent push their child twice really hard in the chest. They then shouted at him aggressively, enough to make him cry."

Even before this incident, this boy was silent throughout training which is not like him. He looked

like he had the weight of the world on his shoulders. As a person of trust, I have a duty of care to report this. I hope you can help."

CHILD PROTECTION IN SPORT

The NSPCC founded its Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU), to help sports organisations create safe and inclusive environments so that all children can enjoy and thrive in sport and physical activity. Together, they run the year-round "Keeping Your



Child Safe in Sport" campaign to raise awareness of safeguarding children in sports settings and encourage positive behaviour by parents and carers from the sidelines.

As always, the campaign will have a week of action in early October (OCT 6-12), which encourages parents and carers to watch a short online video about the importance of supporting children in sport. New resources also offer helpful questions to ask young people about their experiences, and information for sports clubs across the country to encourage and inspire positive behaviour.

Rachael Barker, Head of the NSPCC's Child Protection in Sport Unit, said: *"As someone who grew up being part of several sports clubs, I know how valuable they are for building friendships, confidence, and a sense of belonging. However, I also recognise that some parents may have safeguarding concerns.*

That's why the work of the Child Protection in Sport Unit is so important. They are there to support parents in making informed choices and to ensure sports clubs adhere to safeguarding procedures so that every child can enjoy sport in a safe, positive, and supportive setting."

To find out more about Keeping Your Child Safe in Sport, go to thecpsu.org.uk/keepingyourchildsafeinsport, and parents can take part in a free e-learning course at any time at thecpsu.org.uk/parents

Anyone with concerns about a child can contact the **NSPCC Helpline** on **0808 800 5000** or email help@nspcc.org.uk

TIPS FOR PARENTS CHOOSING A NEW CLUB

It's important to know that a well-run club should welcome your questions about their activities and policies, so the CPSU created a checklist to help guide parents on what they should look for when choosing or renewing membership with a sports club for their child. It's important for children to understand that they have someone to talk to about anything that they've experienced online. If they don't feel comfortable speaking to a parent or carer, remind them they can talk to a teacher or one of our dedicated volunteer counsellors at Childline.

- **Is there a designated individual to help with concerns?** Every organisation should have a designated welfare officer available for parents, caregivers, staff, volunteers, or children to discuss any worries.
- **Are they affiliated to a recognised national governing body (NGB)?** If so, this is evidence the club or organisation must meet national standards so the sport remains safe, fair and enjoyable for anyone who takes part. If they are not part of a recognised NGB, they may be overseen by the local authority or another overarching national body. Not all clubs are, so it's important to check.
- **Does the club have a safeguarding policy?** This should include a clear procedure for dealing with concerns, no matter how small, that someone may have acted in a way that is inappropriate or if there is a risk of abuse. There should also be a named and contactable person responsible for the implementation of the policy.
- **What safeguarding training do the staff and volunteers have?** Examples of safeguarding training includes those provided by the CPSU and NSPCC Learning, and other specialised training providers.
- **Have the coaches/officials been recruited through the relevant Safer Recruitment procedures?** Those working with young people should have a clear job description, appropriate references, and a criminal records check, otherwise known as a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.
- **Is there a complaints procedure and a written code of behaviour?** These should be in place to deal with complaints or concerns, and to establish what is required of staff, volunteers and participants. What guidelines do they have in place for relationships and boundaries? The club should have clear guidelines about appropriate relationships and social activities between staff, volunteers, participating young people, and parents.





Spooktacular Fun at Tatton Park This Halloween

Tatton Park's frightfully funny Skellies and Wellies Halloween Trail returns this October Half Term! From 25 October to 2 November (closed Monday), explore the Gardens and discover 10 hilarious skeleton displays, each hiding a letter to spell out a chilling word.

The fun continues at the Farm with the Pumpkin Patch and Maize Maze (11–31 October, selected dates). Pick your perfect pumpkin straight from the field, meet friendly farm animals, and enjoy muddy adventures in the woodland play area.

At the Old Hall, dive into spooky history with Myth, Magic and Mystery workshops (30–31 October). Brew potions, learn about gruesome old medicines, and uncover eerie legends in one of England's most haunted houses ...booking essential!

Don't miss the Autumn Gift Fair (25–26 October) in the Tenants Hall, showcasing handmade jewellery, ceramics, prints, and delicious food from local favourites like Cheshire Pie Company and Birchwood Pizza. Free entry (parkland charges apply).



Find out more tattonpark.org.uk/Halloween

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Relocating with your child -

key considerations for parents and those with parental responsibility



Any decision to relocate (whether within or outside of the UK) and make changes to a child's education should be made with agreement from everyone who holds parental responsibility (PR).

WHAT IS PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY?

PR is the decision-making power that most parents have in relation to their dependent children and includes responsibility for their day-to-day care, such as where they live and go to school.

WHAT HAPPENS IF PARENTS DISAGREE?

Deciding on where a child lives or attends school can be a complex issue. If parents can't reach an agreement themselves or via non-court dispute resolution — such as the involvement of an independent mediator — it might be necessary for the Family Court to make a decision.

Any dispute in relation to a child is emotional for all concerned, especially where two loving parents might have equally well-intended and

thoughtful yet conflicting ideas about what's best for their child.

If the Family Court needs to step in, its paramount concern will always be the child's best interests. The welfare checklist contained in Section 1(3) of the Children Act 1989 includes considering the ascertainable wishes and feelings of the child concerned (in light of their age and level of understanding) as well as their physical, emotional and educational needs and the likely effects of any change in circumstances.

ASKING THE COURT FOR PERMISSION TO RELOCATE

Seeking permission to relocate with your child must be carefully considered with your child's best interests put first.

Having a clear and detailed plan with persuasive evidence is essential and the most important considerations include the motivation for moving, the support network around the child and which schools and accommodation are suitable in the proposed new area.

You should also ensure that any disruption as a result of the changes can be kept to a minimum and have an understanding of transport links.

Taking early advice from an experienced family and children lawyer is essential to help your application proceed smoothly.

Brabners
PERSONAL

T: 0333 004 4488
E: personal@brabners.com
www.brabners.com

Understanding 'Schedule 1' claims - top-up maintenance & school fees explained

Although some unmarried or separated parents can resolve their financial arrangements amicably, others may need to use Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989 to reach a resolution. This is typically the case where just one parent has a high income or significant assets available or where school fees are a key consideration.



CHILD MAINTENANCE SERVICE

Parents are encouraged to agree on the appropriate financial support for their children. However, where this isn't possible, parents can ask the Child Maintenance Service (CMS) to deal with child support claims. The CMS has jurisdiction around child support, up to a capped gross income level (currently £3,000 per week or £156,000 per year).

WHAT'S A 'TOP-UP' ORDER?

If the paying parent earns more than this and the CMS has acknowledged a maximum assessment, the receiving parent may apply to the court for a 'top-up' order under Schedule 1. These are designed to ensure that children benefit from the full financial capacity of both parents. Since they help to maintain a reasonable standard of living for the child with both parents, they can cover enhanced living costs, extracurricular activities and other lifestyle-related expenses (within reason).

To calculate a 'top-up', the court will often adopt a formula that provides a percentage of the gross income earned over £156,000 after taking account of deductions in relation to any additional children, pension contributions, school fees being paid and other 'extras'.

Importantly, these claims are made on behalf of the child — not the parent — and the 'top-up' amount must be related to the parent's role as carer of the child. This budget will however include expenses such as utility bills and household costs, clothing, transport, holidays and leisure activities.

CLAIMING SCHOOL FEES

Another key provision under Schedule 1 is the ability to claim for school fees — whether the child already attends a private school or there's an intention to provide private education in the future.

The court can order one parent (or both) to pay some or all of the tuition fees and other related expenses if this is reasonable and in line with the child's educational needs and family expectations. The court will assess the parties' income and financial commitments alongside the needs and expectations for the child.

In addition to the above, claims for lump sums and for the settlement or transfer of a property are also possible under Schedule 1 of the Children Act. Taking early advice from an experienced family and children lawyer is essential to help your application proceed smoothly.

Brabners

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www.allabout-family.co.uk

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Learn some simple first aid techniques in time for Halloween, Diwali and Bonfire Night



As communities prepare to celebrate Halloween, Diwali and Bonfire Night with a bang in the next couple of months, St John Ambulance shares some simple, but lifesaving, first aid advice for those adding a bit of sparkle to their celebrations this year.

Firework filled festivities are often great fun for adults and children, but they can be prone to accidents and injuries.

St John Ambulance's Head of Clinical Delivery, James McNulty-Ackroyd, said: "With hugely popular celebrations like Halloween, Diwali and Bonfire Night just around the corner, why not spend a little time learning some simple but effective first aid techniques to help keep yourself, family and friends safe.

"Our trained St John Ambulance volunteers regularly provide support at community Diwali and Bonfire Night events across the country, but they won't be able to attend private gatherings. Whether you're lighting fireworks, sparklers, candles or bonfires, take care and follow safety guidance. If someone does get hurt, even slightly, knowing how to respond can

make a real difference. And remember—if the injury is serious, always call 999 straight away.

First aid is very easy to learn and you never know when you might need to use it. Here is some important fire-related first aid advice for those looking to stay safe while enjoying the celebrations:

FIREWORK FIRST AID BURNS OR SCALDS

- Move the person away from the heat
- Place the burn or scald under cool or lukewarm running water for 20 minutes minimum
- If the burn is to a child, larger than their hand, on the face, hands or feet, or is a deep burn, call 999
- Remove jewellery and clothing around the area, unless stuck to the burn
- Cover the burn loosely, lengthways with kitchen film wrap to help prevent infection and keep it clean
- Don't burst blisters
- Monitor and treat for shock if necessary
- Tell them to seek medical advice. This is essential for all severe burns and also for minor burns in children, or if on the face, or if you are concerned about someone's condition.

DEBRIS IN THE EYE

If someone's got something in their eye:

- Tell them not to rub it, so they don't make it worse or cause more damage
- Tilt the head so affected side is nearest the ground. Pour clean water over their eye to wash out what's in there and/or to cool the burn
- If this doesn't work, try to lift the debris out with a damp corner of a clean tissue
- If this doesn't work either, don't touch anything that's stuck in their eye – cover it with a clean dressing or non-fluffy material
- Then take or send them straight to the Emergency Department at hospital.

SMOKE INHALATION

If someone's inhaled smoke fumes:

- Move them away from the smoke so they can breathe in some fresh air
- Help them sit down in a comfortable position and loosen any tight clothing around their neck to help them breathe normally
- If they don't recover quickly, call 999 for an ambulance. Keep them calm whilst they are waiting.

For more information or first aid advice, visit www.sja.org.uk



OPEN EVENTS

Many of our parents found an open event incredibly helpful when supporting their son or daughter with making decisions about what to do after school, now it's your turn to discover what Knowsley Community College has to offer them!

2025

**Wednesday
8th October**

5pm - 7pm

2025

**Wednesday
19th November**

5pm - 7pm

f @ /knowsleycollege

♫ /sthelenskowsleycollege



SCAN ME!



Register to attend!

Adult Education: The Impact on Children

The personal benefits of adult education are always talked about and are well-documented. Although the individual student is the one who often reaps the most reward, many find that embarking on an adult education course has secondary implications, often improving relationships with their children.

The increase in confidence an adult education programme provides means that parents are more likely to have a greater understanding and interest in the education of their children, strengthening bonds and relationships. It has been found that parents who study are more likely to be comfortable speaking to members of school staff and usually have active roles and relationships within their child's school.

According to a recent study by The Workers' Educational Association, Mature students feel more comfortable and confident helping their children with tasks such as reading, writing and maths since enrolling on a course. This has a knock-on effect – it has been observed that the children of mature learners work at improved standards of literacy and numeracy and often display an impressive development of pre-literary skills.

It has been found that the children of parents who embark on further study are more likely to value education. Usually, a child's biggest role-model is their parent and a parent's behaviour has a big part to play in the way a child develops; this includes shaping their attitudes. The child's awareness that education is an activity which has a place throughout all stages of life can have real positive effects in terms of outlook and behaviour towards learning.

There are a wide range of reasons which attract parents to enrol on a higher-education course, usually for personal gain. But, by demonstrating to children the opportunity and advantages learning provides, adult education can build the foundations for a healthy attitude towards education in your child.

Treasure

History Unearthed



13 September 2025 –
29 March 2026



Museum of
Liverpool

BOOK TICKETS NOW

Members: Free

Adults and
concessions: £5

0-17 yrs: Free

Pier Head
Liverpool L3 1DG

liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/treasure



Treasure: History Unearthed MUSEUM OF LIVERPOOL 13 Sept 2025 – 29 March 2026

Curated with
care by
National
Museums
Liverpool's

archaeology team this extraordinary showcase brings together discoveries from across Merseyside, the North West, and North Wales.

Discover the remarkable stories behind these objects from their unexpected discoveries during construction work or metal detecting, to chance finds while walking and exploring. Treasure is often found where we least expect it.

Treasure: History Unearthed opens at the Museum of Liverpool on 13 September 2025 – 29 March 2026.

www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/museum-of-liverpool

Open Evening BIRKDALE HIGH SCHOOL 25 Sept 6pm

Headteacher talks
6.10pm, 6.50pm, 7.30pm
Personalised Tours – 29, 30 Sept
and 2 October at 9.15

www.birkdalehigh.co.uk



Pick Your Own Pumpkin HOLMESWOOD PUMPKIN PLACE 27 Sept – 31 Oct

Opening
Saturday 27th
September to
Friday 31st
October,

Holmeswood Pumpkin Place is a family run red tractor assured produce farm in the northwest. Find us on Facebook, Instagram, Google Maps Holmeswood Road Ormskirk (B5246)

L40 1UA. Pick your own pumpkins, squash, sweetcorn and ornamental gourds. Fun for all the family, there are bouncy castles, face painting, games, hot food, drinks, toilets, artisan stalls, lots of photo opportunities and they are dog friendly (on a short lead).

No booking required, no time restrictions, cash and card payments accepted.

Entry fee £3 per person, Under 1's free
Entry fee does not include a pumpkin
Monday to Friday 10am till 4pm -
Saturday and Sunday 10am till 5pm,
last entry at 4pm.

Shop & Eat Local Weekend TATTON PARK - 4 – 5 Oct

Celebrate Tatton's amazing produce with a special Stables Restaurant menu. Enjoy tasters of estate and farm produce in the Housekeeper's Store.

Don't miss Apple Day on 5 October, where the gardens are set for a scrumptious day of activities and delicious treats.

Plus take home your own fresh produce to try at home from the Garden Shop.

www.tattonpark.org.uk

Treasure: Curator Tour MUSEUM OF LIVERPOOL 11 October, 1pm 8 November, 1pm 13 December, 1pm 10 January, 1pm 14 February, 1pm

(Second Saturday of each month between October and February).

£15 and includes access to the exhibition at Museum of Liverpool

<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/whatson/museum-of-liverpool/event/treasure-curator-tour>

North West Bird Watching Festival MARTIN MERE 18th & 19th October

The North West Bird Watching Festival celebrates the migratory species that visit our Lancashire wetland centre

during the Autumn and Winter. Along with the pink-footed geese, the mere fills with thousands of pintail, shoveler, gadwall, and pochard.

www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/martin-mere

Print Screening, Creative Workshops, Badge Making THE BLUECOAT

Sat 25, Tue 28, Wed 29, Thu 30 Oct
and Sat 1 Nov
1-4pm - Free drop in

There will be a series of free, family-friendly creative workshops based on the themes of the exhibition. Stop by the Bluecoat for print screening, zine and badge making.

We Dream of Our Freedom is part of Our Freedom: Then and Now, a UK-wide, locally-led arts and creative programme from Future Arts Centres, which is producing 60 new pieces of work reflecting on what 'Our Freedom' means to local people and their communities, following the 80th anniversary of VE/VJ Day.

www.thebluecoat.org.uk



Wizard of Oz Panto ST HELENS THEATRE ROYAL 25 Oct – 31 Oct

Step into a world of wonder this season as Regal Entertainments proudly presents The Wizard of Oz— a dazzling pantomime adventure for the whole family at St Helens

Theatre Royal!

This spellbinding production promises jaw-dropping scenery, glittering costumes, toe-tapping musical numbers, and belly-laughs galore— all wrapped up in the classic panto magic that Regal Entertainments is known for. This spectacular show is packed with energy, heart, and timeless charm. Whether you're 5 or 95, there's something for everyone over the rainbow! Tickets available from:

www.sthelenstheatreroyal.com

*Don't forget
your wellies!*

*Wheelbarrows
provided*

HOLMESWOOD



PUMPKIN PLACE

Pick your own!

**Open from Saturday 27th September
until Friday 31st October**

Entry Fee £3 per person

*** Entry Fee does not include a pumpkin ***

Opening Times - 10.00am Last Entry 4.00pm

Plenty of large pumpkins available and loads of photo opportunities!

No Booking Required - No Time Restrictions

Parking, Toilets, Cash or Card Payments, Refreshments

Dogs Welcome (on a short lead)

**Holmeswood Road,
L40 1UA (B5246)**

FIND US ON:



**FOR MORE DETAILS
& DIRECTIONS**



Skellies and Wellies TATTON PARK 25 Oct – 2 Nov

Step into 50 acres of autumnal gardens where 10 hilarious and haunting skeleton displays are waiting to surprise and delight. Each skeleton scene is packed with personality and a punny joke to tickle your funny bone. Can you find them all?

Standard garden and parkland entry apply.

www.tattonpark.org.uk

Villains Unleashed! ALBERT HALLS, BOLTON 26 Oct

It's time for the princesses to step aside as the Villains are unleashed!

This devilishly fun show brings together all your favourite Villains for the ultimate Halloween party.

Losing their magic powers as the screams of Halloween fade away, the Villains plan the perfect Halloween party. Join them as they plot and scheme to conjure up a magical event, guaranteed to make everyone celebrate the most haunting time of year.

Prepare to be spellbound with this hour-long show of spine-tingling songs, chilling choreography, and devilish party dances guaranteed to get you trembling in your seats. Dress up in your favourite Halloween costume and if you dare... join the Villains themselves for a FREE meet and greet after the show.

www.alberthalls-bolton.co.uk

Myth, Magic and Mystery TATTON PARK - 30 - 31 Oct

Explore the superstitions and traditions associated with Halloween, as well as other spooky myths and legends throughout history. Have a go at brewing a potion and learn what gruesome ingredients were used for medicines in the past.

Must be pre-booked. £15 per person.

www.tattonpark.org.uk

Viking Takeover Day MUSEUM OF LIVERPOOL 1 November – 11am-4pm 2 November – 11am – 4pm at Museum of Liverpool. FREE

<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/whatson/museum-of-liverpool/event/viking-takeover-day>

The Lord Mayor's Fireworks Extravaganza CHESTER RACECOURSE 8 Nov

On our iconic Lord Mayor's Fireworks Extravaganza will return to the Roodee on Saturday 8th November 2025. With a dazzling fireworks display, LED light performers, fairground rides and tasty treats, this is set to be a real firecracker!

Every ticket sold helps support local charities, so your night out becomes a meaningful contribution to the heart of Chester's community spirit.

Don't let this opportunity fizzle out! Grab your tickets and be part of Chester's most dazzling event of the year.

www.chester-races.com



**Half Term Events at
MARTIN MERE
From 25 October - 2 November 2025
Pumpkin Carving until 30 Oct
Fancy Dress Competition 31 Oct**

This October half term, step away from the usual trick-or-treat trails and into something more magical. From 25 October to 2 November 2025, WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre, based near Southport, will be alive with spellbinding activities designed for families of all ages.

www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/martin-mere

Autumn Fair TATTON PARK 25 – 26 Oct

A unique shopping experience inside the Mansion's Tenants' Hall. With local suppliers selling handcrafted items, jewellery, candles and crafts.

Enjoy free entry to the Tenants' Hall fair. Standard parkland vehicle entry applies.

www.tattonpark.org.uk



Boote Children's Literary Festival THE STRAND - 29 Oct - 1 Nov

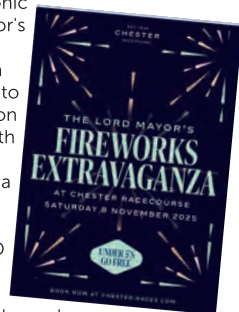
Shiver me timbers and brace the yard arm, for PIRATES will be visiting The Strand this half term as part of the Boote Children's Literary Festival.

From Wednesday October 29th to Saturday Nov 1st there will be free piratey festivities for all the family from 11am – 3pm.

Meet Captain Jack and Pirate Red Beard, dig for treasure in our giant sand pit, walk the plank, pirate crafts, interactive treasure Hunt, children's pirate themed dress up competition, and free pirate themed family workshops at Kingsley and Co.

For more information and full programme check out our website

www.bootechildrenslitfest.co.uk



Wordsearch

Can you find the following words:

VIKINGS

IRON

DISCOVER

LIVERPOOL

SILVER

HOARD

FIND

GOLD

AXE

ROMANS

OBJECT

BRONZE

HISTORY

MUSEUM

COINS

TREASURE

ANGLOSAXON

EXHIBITION

JEWELLERY

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What's on at Liverpool ONE this Autumn

Halloween Party

FREE, Sunday 26 October

The Liverpool ONE Halloween Party is back for 2025! On Sunday 26 October, families can enjoy a free day of spooky fun, with street performers, ghoulish characters and plenty of free entertainment. Don't miss the fancy dress competition, where children of all ages can join for their chance to win prizes.

Visit: www.liverpool-one.com/whats-on/halloween/



The Heritage Trail at Liverpool ONE FREE

Discover over 300 years of Liverpool's history on this free, fully accessible self-guided walking tour. Simply download the Liverpool ONE app or pick up a map from the Information Centre on Wall Street to begin your journey through the city's past.

Visit: www.liverpool-one.com/the-heritage-trail



River of Light

FREE, 24 October – 2 November

As the nights draw in, River of Light will once again illuminate Liverpool with stunning installations across the city. Liverpool ONE will play host to one of the must-see artworks on the trail, perfect for an evening family walk. This year's theme is Optics – Science and Light.

www.liverpool-one.com/whats-on/river-of-light/

Paddington Bear at Liverpool ONE FREE

On College Lane, right outside Waterstones, sits a very special visitor... Paddington is waiting, with a marmalade sandwich in hand, for children of all ages to meet him and snap a selfie.

Visit: www.liverpool-one.com/whats-on/paddington-at-liverpool-one



Nature Trail at Liverpool ONE FREE

Mini explorers will love discovering the plants and wildlife of Chavasse Park on this free self-guided trail. The 60-minute walk is available online or via a trail map from the Information Centre on Wall Street.

Visit: www.liverpool-one.com/nature-trail

The Old Dock Tour

Kids under 6 - free / Kids aged 6-17 - £3 / Adults - £10 (£9 concession)

Curious about Liverpool's history? The 60-minute Old Dock Tour takes visitors back in time as they discover how a bright mind and creativity shaped the city's destiny forever. The tour includes a visit to a part of the original Old Dock underneath Liverpool ONE.

Visit: www.liverpool-one.com/whats-on/old-dock-tour/



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PERFECT HALF TERM FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

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GLINDA	TINMAN	SCARECROW	DOROTHY	LION	WICKED WITCH	WIZARD



Tickets
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£15

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CHOREOGRAPHY BY NAZENE LANGFIELD

25 - 31 OCTOBER 2025

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**ST. HELENS
THEATRE
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Birkdale High School

Aspire - Thrive - Succeed

A school where we all belong.



Open Evening

Thursday 25th September 2025 @ 6pm

Talk to the boys

Meet the Headteacher and other staff

(Headteacher talks 6.10pm, 6.50pm & 7.30pm)

Car users please use the Liverpool Road entrance (opposite Nixon's Lane)



Personalised Tours

29th, 30th September & 2nd October 2025 @ 9.15am

(please email mail@birkdalehigh.co.uk to confirm attendance)