



Minet Junior School Newsletter

Autumn Term: 19th September 2025
01895 462362

<https://www.minetjunior.org.uk/>
office@minetjunior.org.uk

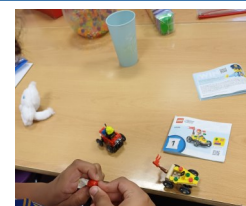


Some pupils in Year 6 are taking part in the Young Enterprise Program during Autumn Term. This is a program designed to teach children the skills needed to set up and run their own businesses. The children are learning how to design logos, make websites and what it means to make a profit. We cannot wait to see the final products and ideas next year in the final showcase.



LEGO therapy has started at school.

LEGO therapy is a playful, evidence-informed approach that supports children with all different needs, including those who benefit from dedicated therapeutic strategies in school. By combining structured social interaction with hands-on building activities, LEGO therapy helps children develop essential skills in a fun, engaging way.



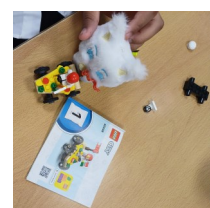
What is LEGO Therapy I hear you ask?

A small-group intervention where children work together to build and complete LEGO models. Activities are guided by a clear, collaborative script and roles with the Builder (the child) and the Teacher or in groups of three, Builder, Engineer, and the Supplier and this is to promote turn-taking, communication, and shared goal setting.



Benefits for our child at our school.

- Improved ability to listen and follow multi-step directions.
- Enhanced capacity to communicate needs and ideas clearly.
- Greater engagement in classroom tasks and collaborative projects.
- Increased self-confidence and willingness to try new activities.
- Better social connections with peers through shared goals and teamwork.



Why We Do LEGO Therapy in School.

- It offers a structured, low-pressure environment to practice important life skills.
- It integrates seamlessly with academic goals (math, language, planning, and sequencing) through hands-on learning.
- It supports inclusive classrooms by providing opportunities for all children to participate and contribute.
- It helps the Thrive Practitioner (Mrs. Connolly) observe progress in communication, listening and collaboration in a natural setting.

Get Involved at home.

Parents and caregivers can encourage practice at home with simple LEGO activities that involve following instructions and taking turns explaining steps.





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THINKING ABOUT GETTING READY FOR WORK?

The Grow Programme is here to help you – in a way that works for you and your family.

We run friendly, relaxed sessions for mums, during school hours. You'll be supported by women who understand what it's like to be a busy mum, juggling life and thinking about work.

We'll help you to build confidence, get answers, and explore what kind of work could fit your life. And if you want to join online, we've got that covered too – our daily online programme and Grow App are designed to support you every step of the way.



GROW GRADUATES



THE GROW TEAM



GROW TRAINING



GROW ONLINE

IN-PERSON SESSIONS

- Run during school hours, close to home
- A friendly group of other local mums
- Support with confidence, CVs, childcare and options
- One-to-one help to make a plan that suits you
- Free access to the Grow App and online workshops for 6 months

ONLINE PROGRAMME

- Over 20 live sessions every month – all during school hours
- Join from your phone, tablet or laptop
- Topics like CV writing, interview tips, flexible working, childcare, confidence and more

Special sessions for:

- Single mums
- Mums of children with SEND
- Mums from different cultural backgrounds
- Ukrainian and Farsi-speaking mums
- Sessions in community languages including Urdu, Tamil, Pashto, and more

THE GROW APP

- 24/7 support in your pocket
- Motivation, advice, events and learning – all in one place



GET IN TOUCH
info@belinagrow.co.uk
www.getreadyforwork.org






Introduced in 2011, the Pupil Premium is a sum of money given to schools each year by the Government to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children. This is based on research showing that children from low income families perform less well at school than their peers. Often, children who are entitled to Pupil Premium face challenges such as poor language and communication skills, lack of confidence and issues with attendance and punctuality. The Pupil Premium is intended to directly benefit the children who are eligible, helping to narrow the gap between them and their classmates.



How do I know if my child is eligible for Pupil Premium funding?

You are eligible for Pupil Premium funding if you are receiving the following benefits:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit **and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190.**
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.
- Universal Credit (with a NET of £7400 or less)



Children who are or have been in care, and children who have a parent who is or was in the armed forces, are also entitled to Pupil Premium.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they will remain eligible until they finish their primary phase of schooling .

Are you entitled? Pupil Premium contact at Minet Junior School

Mrs Dobson and Mrs Costello are here to help support you and your family with any questions or queries about Pupil Premium or Free School Meals. Please feel free to contact them on 01895 462 362





HEALTHY SCHOOLS LONDON
GOLD AWARD

WE HAVE ACHIEVED



TRAVEL FOR THE GOLD



Green Flag Award

2025 – 2028



Rights Respecting Schools



SAPERe PAC



PSQM
Primary Science Quality Mark



Quality Mark PRIMARY AWARD

We've introduced



thrive



ADVOCATE SCHOOL



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Spotlight on Our Year 3 Intervention Group: F.R.I.E.N.D.S

We're excited to share a special update about a vibrant new intervention group called F.R.I.E.N.D.S that started this year with our Year 3 students. The group focuses on building social skills, empathy, and resilience in a fun, supportive setting.

The students have already formed strong bonds, and their teamwork and kindness are shining through every activity.

What does FRIENDS stand for I hear you ask.

FRIENDS stands for:

- F riendship
- R espect
- I nteraction
- E mpathy
- N urturing
- D eveloping
- S upport

- Objectives for this group is to...

- Build positive friendships and reduce social anxiety
- Practice listening, sharing, and collaborative problem-solving
- Learn strategies to manage conflict and cope with difficult emotions
- Increase self-esteem and a sense of belonging within the class

- Typical activities that we can do

- Structured social-skills games
- Role-playing scenarios
- Circle-time discussions
- Cooperative art and teamwork projects
- Reflection and goal-setting

Why does this matter I hear you say.

Early social-emotional learning supports academic success, improves classroom climate, and helps children develop healthy, lasting friendships. By dedicating time to F.R.I.E.N.D.S. we're investing in our students' well-being and future resilience.



These aren't just bracelets! They are a tangible reminder of care, sharing and support.

Year 3 FRIENDS participants sharing a moment of laughter and teamwork.

A snapshot from a FRIENDS session: practicing listening and cooperation.

How you can support at home please ...

Encourage conversations about daily school interactions.

Ask your child what they enjoyed or learned in school this week.

and practice a simple conflict-resolution step at home: calm-down, describe the issue, find a solution, and check back later.



WE HAVE
ACHIEVED



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE
We invest in people Gold

unicef
Gold Rights Respecting

Philosophy for Children
SILVER AWARD

National Recognition for Best Practice in Education