

Glenwood School Monthly Newsletter



September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

Headteacher's Message

I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to all of our learners, families and staff as we begin another exciting year at Glenwood School. It has been wonderful to see learners return with such enthusiasm and positivity, quickly settling back into school life and reconnecting with their friends and staff. A special welcome also goes to the new learners and families joining our community this year. We are delighted to have you with us.

We are incredibly proud of how our learners continue to engage with our new curriculum, and it has been lovely to see such a positive start to learning across the school. Our curriculum remains focused on helping every learner develop in areas of learning and promoting communication and independence.

It has also been fantastic to see learners thriving in The Rise. They have transitioned to the new environment exceptionally well, and we are already seeing the benefits that the additional space and specialist facilities are bringing. Learners were particularly excited to welcome Madam Mayor Kat Knott last week and show her their new learning space.

Over the summer, we have been working hard to introduce a new assessment framework and prepare for the launch of Evisense, our new home-school communication platform. This will provide families with greater opportunities to see and celebrate their child's achievements and learning experiences, while strengthening the partnership between home and school. A letter and guidance have been sent this week, so please ensure that you have signed up and read the guidance.

This year, our School Improvement Plan focuses on continuing to strengthen our curriculum, teaching, behaviour support, wellbeing, leadership and capacity to meet the growing needs and number of learners. In addition, developing further, Glenwood's core offer for therapies. Everything we do remains centred on providing the very best outcomes and I will be welcoming parents and carers into this term to our corridor meetings where we will present the new curriculum and pathways.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I am looking forward to a busy but an exciting year ahead!

Amanda, Headteacher

Madam Mayor's visit to The Rise

On Wednesday 16th September, Madam Mayor of Castle Point, Kate Knott, and Councillor John Knott joined senior leaders, representatives from the IEB, Glenwood staff and learners at our new provision, The Rise.

We were delighted to welcome them to our newest facility and give them the opportunity to see The Rise in action. During their visit, they toured the provision and stepped into classes to experience a live snapshot of the teaching and learning taking place.

It was wonderful to showcase the fantastic environment we have created for our learners and to share the exciting opportunities that The Rise provides.

A big thank you to Madam Mayor Kate Knott and Councillor John Knott for taking the time to visit us, and to our staff and learners for helping make the visit such a positive and memorable occasion.



Annual Reviews

We have begun to email out invites for annual reviews; if you have any general queries or need to discuss the annual review invitation details please can we ask that you email annualreviews@glenwood.essex.sch.uk

Glenwood School Monthly Newsletter



September 2026

Learner Absences & Appointments

Please can we remind all Parents/Carers that learner absences **must be reported** directly to the school before **9am** on the day by either:

- A) Calling the school office on 01268 792575
- B) Emailing attendance@glenwood.essex.sch.uk

If your young person requires time out of school for a medical appointment, we ask that you make us aware in advance and provide us with a copy of the appointment letter, email, text confirmation etc... This can be emailed to attendance@glenwood.essex.sch.uk or a paper copy can be sent in to the school office.

If your young person is unable to attend from 9-3, it is important that any flexible start or finish time is discussed and agreed by a member of the leadership team and in most cases, must demonstrate that it is part of a planned transition period towards a full-time day.

Parents Evening

We will be holding parents evening on 14th and 21st October. A letter with details on how to book a slot online via School Cloud will be emailed home shortly.

Dates for the diary 2026/27

October - Blind Awareness Month

12th Oct - 10am - FR.O.G Meeting - All welcome

23rd Oct - Optional dress up day for Halloween

2nd Nov - Inset Day - No learners in school

5th Nov - Immunisation Team onsite - All year groups

9th Nov - FR.O.G Meeting

7th Dec - FR.O.G Meeting

4th Jan 2027 - Inset Day - No learners in school

12th March 2027 - Immunisation Team onsite - Year 8

12th April 2027 - Inset Day - No learners in school

16th April 2027 - Immunisation Team onsite - Year 9



Accesible Playground Update

On Monday 3rd August, representatives from our Senior Leadership Team attended the grand opening of the newest accessible playground at South Benfleet Playing Fields.

We hope that many of our learners had the opportunity to visit and enjoy this fantastic new space over the summer holidays, which has been designed to be accessible and inclusive for children of all abilities.

We are also delighted to share that we were invited to take part in a video showcasing the new playground and its fantastic facilities alongside Madam Mayor, Kate Knott.

On 23rd September, a group of Glenwood learners had the amazing opportunity to explore and enjoy the new equipment, including a wheelchair swing, secure roundabout and wheelchair-accessible climbing area, as well as many other exciting features. Our learners were so engaged in the fun that the cameras certainly didn't stop them!

We are incredibly excited to see the final video, which will feature some of our wonderful learners, and we look forward to sharing it with you all when it is released.

A huge well done to our learners for helping to celebrate and showcase this wonderful new addition to our local community!



Glenwood School Monthly Newsletter



September 2026

FR.O.G - FRiends Of Glenwood

Get Involved!

FR.O.G is a friendly group of parents, carers and school staff who work together to support our school and make a positive difference to our learner's experiences.

Throughout the year, the FR.O.G helps to organise fun events and activities, bring our school community together and raise funds for those little extras that can make a big difference to our learners and their time at school. You don't need to be a regular volunteer or attend every meeting to get involved. Whether you have lots of time or just an hour occasionally, every bit of help is appreciated. We're always looking for new ideas, helping hands and parents who would like to be part of the school community.

For more information or to find out how you can get involved, please speak to a member of the school team.

Next meeting: 12th October 10am - 12pm @ Glenwood School

Parking & Safety on School Grounds

We kindly ask all families to keep their speed to a minimum when driving on school grounds and to take extra care around pedestrians.

Before and after school, members of our team will be on hand to assist with parking and traffic flow. Please follow their instructions and guidance to help ensure that the drop-off and collection periods run as smoothly and safely as possible. For your own safety, please also make sure you use the designated zebra crossings around the car park when walking to and from your vehicle, rather than crossing between parked cars.

Evisense

We are very pleased to be introducing Evisense, as our new digital platform to enhance and improve our communication systems with parents and carers at Glenwood.



We have sent a letter to parents and carers sharing a form to complete in order for us to set up your account. We have also included some information to help guide and support using Evisense to communicate with your young person's class team.

Wednesday Staff Meetings

Every Wednesday after school, our staff have a scheduled meeting to discuss important matters relating to teaching, learning and the wider school community.

During this time, the class teacher and wider class team will be unavailable to speak with parents and carers. If you need to contact them, please call the school office and leave a message, and a member of the team will get back to you as soon as possible.

Please be aware that, unless your message is urgent, the teacher may not be able to respond until the following morning.

Glenwood School Monthly Newsletter



September 2026

Stars of September

Red 1 - Violet for starting back at school with positivity and enthusiasm.

Red 2 - Julius for showing great focus, engagement and perseverance in our 'Attention for Learning' bucket sessions!

Red 3 - Frank for making a fantastic start in Red 3.

Yellow 1 - Rosie for her happy, positive start to the new school year. It has been so lovely to see her confidence shine!

Yellow 2 - Freddie for making an incredible start to the year, and working hard on his communication and transitioning.

Yellow 3 - Toby for engaging enthusiastically with a variety of tasks please.

Yellow 4 - Carlie for settling into her new class with new adults and new learners so amazingly.

Yellow 5 - Maya for settling well into her new class.

Yellow 6 - Nasiah for making fantastic progress, settling into school life and building positive relationships with both staff and peers, and becoming increasingly confident within the school environment.

Blue 1 - Scarlett for her fantastic effort in trying new foods and exploring new textures. We are so proud of her for being brave, curious and willing to try new things!

Blue 2 - Charlie for settling back into school well and is always eager to get involved in lessons.

Blue 3 - Albert for how well he has settled into a new class and corridor.

Blue 4 - Riley for settling in really well and bringing loads of joy to our classroom.

Blue 5 - Reggie using his voice more to communicate his wants, needs and feelings.

Blue 6 - Hudson for making connections and building relationships.

Purple 1 - George for showing kindness to his peers and a good attitude towards his learning.

Purple 2 - Bradley for settling in so well and being so happy to be here every day, really enjoying school.

Purple 3 - Fope for doing so amazingly as a brand new Glenwood learner.

Purple 4 - Tommy-Lee for his incredible progress, especially in the dinner hall.

Purple 5 - Freya is new to Glenwood and has settled amazing well, she's confident to have a go with all her learning and she is making friends.

Purple 6 - Logan has had an amazing first month back at school and transitioned into Purple 6 brilliantly. He is willing to try new things, speak to new people and is sharing his witty sense of humour with us!

Purple 7 - Bertie has settled in well after the summer and adapted to the change of room and staffing.

Green 1 - Hannah for transitioning well and engaging in class.

Green 2 - Rocco for settling well into his new class and for great communication.

Green 4 - Louie for adapting to lots of change and enjoying being in school.

Green 5 - Daniel for being confidently brave at his new class room and coping well with change.

Tutor 2 - Aaron for being brave speaking to students from different classes and taking orders for The Rise cafe.

Tutor 3 - Tommy for adapting to all changes involved in transitioning to The Rise.

Tutor 4 - Harley for settling well into his new class and for building positive relationships with new staff.

Tutor 5 - Frazer for showing increased confidence and spending more time with his peers.