

Glenwood School Monthly Newsletter



October 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

As we reach the end of the Autumn term, it has been a busy and successful start to the year. Students have settled well into their routines, and the school has focused on several key developments, including the pathways-based curriculum, a new behaviour approach, and the introduction of a new assessment system.

These significant changes are being implemented carefully through staff training, baseline assessments, classroom integration, and ongoing review to ensure they have a positive impact on learners' experiences and progress.

Parents are encouraged to sign up to Evisense, if you haven't already, the school's new communication platform, which will help share achievements and keep families connected to their child's school day.

The school values the strong partnership between home and school and asks that all communication, both in person and online, remains respectful and constructive. Families are encouraged to raise any concerns directly with the school so they can be resolved collaboratively.

I want to extend my thanks to the staff team for their dedication and hard work throughout the term and wishes all learners, families, and staff a safe, restful, and happy break.

Amanda, Headteacher



Parents Evening

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who took the time to attend our Parents' Evening this month, whether you joined us in person or virtually.

It was wonderful to have the opportunity to share your young person's progress, celebrate their achievements and talk about how we can continue to support their learning and development.

We plan to hold our next Parents' Evenings in May 2027 and look forward to welcoming you again then.

School Gateway

School Gateway is the online payment system used at Glenwood School.

Please can we remind parents/carers that all school trips should be **paid for in advance**. If a trip has not been paid for, unfortunately, your young person will be unable to attend the trip.

For any learner who has **paid school dinners**, we also ask that parents/carers regularly check SchoolGateway and ensure any outstanding balance is paid. Unfortunately, we have seen an increase in outstanding balances, which has resulted in reminders being sent home.

Recruitment

We are pleased to share that we have been working hard on recruitment this month. We have held interviews for both class teacher and Learning Support Assistant (LSA) positions, with a number of successful candidates being appointed.

Glenwood School Monthly Newsletter



October 2026

School Of The Year Nominee

We are absolutely thrilled to share the news that Glenwood has been shortlisted for School Of The Year in the Education Awards!

The School of the Year award celebrates a school that has delivered significant improvements in outcomes for pupils year-on-year, introduced a new and innovative curriculum, or successfully overcome a challenging period.

We are incredibly proud to have been recognised for the hard work and dedication of our learners, staff and wider Glenwood community.

In December, representatives from Glenwood will attend the awards ceremony, and we are already excited to share photos and updates from this special occasion with you.



Dates for the diary 2026/27



- 2nd Nov - Inset Day - No learners in school
- 5th Nov - Immunisation Team onsite - All year groups
- 9th Nov - Transition Coffee Morning - Year 11 and above
- 9th Nov - FR.O.G Meeting
- 13th Nov - Optional Dress up for Children In Need
- 7th Dec - FR.O.G Meeting
- 10th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day
- 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

Social Media

We kindly ask all parents and carers to be respectful and positive when posting on social media in relation to Glenwood School.

If you have a concern or something you would like to discuss, please contact the school directly. Our team will be happy to listen and ensure that your query is directed to the appropriate person who can provide support and help.

We really value our positive relationships with our families and appreciate your continued support in helping us maintain a respectful and supportive school community.

Evisense Update

Thank you to the many families who completed our survey and gave consent for the school to use Evisense as our new communication app.

We are pleased to see that the majority of families have now successfully set up their Evisense accounts after receiving the set up email from 'B-Squared'. If you have not yet signed up, please do so as soon as possible using the email sent to you on 24th September.

As with any new system, it takes time to become familiar with all of its features and functionality. Our Glenwood staff are working behind the scenes to develop their knowledge and make the most of Evisense, so that we can share updates, learner progress and photos with families.

Thank you for your patience and support as we continue to embed Evisense across the school. We are looking forward to making the most of the platform and strengthening communication between Glenwood and our families.

Glenwood School Monthly Newsletter



October 2026

Santa is coming to Glenwood



We are pleased to share that Santa will be visiting Glenwood on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th December.

Santa will visit every class, either joining learners in their classrooms or spending time with them over lunch. He will also be handing out a small gift to each learner.

Please email or speak to your class teacher if you feel your young person may need any additional support with Santa's visit. We are keen to make the experience as comfortable and enjoyable as possible for everyone.

Music Man Project Makes History in New York



Many of you may be aware that David Stanley BEM works with our learner at Glenwood one day a week.

The Music Man Project has just returned from an extraordinary adventure in New York, where musicians with learning disabilities made history on two of the world's most prestigious stages.

On 7th October, 16 Music Man Project Global Ambassadors from Essex made their Broadway debut at New York's famous Town Hall theatre, performing Music is Magic on Broadway: The Story of The Music Man Project.

Just 24 hours later, they performed at the United Nations, proudly representing the UK and demonstrating its leadership in accessible arts and culture.

Founded in Southend in 1999, The Music Man Project has grown from just one student to 27 regional projects across the UK, with an international reach spanning five continents.

The New York adventure demonstrated that people with learning disabilities can achieve extraordinary things when given the opportunity, encouragement and support to fulfil their potential.

As David told delegates at the United Nations: "Talent is everywhere. Opportunity is not."

The Music Man Project is proving that anything is possible and that music really can change the world!

On Monday 19th October The Music Man Project also won 'Fundraiser Of The Year' at The Pride Of Britain Awards. Founder and CEO, David Stanley "was delighted to meet fellow regional winners from across the UK and celebrate the extraordinary achievements of some truly inspirational people."



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October 2026

Stars of October

Red 1 - Henry for his growing confidence since starting at Glenwood and bringing lots of excitement and joy to his time in school.

Red 2 - Archie for showing increased confidence when communicating his wants and needs and interacting with his peers.

Red 3 - Zyana for making lovely progress in managing the school routine.

Yellow 1 - Elodie for her fantastic attitude to learning and super signing!

Yellow 2 - Emily for incredible work on her communication, and always being excited to get involved in activities.

Yellow 3 - Nora for settling into class so well, growing in confidence, using lots of vocalisations and showing lovely enthusiasm during class activities. Well done!

Yellow 4 - Poppy for coping brilliantly with big changes.

Yellow 5 - William for clearly and independently saying, "Thank you" to Wendy when she gave him his morning snack.

Yellow 6 - Reuel for doing really well in transitioning into school and for settling into school life and our daily routines.

Blue 1 - Mason for his increased engagement in lessons and social play with his peers.

Blue 2 - Lincoln for adapting to Glenwood and the new routines this term. He has also shown growing confidence at mealtimes.

Blue 3 - Harry for his fantastic progress in his communication.

Blue 4 - George for positively engaging in less preferred activities throughout this month.

Blue 5 - Freddie for his fantastic hard work and growing understanding of prepositions.

Blue 6 - Lucas for making meaningful choices and ensuring they are known.

Purple 1 - Ralphie for engaging well with the new curriculum and being willing to go out of his comfort zone. Ralphie showed real bravery when singing in the Music Man Choir.

Purple 2 - Bobby for consistently being hard working, using his voice a lot more and being a very happy member of Purple 2!

Purple 3 - Jackson for doing so well settling into class routine.

Purple 4 - Regan for bringing such a positive attitude & smile every day. As well as the amazing progress with his toileting independence!

Purple 5 - Ruby for her sense of adventure, Ruby loves to explore and wants to try anything!

Purple 6 - Sophie for being so kind to people.

Purple 7 - Mayowa for settling in so well to his new learning environment.

Green 1 - Hannah for interacting and engaging with her peers.

Green 2 - Lucy for fantastic reading and working hard on our phonic assessments.

Green 4 - Jaydon for excellent participation in activities in school.

Green 5 - George for settling into class this term, doing well with his transitions and engaging with new activities.

Tutor 2 - Marcus for coping with changes really well.

Tutor 3 - Finley for working really hard to make progress with his social interaction and life skills.

Tutor 4 - Lyley- Lou for taking the lead as the teacher in dance and confidently modelling and explaining the routine to her peers.

Tutor 5 - Sean for listening to his teachers and controlling his fast passed walking.