



VALENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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May 2025 Newsletter 9

1. VE Day

We will be celebrating VE day on Thursday 8th May. This will mark the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe. At Valence, we feel it is important to mark this day bring us all together, to celebrate freedom and to inform our children of this momentous occasion.



2. Celebrating effort, good behaviour and hard work

At Valence, we place a high value on developing children's sense of worth and self-esteem. We love to celebrate both effort and achievement in academic and social settings. We have an approach where we support pupils to **Go for Gold** based on the following school rules:

- *Listen to and co-operate with each other.*
- *Follow adults' instructions.*
- *Treat everyone with politeness, kindness, courtesy and respect.*
- *Work to the best of our ability.*
- *Move safely and calmly around school.*
- *Respect our school environment.*



Children who consistently follow the school rules, who set a positive example for others to follow and who demonstrate a positive attitude to others can achieve a GOLD reward.

3. Nursery places

We are registering for September 2025, and at both sites, we offer **ALL-DAY provision** (8.30am - 3.30pm) to a limited number of pupils. Enquire at the offices about places and procedures. Don't miss out.....



4. Labels

It will help greatly if **everyone** labels key items, especially water bottles, fleeces, jumpers and coats. A lot of time is spent hunting down mislaid items - many of which are identical!

5. Home-school communication

If you have a message for the class teacher, please pass it via the member of staff on duty by the entrance doors or use ClassDojo. It is not always convenient for the teacher to talk at 8.45am as they are preparing the class and taking the register.

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 29

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.



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6. School uniform

It is so encouraging to see the children coming to school in their uniform, showing that they are proud to be part of the Valence community.



A reminder that **Blue and Grey is the Valence way**. A white polo shirt (with a collar) is the standard shirt. As the warm weather is with us, grey shorts can be worn, as can summer dresses (blue gingham). Shoes should be mostly black. Girls should not be wearing black leggings without a grey skirt over the top. Pupils are encouraged to wear a hat for playtimes and bring a labelled water bottle to class.



7. Incredible but true!

Do you know you can all borrow books from the local libraries? **12** per child for 3 weeks!! Completely free. What an amazing resource for families.....what a wonderful way to improve your child's knowledge.

- Valence library on Becontree Avenue
- Dagenham library at Dagenham Heathway



8. Rights Respecting

We are thrilled to see the pupils engage in our journey of understanding children's rights. Their voice is essential in helping us improve the school, and many contribute. This happens during class council meetings, the weekly school council, the Valence Playground Squad, the Eco team, the Sports Council and the Gardening club.

9. Why is attending school every day so important?

Let's aim high – aim for **100%** attendance. This gives children the best chance to succeed. The government research says that in order for pupils to make the best progress, they should be in school at least 96.5% attendance. Do you know your child's attendance percentage?

Attendance (Academic Year)	Equals this many days absent	Equals this many weeks absent	Equals this many lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	60 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	120 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	180 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	240 lessons
70%	57 days	12 weeks	360 lessons

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