



Headteacher Update – 11th May 2026

Parents, Carers, Students, and Friends of Baines School,

Our Year 11 students have now officially started their examinations, with construction, health and fitness under their belts, and our linguists have completed the speaking element of their qualifications. Mrs Bristol and Mrs Newhouse were extremely proud of the preparation and confidence the students showed.

We would ask that students be in school by 8am where possible when they have a morning examination, so they can fully benefit from the morning booster session. Students should not arrive any later than 8.30am (as per our usual expectation).

This week will be busier with some of the larger examinations starting such as English Literature for Year 10, and Biology, Maths, Geography, and RS to name a few for Year 11. Please ensure you are familiar with both the examination timetable and the booster timetable.

We continue to be very proud of our students and the maturity they have shown so far. If you have any concerns regarding your child’s mental health over this period, please do not hesitate to contact school. We have put additional resources in place for any last-minute wobbles.

On examination day, students can wear their Baines tracksuit if they feel more comfortable. Leavers’ hoodies should only be worn with the brown uniform though please.

Attendance Games



The Attendance Games are heating up with Year 7 and 8 retaining their positions as 1st and 2nd, but Year 11 has overtaken Year 9 to take third place. What will next week bring?

We are delighted to announce that Baines School has been awarded another National Attendance Award.

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National School Attendance Award
2025/26 Spring Term
★ ★ ★
Baines School
Top 25% of similar FFT Secondary Schools in England

Year 7 Girls' Football



Our Year 7 girls' football team made history this term, by reaching the final of the local league competition. They are the first girls' team from Baines School ever to achieve this incredibly milestone. Playing on grass for the first time, it was a challenging game, but the team showed outstanding determination, perseverance and teamwork against a side that had defeated every other school in the competition.

Although the result did not go our way, the girls represented our school with pride and proved just how far girls' football at Baines has come.

We are immensely proud of their achievement and the inspiring example they have set for future teams. If your daughter is interested in playing football, whatever her experience, she is welcome to join us at training every Friday after school.

Baines Golf Society Annual Competition

The Baines Golf Society is delighted to announce its annual golf competition, taking place on **Friday 12 June** at Staining Lodge Golf Club.

All past pupils, current and former staff members and friends of Baines School are warmly invited to take part in this popular event. Last year's winner was Mr Tom Porter, with Mr Simon Hurst finishing in second place.

We look forward to welcoming everyone along for what promises to be an excellent day of golf and friendly competition. Tee times and entry details will be circulated shortly.

For more information, please contact Mr David Uphill at dup@baines.lancs.sch.uk

Word of the Week

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deduce



(*verb*) to reach a logical answer or decision by reasoning, using the known facts.

"The police were able to **deduce** that he left his house yesterday evening."

"When everybody came in from break soaking wet, I **deduced** it was raining."

Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Just a reminder that if you or your son / daughter has any safeguarding concerns, please contact a member of the safeguarding team:

Mrs Macfarlane (DSL – Associate Assistant Headteacher)

Mrs Doherty (Headteacher)

Mrs Streetly (Assistant Headteacher Wellbeing and Mental Health)

Mr Moseley (Pastoral Officer)

If you have any ideas how you feel we could improve our safeguarding of students, please feel free to email Mrs Macfarlane (jma@baines.lancs.sch.uk)

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact the school's safeguarding lead on jma@baines.lancs.sch.uk

If you are worried about the mental health of your child, or need some food from our food hub (tins, pasta, cereal etc), sending home, please contact the wellbeing team on wellbeing@baines.lancs.sch.uk. We will be extremely discrete.

Sometimes parents ask school for advice regarding setting boundaries and sticking to them.

Jim Byrne, Senior Family Support Worker, supports parents with drop-ins at school. If you wish to speak to Jim, please contact Mrs Streetly by email – kst@baines.lancs.sch.uk

The hardest part of parenting often stems from the emotional toll of setting boundaries, managing guilt, and navigating the constant need to say "no" to children. It is the conflict between wanting to make them happy instantly versus providing necessary safety, structure, and life-long emotional resilience.

Why Saying No is the Hardest Part

- **Managing Emotional Fallout:** Dealing with tears, tantrums, and the fear of upsetting a child can lead to guilt, making parents question if they are being too strict.
- **The Struggle with Self-Sacrifice:** Saying "no" often means managing the child's dissatisfaction, requiring parents to stand their ground, which is emotionally exhausting.
- **Fear of Missed Experiences:** Parents often fear that strict limitations might ruin a moment or cause them to miss out on bonding.
- **Navigating Peer Pressure:** The fear of being judged by others for being the "mean parent" or not letting their child have what others have.

Why It's Still Necessary

- **Safety and Structure:** Saying no is crucial for safety and setting boundaries, which ultimately creates a sense of safety for the child.
- **Preparing for the Real World:** It teaches children to cope with disappointment and that they cannot always have their way, a lesson life will surely teach them later.
- **Preventing Burnout:** Consistently saying "yes" leads to parental burnout and lack of personal boundaries.

Tips for Making "No" Easier

- **Explain "Why":** Standing your ground can be made easier when you give a reason and stay firm once the decision is made. This can be hard.
- **Pick Your Battles:** Not every issue requires a "no," allowing parents to focus on enforcing the rules that actually matter.
- **Validate Feelings:** Acknowledge the child's disappointment while maintaining the boundary.

Mrs C J Doherty

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'Encourage, Engage, Empower'

Stars of the Week:



Golden Ticket Winners



7: Molly
8: Maisie
9: Willow
10: Seren
11: Lily
Well done to all our students
who have been awarded
Golden Tickets.

Students with the
most positive points
this week:
Year 7 → Reuben
Year 8 → Maurice
Year 9 → Noah
Year 10 → Jonah
Year 11 → Kristy

Form winners for the most
positive points include:
Year 7 → 7MAX
Year 8 → 8COL
Year 9 → 9BID
Year 10 → 10BID

Dates for your diary:

Date	Event
22-05-2026	School closes for half term and returns on Monday 1st June 2026

Clare Doherty

Headteacher

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