

Website: www.crowton.cheshire.sch.uk
 Email: admin@crowton.cheshire.sch.uk
 Telephone: 01928 788230

Headteacher: Miss L Hill



Crowton Christ Church C.E. Primary School
 Kingsley Road
 Crowton
 Cheshire
 CW8 2RW

OUR CHRISTIAN VALUES



THANKFULNESS

We give thanks to God and take care of things we are given.



GENEROSITY

We are kind and generous to others with our time, our gifts and our abilities.



FORGIVENESS

We know that forgiveness is always possible with God's love.



JUSTICE & PEACE

We treat others fairly and include everyone. Without justice there can be no peace.



PERSEVERANCE

We always try our best – even when it's hard!



SERVICE

We are willing to do things for God and others. We are willing to do things for God and others.



HELLO FROM MISS HILL!

Friday 16th October 2026

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of another busy half term, I would like to thank our children, staff and families for all their hard work and support. It has been a wonderful start to the academic year, with children settling well into their classes, embracing new opportunities and demonstrating our school values each day. As we look forward to a well-earned half-term break next week, please remember that school closes on Friday 23rd October at 3:15pm and we will welcome children back to school on Monday 2nd November. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Hill 😊

Prayer & Reflection

Dear God,

Thank you for the gifts and talents you have given each of us. Help us to use them wisely, to work hard in our learning and to always try our best. As we learn, play and grow together, teach us to be kind, caring and respectful to everyone we meet. Help us to support those who need a friend and to show gratitude for all that we have. May our school be a place of happiness where we can all Aspire, Discover and Flourish.

Amen. ❤️

WB 19.10.26 Menu 2



Events happening at Crowton next week...

Monday 19th October	*No Forest School this week*
	~~Forest School with James 3:15-4pm~~ *CANCELLED THIS WEEK DUE TO STAFFING*
Tuesday 20th October	The Woodlands Themed Session 3:15-4pm
Wednesday 21st October	PE with George (all classes)
	KS2 Sports Club with George 3:15-4pm
Thursday 22nd October	Lego Club with Miss Kelsall 3:15-4pm
	School Choir with Miss Porter 3:15-4pm
Friday 23rd October	School Closes for Half Term at 3:15pm. We will return to school on Monday 2 nd November! 😊



Attendance

This week's whole school attendance is **95.7%**

Our whole school target for attendance is 97%

Whole school attendance this week was 95.7%, which is below our school target of 97%. 📊 ☀️

EYFS and KS1	92.1%
Y3/Y4	99.1%
Y5/Y6	96.3%

Attendance Matters



TAKEHOME

19th - 25th October



In the news this week

Eleven-year-old Bodhana Sivanandan from London has become the youngest person ever to earn the woman grandmaster title in chess. She achieved this while playing for England at an international competition in Uzbekistan. Bodhana said she was happy with her achievement and wanted to keep making history.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > How do you think adults might feel competing against someone much younger than them?
- > What could you teach someone older than you?
- > Should age decide what we're allowed to do?
- > When might an age limit be fair?



BBC 500 Words Competition 📖 📝

We are excited to share that the BBC's 500 Words story-writing competition is now open! This national competition encourages children to unleash their imagination and write an original story of up to 500 words. Whether your child enjoys adventure, mystery, fantasy or humour, this is a wonderful opportunity to develop their creativity and showcase their writing talents. We would love to see lots of Crowton children taking part. For more information, competition rules and details of how to enter, please visit the BBC 500 Words website: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

Good luck and happy writing! ☀️ 📝



The Knitted Bible Exhibition

Wednesday 14th – Friday 30th October
 St John's Church, Kingsley WA6 8EH
 Open each day 10am – 4pm

36 Knitted Bible Scenes
 from Creation to the Resurrection

Refreshments available
 Entrance is free – donations welcome

Car park is at rear of church

For further information contact Revd Hilary Merrington
hilary.merrington@btinternet.com M: 07800 504 255

This week at Crowton...



"With God, all things are possible."

Matthew 19:26

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI COMPANIONS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Powered by generative AI models like ChatGPT and Google Gemini, AI companion apps and virtual chatbots such as Character.ai, Snapchat My AI, Replika and Talkie, allow users to create, customise, and chat to synthetic avatars around the clock. While many young people use them for harmless entertainment, creative writing or homework help, these tools are designed to simulate genuine human empathy, emotional bonding and deep friendship.

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

AI companions are programmed to be endlessly agreeable, attentive, and available 24/7. Unlike human friendships, an AI companion never disagrees, sets personal boundaries, or gets tired. Young people (especially those experiencing loneliness, social anxiety, or low self-esteem) can quickly develop an unhealthy emotional attachment, viewing synthetic software as their 'best friend' or a surrogate romantic partner.

DANGEROUS MENTAL HEALTH ADVICE

AI chatbots possess no genuine empathy, professional clinical knowledge, or moral reasoning. While developers state these tools are not therapists, vulnerable teenagers often turn to them in crisis. Chatbots have previously hallucinated unsafe medical guidance, validated depressive spirals, and failed to safely escalate disclosures of self-harm or suicidal ideation to real-world protective services.

DATA HARVESTING & OVERSHARING

Because conversational bots simulate warmth and understanding, children often lower their guard and treat the chatbot as a trusted friend. They may disclose sensitive personal information, including full names, school details, private family problems, or secrets, unaware that their conversations are being logged, may be analysed by third parties (including advertisers), or used to train future AI models.

DISTORTED SOCIAL SKILLS

Navigating real-world friendships can be messy, involving dealing with conflict, compromise, boredom, and awkwardness. If a teenager spends hours interacting with an AI that is tailored specifically to validate and flatter them, they may become impatient with real-world relationships. Over time, this can lead to social withdrawal, heightened anxiety in peer groups, and isolation: a vicious circle of growing online dependency coupled with a heightened sense that relationships in the 'real world' are too challenging to maintain.

INAPPROPRIATE OR EXPLICIT CONTENT

While most mainstream platforms feature safety filters and guardrails, young people frequently discover 'jailbreak' prompts to bypass them. Some companion platforms subtly nudge users towards mature themes, romantic roleplay, or sexually suggestive conversations. In worse cases, third-party apps with weak safety checks have been found to generate sexually explicit text or intimate images.

"FREEMIUM" UPSELLS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

Many companion platforms operate on a freemium model. While basic chat is free, features like voice calls, uncensored responses, custom avatars, or 'deeper bonding' tiers are locked behind expensive monthly recurring subscriptions or in-app token purchases. This can lead to significant hidden costs and pressure on young people to spend money to maintain the 'friendship'.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK OPENLY ABOUT FAKE RELATIONSHIPS

Demystify how these tools work. Explain to young people that an AI companion has no feelings, memories, or consciousness; it is simply calculating the next most mathematically probable word based on its training data. It is helpful to explain to them the mechanics of large language models so that they understand how they are trained and how they are designed to always flatter and be helpful.

AUDIT PRIVACY SETTINGS & AGE LIMITS

Check which companion apps are installed on your child's phone or tablet. Many dedicated companion apps carry an App Store rating of 17+, while platforms like Character.ai set a minimum age of 13+ (or 16+ in the UK/EU). Review the privacy settings together: turn off data-sharing toggles, disable model training where possible, and ensure location permissions are blocked.

ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTION

Ensure technology habits do not replace face-to-face peer socialisation, sports, hobbies, and family time. Create healthy boundaries at home (such as keeping phones and tablets out of bedrooms overnight) to prevent late-night, unmonitored attachment loops with conversational chatbots when young people are at their most vulnerable.

REINFORCE WHERE TO GET REAL HELP

Make sure young people know that a machine can never replace professional pastoral or mental health care. Remind them of the trusted adults they can turn to at school – such as their Form Tutor, Head of Year, or the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – as well as dedicated youth support services like Childline (0800 1111) or Shout (text 85258).

Meet Our Expert

Darren Coxon is the Founder and Executive Director of Kompass Education, a consultancy specialising in supporting educators, students and parents in making wise choices with AI. His book *Ethical AI and Education*, co-authored with Clara Hawking, will be released later in 2026 by Taylor and Francis.



The National College®

See full reference list on our website



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WEEK 1

Create-your-plate

Crowton Christ Church
CE School

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

CHOOSE A
HOT MEAL

Or

AN EVERYDAY
FAVOURITECHOOSE A
DESSERT

Or

AN EVERYDAY
FAVOURITE

Irish Beef Burger Served with Potato Wedges, Coleslaw or Baked Beans



Tomato & Mascarpone Cheese Pasta (V) Served with Wholemeal Crusty Bread & Seasonal Vegetables



Roast Pork Served with BBQ Sauce or Gravy, Crispy Diced Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables



Sweet Hawaiian Chicken Noodles Served with Seasonal Vegetables



MSC Fish Fingers or Wholemeal Margherita Pizza (V)



Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings. Served with a Side Salad



Deli Choice of Breads with a Selection of Fillings. Served with a Side Salad



Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings. Served with a Side Salad



Deli Choice of Breads with a Selection of Fillings. Served with a Side Salad



Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings. Served with a Side Salad



ABC Cake



Fruit Jelly



Chocolate Muffin



Fresh Fruit Salad



Iced Topped Sponge Cake

Save room for pudding.

Choose a delicious dessert of the day or treat yourself to fresh fruit or low-fat fruit yoghurt.



Selection of fresh fruit



Low-fat fruit yoghurt selection

Images for illustration purposes only.

Meals are subject to availability. For allergen advice and nutritional information speak to your catering team.

Big Learning in Every Bite



WEEK 2

Create-your-plate

Crowton Christ Church
CE School

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

CHOOSE A
HOT MEAL

Or

AN EVERYDAY
FAVOURITECHOOSE A
DESSERT

Or

AN EVERYDAY
FAVOURITE

Oven Baked Sausage Roll Served with Mashed Potato, Baked Beans or Seasonal Vegetables



Wholemeal Pasta Bolognese Served with Wholemeal Crusty Bread & Seasonal Vegetables



2 Slices of Wholemeal Margherita Pizza (V) Served with Seasonal Vegetables or Homemade Coleslaw



Minced Beef Pie Served with Crispy Diced Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables



MSC Fish Fingers Served with Fries, Baked Beans, Mushy Peas or Peas



Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings. Served with a Side Salad



Deli Choice of Breads with a Selection of Fillings. Served with a Side Salad



Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings. Served with a Side Salad



Deli Choice of Breads with a Selection of Fillings. Served with a Side Salad



Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings. Served with a Side Salad



Banana and Oat Cookie



Golden Crunch Biscuit



Marbled Cocoa & Vanilla Biscuit



Fresh Watermelon Wedge



St Clement's Sponge Cake

Save room for pudding.

Choose a delicious dessert of the day or treat yourself to fresh fruit or low-fat fruit yoghurt.



Selection of fresh fruit



Low-fat fruit yoghurt selection

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Big Learning in Every Bite

