



22nd November 2024

Re: SPRING TERM CLUBS 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to announce our clubs for the Spring Term. Clubs at Sandcross will run from **Monday 13th January to Friday 4th April 2025**.

SchoolsBuddy will open for club selections on **Thursday 28th November 2024 at 8am**. The selection process will be open until **Wednesday 4th December 2024 at 8pm**. This letter explains how to book your child into a school club for the Summer Term.

All of our extra-curricular clubs are booked and paid for through the SchoolsBuddy app. This allows parents and carers to select clubs by order of preference, rather than through a first come-first serve system. If you have any questions on how to use SchoolsBuddy, please refer to the very useful Parent Guides on SchoolsBuddy help site link [HERE](#). Should you still need guidance, please email clubs@sandcross.school.

All clubs are priced at £3.50 per child per session. Pupil Premium children will receive *one free club* per term. The clubs will run for 11 weeks. There will be 5 weeks of clubs before the February half term and 6 weeks of clubs after the February half term. Monday clubs will only run for 10 weeks due to an inset day



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on **Monday 24th March 2024**. There will be no discounts if a child misses a week due to residential or trips as the costs of running the clubs will still be a liability for the school.

Spring Term 2025 - Club Dates

Clubs will begin on Monday 13th January 2025 and run until Friday 4th April 2025

January 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1			1	2	3	4	5
2	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
4	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
5	27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5						1	2
6	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9	24	25	26	27	28		

March 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9						1	2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
14	31						

April 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14		1	2	3	4	5	6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
18	28	29	30				

- 11 weeks of clubs in total.
- 10 weeks for Monday clubs due to a school INSET day on Monday 24th March.

Choosing your clubs - club preferences and payments

From **Thursday 28th November at 8am**, SchoolsBuddy will open for you to select your club preferences.

The clubs will close on **Wednesday 4th December at 8pm**. You will not be able to select any clubs on schoolsbuddy after this point. You can select up to 3 club preferences for each day of the week (1,2,3); 1 being your first choice and so on. The more preferences you put down, the more chance there is for a place to be allocated a place in at least one of them. Once you have selected your preferences, you must wait for confirmation that your child has been allocated a place in the club.

Please do not assume your child has a place in the club until you receive confirmation that the place

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has been allocated.

SchoolsBuddy works on an algorithm basis. Once the preferences deadline has been met, Schools Buddy will run an allocations process. It will allocate students into the clubs based on their preferences.

It works to allocate at least one club for each student who has submitted their preferences. Please note this is not guaranteed. SchoolsBuddy's auto-allocation method gives students their first choices, followed by their second choices, and then third. By using this system, places are allocated without bias. Sometimes clubs are very oversubscribed and we cannot take more than the maximum capacity of children on safety grounds. When this happens we try very hard to ensure that children who have applied for more than one club get into at least one of them.

We also keep waiting lists of any child who has not got into a particular club each term and this is taken into account when allocating places the following term. Once the automatic allocation process is complete on SchoolsBuddy, we will check these waiting lists to ensure there is fairness and that as many children as possible get into one of their selected clubs and that new children are given the opportunity to try a club each term. For example, if a child is allocated the same club every term and there is another child who has been on a waiting list for one term or more, this said child will be given a place in the club.

There are also certain clubs where places are allocated after this process, for example, the school football teams or the gymnastics squad. These children are selected from trials with the sports coaches and invited to join the team. When children are selected for these teams, parents and carers will be advised of this individually.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to read the Sandcross School Clubs Terms and Conditions. You will be asked to confirm that you have read and agree to these Terms and Conditions on SchoolsBuddy before you are able to submit the form.

Once you have received confirmation that a place has been allocated in a club, you will receive a payment request on schoolsbuddy. You must make payment on schoolsbuddy **to secure the place**. If payment is not received by the deadline, we cannot hold your child's place in the club and will automatically withdraw your place.

Please ensure you make payment for the clubs as soon as possible. If your child's place is withdrawn, the club

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will no longer show on your SchoolsBuddy account. Due to the oversubscription of clubs, we cannot allow for any late payers.

After the allocation of clubs, parents/carers can also send in Join Requests to join clubs if there are still any remaining spaces. Clubs with availability will be visible in SchoolsBuddy. The school reserves the right to Accept/Reject a Join Request and please be aware that this might not be looked at on a daily basis. If you haven't heard back about a join request after more than a week, please enquire by sending an email to: clubs@sandcross.school.

Pupil Premium

If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium, you are entitled to **one free club per child**. The discount will be manually after your child has been allocated the club and your schoolsbuddy account will reflect this. This discount will not show immediately, so please allow some time for this discount to be applied. If you have been allocated more than one club for your child/ren, **the other clubs must be paid for in full** by the payment deadline. If you are of a low income family, you may be eligible for Pupil Premium, where the school gets a grant from the Government to allow for discounts to various activities. If you think you are eligible, please [CLICK HERE](#). Once we receive this information from you, we can run you through our computer system to see if you meet the criteria. If so, we can apply the discount straightaway for you.

Turning down an allocated place in a club

If you decide you do not want a club once it has been allocated, please email clubs@sandcross.school as soon as possible so we can cancel your place and offer it to someone else.

Childcare voucher payments for clubs

For Spring Term 2025, you will now be able to pay for a schoolsbuddy club through your childcare voucher scheme. If you wish to pay for your child's club this way, please email clubs@sandcross.school to let us know with the following details: The name of your childcare voucher provider, the payment reference number, the date you made a payment to the provider and if possible a screenshot of this payment. Please can you also state in the email that you would like the amount to pay for your child's schoolsbuddy club.

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Pick up permissions and collecting children from clubs

When completing your child's club preferences, you will be asked on SchoolsBuddy to complete a form called **Pick Up Permissions**. This form will ask for the names of adults who are permitted to collect your child from an afterschool club. It is important that this form is completed for every child. During the Spring Term, children in years 5&6 are **not** allowed to walk home from their club at 4.15pm.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to read the Sandcross School Clubs Terms and Conditions.

You will be asked to confirm that you have read and agreed to these Terms and Conditions on SchoolsBuddy before you are able to submit the form.

Any child attending a club after school will be looked after in their classrooms until 3.30pm, after which they will be escorted/directed to their club. It is vital that children are picked up promptly once their club has finished at 4.15pm. Any child not collected by 4.25pm will be looked after at our after school Harmony Club and parents/carers will be liable to pay the Harmony Club fee.

Years 5&6 ONLY - NO walking home after a club at 4.15pm.

During the Spring Term, children in years 5&6 are not allowed to walk home from their club at 4.15pm.

Harmony users

If your child needs to attend Harmony each week, after one of their clubs, you can book them into Harmony using your Arbor account. When booking you can choose the Harmony after school session for 4.15pm-6pm. The children can attend Harmony at 4.15pm once their club finishes.

Medical conditions and updates

If there are any changes to medical conditions or any contact details throughout the term, please email **clubs@sandcross.school** so that the information can be updated accordingly.

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Club updates and useful reminders

- **Gymnastics Squad (Years 3-6)** - Due to gymnastics competitions during the Spring Term, the ESE sports coaches will be forming a Sandcross gymnastics squad who will participate in these competitions. All children in years 3-6 will have the chance to trial for this squad and children will be selected by the ESE sports coaches. You will be informed when the trials will be taking place and when the selections have been made. Once your child has been selected and you have been informed, a payment request will be added to your schoolsbuddy account. Once the gymnastics squad has been formed, the club will open on schoolsbuddy for other children to join.
- **The Boys and Girls Football Teams** - The children in these teams were selected in the Autumn Term and will continue with this in the Spring Term. They will automatically be allocated this club again on schoolsbuddy and a payment link will be sent to you on schoolsbuddy.
- **Senior Choir** - This club is open to children in Years 5 & 6 afterschool on Fridays. If your child has been in the senior choir in the Autumn term, you must still select the club on schoolsbuddy. Children who have attended in the Autumn term will be given a priority place. The senior choir practices for numerous concerts and shows throughout the year including the Young Voices concert at The London O2 Arena in January 2025. Children are asked to show commitment to the club as they will be rehearsing songs every week for the shows.
- **Junior Choir** - This is a free club for children in years 3 & 4 which takes place during the school day on a Thursday lunchtime. If your child has been in the junior choir in the Autumn Term, please do not assume they will be automatically allocated a place. You must still select the club on schoolsbuddy with your preferences. No payment is required but you must still select the club if you want your child to join.
- **Baking and cooking club** - The baking club will not run during the Spring Term.
- **Cross Country** - The cross country club will not run during the Spring Term.
- **Indoor Athletics** - This is a new morning club on Wednesday mornings in the main hall.
- **SMA Karate clubs** - Karate will open up to Year 3s for Spring Term and they will be able to join Year 4s on a Friday afterschool. Children who have been participating in Karate in a previous term will be prioritised if they select the club again on schoolsbuddy. This is because the children have been developing their skills and can continue practising. Please ensure you still select the club on

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schools buddy if your child wishes to continue karate.

- **Band Workshop Club - Yr 5&6** - this club is for children who are *already* learning an instrument.
NB: Children do not need to be experienced musicians.
- **Gardening Club Yr 4,5 & 6** - Tuesdays & Thursdays - A child can only attend one session per week, either the Tuesday or Thursday, not both. Children are reminded to bring along some old clothes and shoes to wear for the club.
- **Arts and crafts and Artfulness club** - Children should bring an old shirt, t-shirt or apron to their first session, to put over their school uniform whilst at the clubs.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Step 1

Look at the timetable and choose your childs' clubs

[click here](#)



Step 2

Clubs open on SchoolsBuddy to make selections

Thursday 28th November at 8am

Select your clubs in preference order - P1 to P3

No payment is needed at this point



Step 3

Clubs close on SchoolsBuddy

Wednesday 4th December at 8pm

No further preferences will be able to be submitted after this time.

Please wait to receive confirmation of your allocated places.

If you wish to cancel a place, please email:

clubs@sandcross.school AND/OR office@sandcross.school

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Step 4

Payments open

Monday 16th December at 9am

Please pay for your club places on schoolsbuddy.



Step 5

Payments deadline

Friday 3rd January 2025 at 9am

Any clubs not paid for by this date will be reallocated to someone who is on the waiting list.

For any clubs with availability, join requests can be sent in via SchoolsBuddy.

The school reserves the right to accept or reject a request.

If accepted, you will be notified and a payment 'Quick Charge' will be sent to your schoolsbuddy account and must be paid within 48 hours.



Step 6

Spring Term clubs start

Monday 13th January 2025

If you have any further queries please email clubs@sandcross.school.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Richards
Headteacher

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