



26th June 2026

Dear Parents / Carers

Lighthouse Club – 'go live' for Autumn and arrangements for 2026/27

We have worked incredibly hard this year to make our wraparound care system as user-friendly as possible. We have listened to all your feedback and have tried our very best to support with all queries and concerns. Additionally, we have worked with other schools in the Trust to review processes and share best practice.

With all of this in mind, from September, we are making some changes to Lighthouse Club to ensure we maintain maximum flexibility for families and continue to offer affordable wraparound care that is accessible to all our children.

From September 2026

- We will offer only the 3-6pm session.
- We will no longer offer the 3-4pm session. (On average across the week, only 20% of children leave at 4pm.)
- The cost of the 3-6pm session will remain at £14.85. (We have kept the same price despite rising cost of food and utilities).
- 45 spaces available across all year groups for after school (increased this year).
- 33 spaces available across all year groups for breakfast club (increased this year).
- We have changed settings in Arbor, so you no longer have to top up money before making bookings. However, balances must be cleared before the new term if you wish to continue making bookings.

**** Lighthouse Club bookings for Autumn Term (September 2026) will go-live at 7.30pm on Monday 6th July****

We know that demand for Lighthouse Club spaces is particularly high at Courthill. In response, we increased the number of spaces this year. We also increased the number of school-run clubs (which run 3-4pm) and the number of spaces they offer. In addition, these clubs were opened up to Year Reception children – and most of them will be available to Year Reception children from September (rather than from Spring term).

We understand there are limitations within the Arbor system which can make the Lighthouse Club booking process stressful for parents and carers. For the current term, we set up Lighthouse Club per year group and allocated a set number of spaces for each of them. Whilst this may have slightly improved the booking process on Arbor, it significantly increased the workload of the office team for set-up and throughout the term. As such, this method is not sustainable and therefore, bookings for the next academic year will revert to the same 'go-live' time for all year groups.

We appreciate this may cause concern and will not suit everyone. Rest assured, we have explored (and will continue to explore) the different methods available to us within the confines of Arbor (which is still the programme used Trust-wide for bookings).

So, you know, I have shared with the Trust (CLP), the limitations and they are working with us and Arbor to improve the system, but for now, this is our only booking platform for parents. As I always say, we will work with you to address any issues around bookings.

Realistically, we know there will be system issues on 'go-live day' as Arbor does not cope well with the initial volume of bookings being processed at the same time. **Please do not panic!** It is worth noting that this year, we were able to provide all of the childcare needed by parents. So, if you cannot initially secure the bookings you require for the term, please let us know via email, as soon as possible and by **Friday 10th July** at the very latest and we will do our best to resolve the issues.

The office team do a wonderful job of managing the high volume of emails around Lighthouse Club, so please don't worry – they will get back to you.

Thank you for your patience and support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AC Carter' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs Carter, Headteacher