



Billingshurst Primary Academy

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Ambition
Belonging
Courage



Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may already be aware, we have recently acquired a beehive and honey bees through the British Bee Charity. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to learn about beekeeping, the life cycle of honey bees and the important ecological role they play as pollinators.

We have two recently trained members of staff who have overall responsibility for the hive and bee welfare: Mr Matthews and Mr Cowdery. In addition, ten bee suits and protective gloves have been provided for use by children in school.

We are now inviting expressions of interest from children in **Years 3, 4, 5, and 6** who would like to participate in beekeeping activities. This will generally involve a beehive inspection on Fridays after lunchtime, particularly during the summer months. These short inspections will be weather dependent in order to maintain bee welfare.

The children will also learn about the bee life cycle and how honey is produced. Once we have an idea of numbers, we will communicate further details and request parental permission for children to take part.

Unfortunately, children who are allergic to bee or wasp stings will be unable to participate in hive inspections. In addition, children selected to participate will need access to a pair of wellington boots.

Parents and carers are reminded that, while we will take every precaution to avoid any child being stung, there is a possibility that this could occur. We will have immediate access to antihistamine cream and, in the event of an extreme reaction, an EpiPen.

[Please click here to complete the form](#) by Wednesday 20th May in the first instance if you would like your child to be considered for this exciting opportunity.

Head Teacher



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