



North
Northamptonshire
Council

Local Link

Your regular update from **Cllr Martin Griffiths, Leader of the Council**



- 31 October 2026 for secondary school applications.

- 15 January 2027 for Reception and Year 3 junior school applications.

I encourage all eligible families to apply on time and begin planning for this exciting next step in their child's education. Visit our website for full [school admissions](#) information and access to the [Parent Portal](#).



Community matters

Discover your happy place with Switch Up September

I am delighted to support Switch Up September, a month-long healthy lifestyles campaign from our Healthy Schools Team.

The campaign encourages families across North Northamptonshire to make positive lifestyle changes, from being more active and eating healthily to spending more time outdoors and reducing screen time. Children and young people can also enter a photography competition by sharing a picture of their "happy place", with prizes available for primary and secondary school age categories.

A range of free community events will take place throughout September, giving families opportunities to try new activities, improve their wellbeing and build healthy habits together.

Visit our website to find out more about [Switch Up September](#).

A first look at the new Alfred East Gallery

I am delighted to share that residents can enjoy a special preview of the Alfred East Gallery's return from tomorrow until 2 October.

As part of the [Northants and Rutland Open Studios](#) festival, the gallery will host 'Prelude...', a free exhibition showcasing the work of six talented local artists working across painting, printmaking, collage and photography. The exhibition also marks the first public opening of the new Garden Room, a flexible space that will host exhibitions, workshops and community events, creating even more opportunities for people to engage with arts and culture in the heart of Kettering.

I encourage residents to visit the exhibition, support our local creative talent and experience this exciting new facility. 'Prelude...' is an important milestone as we look ahead to the full reopening of the Alfred East Gallery and Kettering Library during [Northamptonshire Day](#) celebrations in October.



Upcoming meetings

Watch democracy in action

See local decision-making first-hand by watching our Executive and Full Council meetings live or on demand via our Democratic Services YouTube channel.

Full details for each meeting, including dates, agendas and papers, are available on our ModernGov meetings portal, where you can also view future sessions.

- [Executive – Tuesday 15 September 2026, from 10am](#)
- [Full Council – Thursday 24 September, from 6pm](#)



Your Voice Matters

View and respond to current consultations, and take part in engagement surveys and discussions

- [Public Spaces Protection Order \(PSPO\) - Kettering Town Centre - Consultation 2026](#) – Closes 28 September 2026.
- [Community Governance Review – Stage 2 Consultation](#) – Closes 4 October 2026.
- [Statement of Licensing Policy: Licensing Act 2003](#) – Closes 9 October 2026.

Please visit the [Your Voice Matters](#) hub for further information. Please share with family, friends, or others in your networks who may be interested in contributing their views.



More to explore

Keep up to date with our latest press releases

- [Children and young people invited to join SHAPE Dance this autumn](#)
- [Works complete on key A6 viaduct in Irthlingborough](#)
- [New rules on child safeguarding checks come into force](#)
- [Family Hub network expansion into Corby welcomed](#)
- [Update on resurfacing works for Higham Road, Rushden](#)
- [North Northamptonshire Libraries awarded National Year of Reading microgrant](#)
- [More families encouraged to apply for free school meals following eligibility changes](#)

View all council news and updates on our website at: [News](#).



Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to read my newsletter. If you have any questions, please email executive@northnorthants.gov.uk.

Kind regards,

Cllr Martin Griffiths

Leader of the Council



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