

Parent Bulletin

Week commencing Monday 1 July 2024 – Week 1

Dear Parents and Carers

We have enjoyed celebrating Pride Week in the academy. On Monday, the Mayor of Gateshead, Councillor Kate McCartney, visited us to meet students and to recognise the achievement of the school in gaining the Rainbow Flag Award. The Mayor unveiled the framed certificate, which now appears in our main entrance. The Rainbow Flag Award recognises the steps that staff, students and governors have taken to make our school a more inclusive place. An inclusive and diverse school is a safe space for children to be themselves, and to support one another. Thank you for your support for the steps we have taken together to achieve this award.

The end of the summer term is a time of transition, and we have seen this in a lot of different ways this week. Students in years 7 to 10 have moved to next year's yards. Students in current years 7 and 9 are now on the front yard at break and lunchtime, and students in years 8 and 10 are now on the back yard.

It was good to meet so many parents and students for our new entrants' evening on Wednesday this past week. We look forward to welcoming Year 6 students on Monday and Tuesday 1-2 July for their Transition Days. I know that many of our current students are looking forward to the arrival of their brothers and sisters!

Students in Year 10 have been engaged in a Sixth Form Taster Day this week. It was good to see our students able to experience the different atmosphere and opportunity that our sixth form provides, and we hope that they will choose to stay with us. They will be able to explore their interests further in the autumn term, when we have our Sixth Form Open Evening.

Next week, Year 12 students will be on work experience. I have enjoyed hearing from some of them about the workplaces they will visit, and we wish them all well as they find out more about the world of work and possible careers.

Finally, in this transition-focused week, we look forward to seeing our Year 11 students at their Prom tonight, and Year 13 students tomorrow night. I know that an enormous amount of time and patience will have gone into helping these students get ready for a special night. Thank you for your amazing support for your children as they experience this rite of passage.

With all good wishes.

Yours faithfully

Dr Andrew Fowler
Principal

Year 8

We are running a languages workshop for all students in year 8 on Tuesday 16 July. Students will learn about the benefits of learning a language from the owner of La Petite Crêperie, a local business. Students will also have the opportunity to sample one of the delicious French crêpes that will be made fresh during the event.

Students have previously been given letters and a ParentPay account, 'Crepe24', has been set up for the small fee to cover the cost of the workshop. Bursaries are available for the event and more information is available on the letter.

Please send in any remaining reply slips and payments by no later than Monday 1 July.

Mrs A McDowell
MFL Teacher and Event Coordinator



Year 9

A number of our year 9 students participated in a problem solving session, hosted by The School of Mathematics, Statistics and Physics.

The aim of these session is to enhance a students' ability to tackle problems and to analyse what makes a good solution. The students worked in groups, developing their team work skills as well as their mathematical skills.

The session took place in the Herschel Building, which is on the University of Newcastle campus, and was a great opportunity to see the fantastic facilities at one of our local universities.

The students were a credit to the school and worked really hard during the session.

Mrs D Jackson
Subject Leader – Mathematics



Year 6 – Transition Days

A reminder for parents and carers of year 6 students joining us in September, that the Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy transition days take place next week on **Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 July 2024**.

Students will participate in two days of activities, which will provide your child with an authentic taste of life at Lord Lawson, in preparation for their start with us on 4 September 2024.

We are looking forward to welcoming your children on 1 and 2 July and are excited to have this opportunity to help them to feel as though they are part of the Lord Lawson community before they join us in September.

Mrs A Jacobson
Year 7 Leader
And Transition Coordinator

Mrs K Coates
Year 7 Deputy Leader



Starting Secondary School



Online Safety Newsletter

July 2024

Roulette style video /chat apps

Chat roulette style apps work by pairing people together anonymously to chat (and video chat) to each other. **Due to the anonymous nature of these apps, we would always recommend that they are not suitable for under 18s.**

There is often a lot of inappropriate content and behaviour on these apps and your child is at risk of grooming as a stranger may try to connect with your child initially on an anonymous app and then encourage them to continue chatting on another app.

It is also important that your child is aware that what they say and do whilst video chatting can be recorded and shared later without their knowledge.

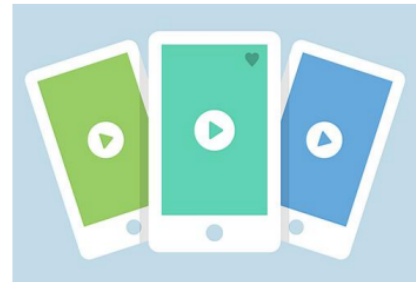
You should talk to your child about who they chat with and what they are sharing when they do. As with all apps and websites that your child accesses, make sure they know how to use any reporting tools and they know how to block other users if necessary.

The NSPCC discuss chat apps in general as well as how to talk to your child about what they are sharing with others online here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>

CapCut

Have you heard of CapCut? It is owned by the same owners as TikTok and is a video editing app. CapCut state that their services are intended for those over the age of 13 and those under the age of 18 must have consent from their parent/legal guardian. It is rated as 12+ on the App store. The App store have rated it as this because of *Infrequent/Mild Mature/Suggestive Themes, Infrequent/Mild Sexual Content and Nudity.*



What can I do on CapCut?

CapCut is used as a video and image editing tool allowing users to edit their videos/images as well as add music, sound effects, text and stickers.

What should I be aware of?

- The templates are user generated, therefore they may not always be appropriate for your child to view, for example adult themes.
- CapCut includes access to a library of music that can be used within videos that may include explicit lyrics.
- Premium content – CapCut does include in-app purchases/monthly subscriptions allowing users access to premium content.

Further information

Protect Young Eyes have published a full review of CapCut here: <https://protectyouneyes.com/apps/capcut-app-review/>

Harmful Online Challenges

Lisa Kenevan and Hollie Dance both lost their sons to dangerous online challenges. They share their advice and tips with Internet Matters to help protect children from harmful online challenges. Internet Matters have also included links to further resources regarding online challenges at the below link:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/parent-stories/tips-protect-children-harmful-online-challenges/>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into.
Current as of the date released 01.07.24.

Being unkind online

It can be very easy online for children to behave in a way that they would not if they were face to face with each other.

Talk to your child about how they speak to others online and encourage them to talk to people online with respect and kindness, like they would if they were face-to-face. How they act online should be how they behave on the school playground when they are following school rules. Here are some examples of what being unkind looks like online:



- Sending nasty or hurtful messages
- Leaving unkind comments
- Sharing photographs of somebody else without their permission
- Excluding somebody on purpose
- Impersonating somebody with a fake account
- Telling/sharing lies

The above might happen whilst your child is gaming online or whilst using social media or messaging apps for example.

What should I do if my child is being bullied online?

Ensure that your child understands that if they receive unkind messages or see something that worries them, they should not reply or engage in conversation with the perpetrator. Instead, they should tell a trusted adult. You can use the tools within an app to report any offensive or hurtful content as well as block people so they cannot contact them again in the future.



Starting a conversation with your child

BBC Own It have curated a selection of videos and quizzes with ideas and advice to help make the web a kinder place. You could use these to help you start a conversation with your child.

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit/curations/being-kind-online>

Further information

- <https://bulliesout.com/need-support/be-kind-online/>
- <https://bekindonline.com/category/cyber-safety-tips/>

Summertime Screen Time



The Ineqe Safeguarding Group have published information on their website to help you manage your child's screentime during the summer break. Their website includes top tips for managing screen time, activities and guides to popular apps:

<https://ineqe.com/2024/06/20/summer-time-screen-time-2024/>

Sharing Nudes – Think Before You Share

Think Before You Share is a campaign from the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF). The campaign provides you with advice on why children are sharing images, how to talk to your child about it and how to help your child should they share an image. They also provide advice for teenagers.

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/about-us/our-campaigns/think-before-you-share/>

Accessibility features

There are many accessibility features available on iPhone and Android phones to support those with vision, speech and cognitive needs for example. You can find out more here:

iPhone: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/iphone/iph3e2e4367/ios>

Android: <https://support.google.com/accessibility/android/answer/6006564?hl=en-GB>

Parent Peer Support Group Anxiety/Fear Ladder Workshop

RISE Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) work in schools and colleges across Newcastle and Gateshead to support young people (aged 5-18) with their emotional wellbeing and mental health.

Ravensworth Terrace Primary School
Thursday 27th June 2024 3.30pm - 5.00 pm

Future Dates:

- 31st July 10am - 11am
- 7th August 10am-11am
- 14th August 10am-11am

Mrs Roe will recap confidentiality and a safe space at the beginning of each session.

Useful Links;

[RISE Website](#)

[RISE You Tube Videos](#)

[Sleep Videos](#)

The workshop will focus on:

- What is Anxiety
- Understanding how the brain works
- Signs and symptoms of Anxiety
- Helping your child to challenge their thoughts

Childcare will be provided by the school on these dates

For more information about RISE please visit our website, You Tube channel and social media platforms:



@rise.ne



@rise_mhst



www.youtube.com/@rise-ne



<https://rise.childrensociety.org.uk/>

Attendance Incentive

On Monday 13 May, we launched to students our attendance incentive for the end of the summer term. All students who meet the entry requirements will enjoy a 'Fun Day' during the last week of term, the day and date of which will be confirmed later, but I can confirm it will not be the last Friday of the summer term i.e. 19 July 2024.

Student attendance will be reviewed for an 8-week period, from Monday 13 May 2024 to Friday 12 July 2024.

The criteria for students to qualify for this incentive and reward is based on a 3-tier system, details of which can be found below.

- **Tier 1** : achieve 100% attendance and receive no C Codes
- **Tier 2** : achieve over 96% attendance and receive no more than 8 negative points
- **Tier 3** : Demonstrate a significant improvement in attendance and behaviour (a member of the school Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will take this decision)

Spot prizes will be issued throughout the 8-week incentive. Any student who does not meet the qualifying criteria will attend lessons on the day as normal.

Key points for students to remember are:

- **Their attendance for the incentive is measured between 13 May and 12 July**
- **Student behaviour points are measured between 13 May and 12 July**

This provides students who may have accumulated negative behaviour points or have had low attendance before 13 May, to have a 'fresh start' and begin the incentive review period from a '0' negative start.

- **Students achieving Tier 1** – will have automatic entry to the 'fun day'
- **Students achieving Tier 2 or Tier 3** – their entry will be dependent on spaces available
- **Students achieving Tier 3** – their entry is also based on the decision of a member of SLT

We have also given our students the opportunity to provide us with suggestions and ideas for some of the activities they may wish to be included on their day, such as:

- Inflatables
- Ice Cream Van
- BBQ
- Sporting activities
- Burger van
- DJ
- Sweet stall
- Silent Disco

Any suggestions or ideas students have should be passed to their tutor representatives, tutor, or any member of their year team.

Please discuss these incentives and the qualifying criteria with your child and help them to be part of what will be a fantastic and 'fun' day!

Mr I Cooper
Deputy Principal

Upcoming School Events for the Summer Term

At the beginning of every term, we publish a list of upcoming school events in this bulletin. Some events, such as Parents' Evenings, will also be communicated separately via email or ClassCharts. Please ensure you look out for these. The events for the Summer Term are:

Date	Event
Friday 28 June:	Year 11 Prom.
Saturday 29 June:	Year 13 Prom.
Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 July:	Year 6 Transition Days – for pupils who will be joining us in September 2024.
Monday 1 to Friday 5 July:	Year 12 Work Experience Week.
Wednesday 3 July:	Year 11 into year 12 Transition Day.
Monday 8 to Wednesday 10 July:	Year 12 – Life After Lord Lawson.
Monday 8 July:	Year 7 Awards Evening, 5.30 – 6.30pm.
Tuesday 9 July:	Year 8 Awards Evening, 5.30 – 6.30pm.
Wednesday 10 July:	Year 9 Awards Evening, 5.30 – 6.30pm.
Thursday 11 July:	Year 10 Awards Evening, 5.30 – 6.30pm.
Wednesday 17 July:	Sports Day – All students.
Thursday 18 July:	Attendance Rewards Day
Friday 19 July:	Last Day of Term for Staff and Students.
Thursday 15 August:	KS5 (A Level) Results Day.
Thursday 22 August:	KS4 (GCSE) Results Day.