



November 2023

Newsletter 5 – 10.11.23

SECTION 1: ATTENDANCE

HEALTHIER TOGETHER

We have been asked to promote the Healthier Together website (<https://www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk>) which provides accurate and trusted healthcare advice for parents/carers, young people and professionals in the North East and North Cumbria. You can find parental advice on illnesses, allergies, vaccines, child development as well as many other topics. You can also download the Healthier Together app.

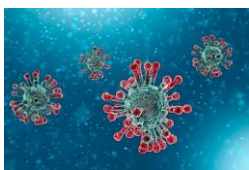


The Healthier Together website also includes the Little Orange Book which provides advice for babies and children when they are poorly.

ILLNESS

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea, it is recommended they remain absent for 48 hours after the last incidence in accordance with the Department of Health's guidelines. In any other circumstance, please continue to advise school on a daily basis of the reason for continued absence. The Little Orange Book is on our website to support parents to make informed decisions about keeping children off school if they are unwell.

<https://nenc-northtyneside.icb.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Little-Orange-Book-NT-version-v2.pdf>



COVID

Government guidance no longer advises that we test for covid, even if we are symptomatic. In line with the latest guidance on school attendance, we would expect children to come to school with general cold symptoms such as a mild cough, runny nose or sore throat but children should not come to school with a temperature of 38 degrees or above. Further guidance can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/covid-19-symptoms-and-what-to-do/>

WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

- Good attendance at school is essential for children to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing and wider life chances.
- Nurseries and First Schools play a vital role in embedding good attendance habits.
- Even at First School, children with the highest attainment have higher rates of attendance.
- National data shows us that children not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7% (so their overall attendance was 95.3%).
- The overall absence rate of children not meeting the expected standard was higher than among those meeting the higher standard (4.7% compared to 2.7%).

- For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for needs to be identified and support provided.
- Research has shown there are clear links between regular absence from school and harm for children (90% of young offenders have been persistently absent as young children) and serious violence (83% of knife possession offenders had been persistently absent for at least one year).



Improving school attendance is everyone's business. Please support us in promoting the benefits of good attendance with your child - not only for their education but, also, to support their wellbeing and future life chances. Thank you.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

| | Whole School Attendance (excluding Nursery) | Highest class attendance! | Second place | Third place |
|-------------|--|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Wb 23.10.23 | 95% | Year 4 (97%) | Year 3 (96.7%) | Nursery (95%) |
| Wb 6.11.23 | 93% | Year 3 (96%) | Year 4 (95%) | Nursery (94%) |

Our school target for attendance is 97%.



Please let Mrs Coates know, via ParentMail, if your child will be absent by 9:00am at the latest. Thank you.

If your child is not in school when the register closes at 9.15am (even if this is for a medical or dental appointment), they are marked as absent for the whole morning session. Therefore, we would encourage parents to make medical appointments outside school time, wherever possible please. Thank you.

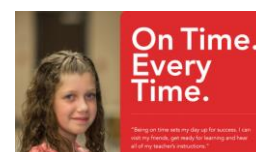
If you are experiencing any difficulties and need support with your child's attendance, please contact school as soon as possible. Mrs Gurkin can visit you at home or meet you in school to offer support and advice.

We will now be taking appropriate legal action for children who are deemed persistent absentees (under 90% attendance). Please see the attendance policy on our school website for further information.



MINUTES MISSED

During this fortnight, 140 (2 hours and 20 minutes) minutes of learning time have been missed in school due to lateness. Please try to arrive on time at school, between 8:35am – 8:45am. Thank you.



PUPIL ABSENCES

| | Whole School absence (excluding Nursery) | Absence caused by holidays | Other absences |
|-------------|---|----------------------------|----------------|
| Wb 23.10.23 | 5% | 2% | 3% |
| Wb 6.11.23 | 7% | 5% | 2% |

As you know, there is no entitlement in law to time off in term time. Children who are absent from school fall behind in their learning, they miss out on school events and many find it difficult to catch up. In addition, school staff have to divert their attention away from other children in order to support those that have fallen behind due to a holiday related absence.

For this reason, any request for leave of absence due to holidays in term time will not be authorised. In the case of all unauthorised leave of absences, incurring 8 or more unauthorised sessions (4 days), an application for a Fixed Penalty Notice will be made to the Local Authority.

SECTION 2: SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS!



SCHOOL VALUES

As you know, our school values are love and determination, based on the Bible passage: Be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love (1 Corinthians 16:13-14). The following children have been nominated by staff and/or peers for showing these values in school. Well done everyone!



| | Nursery | Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Demonstrating Love | Christopher Jacob | Penny Evie | Felix Fatima | Eva Thanuja | Theo Livie | Charlie Layla J |
| Demonstrating Determination | Grace Gabby | Ada Zephy | Logan Felix | Mia Harmony | Lucas Evelyn | Yusuf Jake |

TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS

By the end of Year 4 children are expected to know all their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 and Year 4 children undertake their statutory Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term.



The following children have either earned a new TTRS title or engaged highly with TTRS during the last fortnight. Well done everyone!

| | Children Need to Learn | Highest accuracy this fortnight | Highest engagement this fortnight | Average Daily Minutes |
|---------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Year 2 | x 2, x 5, x 10 (and corresponding division facts) | Thanuja, Elvis, Henry, Eva | Rio, Harmony, Max Cr, Thanuja | 8 |
| Year 3 | x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8 (and corresponding division facts) | Jacob D, Livie, Lydia, Percy | Jacob C, Jerome, Evelyn, Thomas | 9 |
| Year 4 | All tables to 12 x 12 (and corresponding division facts) | Karlo, Alfie, Yaz, Zain | Karlo, Alfie, Zain, Yaz | 8 |

| | | | |
|---|----|--|-----|
| Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools | 12 | Mean studio speed (seconds per question) | 4.2 |
|---|----|--|-----|

HANDWRITING HEROES

As a school, we continue to have a real drive in school to improve handwriting, presentation of work and spelling. Each week, class teachers will choose someone who has worked hard to improve their presentation or who consistently demonstrates exemplary standards of presentation. Well done and thank you to the following children:



| Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|-------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Sami Ada | Rohan Alistair | Rory Henry | Nialah Georgie | Aleeza Emilia |

SECTION 3: SOCIAL ACTION

SCHOOL COUNCIL

In our School Council meeting this week, we discussed how we can make the area around our school a safer and more environmentally friendly place. We shared our concerns of how dangerous the traffic on Christon Road can be. Therefore, our action plan is to encourage the public to walk, cycle or use public transportation to ensure the safety of our pupils and local residents is paramount. Over the coming weeks we will be designing posters to promote the importance of staying safe in the dark, driving at the speed limit and using public transport to reduce the number of cars on the road resulting in less contribution to pollution.



CHARITABLE GIVING

Year 4 children have been selling poppies and poppy merchandise this week. Thank you to everyone who has contributed.



Next Friday, children are invited to come to school wearing something spotty for Children in Need. Donations can be made via ParentMail. Thank you.

SECTION 4: SCHOOL NEWS!



PTFA

Our PTFA have organised a Film Night for each class on Wednesday 6th December. Each class will watch a film in their classroom. There will be no After School Club running on this date (but we can hold on to children until 5:15pm for those children who would usually be at After School Club).

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Nursery | Mickey's Once upon a Christmas |
| Reception | Polar Express |
| Year 1 | Beauty and the Beast Christmas Film |
| Year 2 | Santa Paws (U) |
| Year 3 | The Santa Claus |
| Year 4 | Arthur Christmas |

Film night will run straight after school (3:15pm) until 5:00pm. Children should be collected from usual classroom doors. They will each be given popcorn, sweets and a biscuit. Children will need to bring their own water bottle please.



CHURCH LINKS

Thank you to all the families who entered the All Saints' Christmas card competition.



Year 4 have been invited to create an angel to display in All Saints' Church for the festival of angels. These can be viewed in church from Saturday 9th December.



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In worship this week, we have thought about how we reflect our school values through our behaviour. This may be through the way we behave in classrooms, on the playground, in corridors or through our attitude towards our work or recycling waste. The children have been really thoughtful, as always, and articulated the importance of our school values beautifully to Father Paul when he visited on Wednesday.



ALL STARS

We are hoping to re-start All Stars next term. All Stars is a lunchtime club, run by parents and carers, linked to Bible teaching. It will involve listening to stories, singing songs, a short prayer and lots of fun activities! If your child is interested in attending, please contact Susan (Mum of Jake in Year 4) via e-mail.

Additionally, if any parents/carers are able to support the club, your help would be greatly appreciated! Please contact Susan directly to express your interest.

Susan can be contacted via email at susan_abraham@hotmail.co.uk. Thank you!



SOCIAL MEDIA

Please be reminded that it is not appropriate to talk about other people's children on WhatsApp, Facebook or other social media sites. If you have concerns regarding the behaviour of a child, you are advised to contact the school directly, please. This will enable us to undertake an investigation and support children to resolve any issues.

We will, of course, keep parents and carers informed as necessary. Many thanks for your ongoing support and understanding.



CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Education World have invited children from ARFS to design a Christmas card. The winning design will be used by Education World and the child will win a pair of hospitality tickets for NUFC vs Fulham on 16th December. Please see attached flier for more info.

DONATIONS

Mrs Francis and Mrs Egdell are looking for all in one waterproofs for children to wear during outdoor play in sizes 3 – 4, 4 – 5 and 5 – 6 years please. This will enable children to access their outdoor classrooms in all weathers. These can be given to Mrs Francis or Mrs Egdell or Mrs Coates in the office. Thank you!



BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL



ClassDojo

As I am sure your child will have told you, this week we have introduced ClassDojo in Years 1 – 4. Children can earn Dojo points for acts of love and determination as well as demonstrating a good attitude towards their work, behaviour in school or if the whole class has 100% attendance.

Parents and carers of children in Years 1 – 4 have, this week, been sent a link via email to sign up to ClassDojo and see how their child(ren) is/are getting on. Please note that the messaging option in Class Dojo will be disabled but parents and carers can continue to contact staff via the usual channels (email/phone).

Already this week, we have had so much to celebrate across our school – so many wonderful acts of kindness and hard work. ClassDojo will give us an opportunity to recognise and celebrate our wonderful children and, importantly, share their successes with you.

If you have any issues signing up, please speak to Mrs Coates who will be happy to help. Children in Nursery and Reception will continue to use Tapestry.



HALAL MENU

From January 2024, Miss Cooper will be serving an additional halal option, in addition to the usual school lunch menu, for children who have informed us of this dietary requirement. If you would like your child(ren) to be served the halal option, please let Mrs Coates know as soon as possible. Thank you.



PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to the parent questionnaire. Most of the responses were multiple choice (see results below) but we will follow up any comments that require action within the text boxes. We really appreciate your feedback. Thank you!

| | |
|--|---|
| 1. My child is happy at this school | 95% agree or strongly agree. |
| 2. My child feels safe at this school. | 99% agree or strongly agree. |
| 3. The school makes sure it's pupils are well behaved. | 85% agree or strongly agree. |
| 4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively. | 72% said their child had not been bullied. 20% agree or strongly agree. |
| 5. The school makes me aware of what my child will be learning throughout the year. | 98% agree or strongly agree. |
| 6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly. | 30% of parents/carers had not raised a concern. 63% agree or strongly agree. |
| 8. The school has high expectations for my child. | 85% agree or strongly agree. |
| 9. My child does well at this school. | 98% agree or strongly agree. |
| 10. The school lets me know how my child is doing. | 90% agree or strongly agree. |
| 11. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school. | 92% agree or strongly agree. |
| 12. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school. | 84% agree or strongly agree. |
| 13. The school supports my child's wider personal development. | 90% agree or strongly agree. |
| 14. I would recommend this school to another parent. | 93% would recommend the school. |
| 16. Transition to my child's new class has been supported well. | 98% agree or strongly agree. |
| Strengths of the school: | There were lot of comments linked to the ethos, values, community feel, special events, staff, support for SEND, curriculum and the small size of the school. Thank you! |
| Areas to develop further: | There were comments related to faith, bike storage, increasing the range of clubs and recent staffing changes. We will consider all the feedback and look at how we can act on this, where possible. Thank you! |



RECOGNISING TALENTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

As a staff team, we have agreed to celebrate our children's personal achievement and talents outside school in a more formal way. This half term, we will be inviting children to bring in any certificates, trophies, medals or badges that they have earned in activities outside school to show during the final Celebration Worship of each half term. This will be Thursday 21st December this term and future dates will be added to the calendar below in due course.

PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

A reminder that children should not bring football cards, Pokémon cards, sticker books, squishmellows or any other personal possessions from home to school please. Thank you.



WRAPAROUND BOOKINGS

Bookings for Wraparound Care are now managed by Child Care Bookings for Schools. This will make managing and making bookings far easier for parents and carers. You can still pay using either a debit/credit card or using childcare vouchers.

The URL to access the booking system is <https://archbishop-runcie.cbfs.uk/>
 Contact email address: archbishopruncie@childcarebookingsforschools.co.uk
 Contact phone number: 01444 52333



SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey, Mrs Ravel, Mrs Crozier and Mrs Francis are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL). Miss Wakefield is DSL for Wraparound care. If you have concerns about a child, please contact one of us. If it is an emergency and a child is in immediate danger, please call the police. Members of the public can also report concerns to Children's Social Care directly. If you have a concern about a child please contact one of the following:

- Initial Response Service – 0191 277 2500
- Northumbria Police – 101 (in an emergency always dial 999)
- NSPCC Helpline – 0808 800 5000



There is also a secure online referral form available for you to explain your concern, if you are a member of the public. <https://nccportal.newcastle.gov.uk/forms/referral/public>

For more information, you can read our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy on our school website.

With my very best wishes,

Kate Massey

Headteacher

Be courageous; be strong.

Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14



DIARY DATES

New dates are in red, for your information

| November 2023 | | | |
|--|---|-------------|--|
| Monday 13 th November | Odd Socks Day | | Children invited to wear odd socks for school and usual uniform. Children in Years 1 – 4 will take part in workshops today. |
| | Year 2 leading Anti-bullying Collective Worship | 9:00am | Parents and carers welcome to attend |
| | Year 2 Forest School | pm | Children need to wear usual school uniform and bring joggers and bring named wellies to change into please. |
| | Anti-bullying Parent Workshop | 5:30-6:30pm | Please book places via ParentMail. |
| Tuesday 14 th November & | Parent Teacher Consultations | 2:00-5:30pm | Bookings can be made on ParentMail from 6:00pm on Tuesday 24 th October. |

| | | | |
|--|---|---------------|--|
| Wed 15 th November | | | |
| Thursday 16 th November | Year 4 visit to Hindu Temple | am | Please see ParentMail for more info |
| Friday 17 th November | Children in Need | | Children invited to wear something spotty to school. Donations can be made via ParentMail. (Relevant classes to wear clothing/footwear suitable for PE). |
| | Year 1 leading CIN Worship | 9:00am | Parents and carers welcome to attend. |
| Monday 20 th November | Year 1 Forest School | pm | Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please. |
| Wednesday 22 nd November | Year 2 PANTS workshop | pm | This workshop is to help understand that some parts of our bodies are private as forms part of our PSHE curriculum. |
| Friday 24 th November | Outreach from Durham University linked to Ancient Greece for Year 4 | All day | |
| Monday 27 th November | Advent Worship led by Year 3 | 9:00am | Parents and carers welcome to attend |
| | Reception Forest School | pm | Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please. |
| Thursday 30 th November | Carbon Monoxide workshops for Years 2 & 3 | | |
| | PTFA Disco | | More info to follow from PTFA |
| December 2023 | | | |
| Friday 1 st December | Children invited to wear something festive to school | | Please send PTFA tombola prizes into school |
| | Years 1 – 4 having PE sessions | | Please wear PE kit (and a Christmas jumper!) |
| Saturday 2 nd December | Family Fun Day at St Nicholas' Church (in the church hall) | 2:00pm-7:00pm | More info to follow |
| Monday 4 th December | Nursery Forest School | | Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please. |
| | Flu vaccinations in school | TBC | |
| Wednesday 6 th December | PTFA Film Night | 3:15pm | More info to follow from PTFA. No After School Club running tonight. Please collect children from classrooms as usual. |
| Friday 8 th December | Children invited to wear something festive to school | | Donations to Save the Children can be made via ParentMail. Relevant classes to wear clothing/footwear suitable for PE, please. |
| Tuesday 12 th December | Year 3 visit to Durham University | | Please see ParentMail for more info |
| Wednesday 13 th December | Nursery & Rec Nativity | 9:30am | More info to follow |
| | Year 1 & 2 Nativity | 1:30pm | More info to follow |
| | Year 3 & 4 Nativity | 5:00pm | More info to follow |
| Thursday 14 th December | Year 3 & 4 Nativity | 9:30am | More info to follow |
| | Nursery & Rec Nativity | 1:30pm | More info to follow |
| | Year 1 & 2 Nativity | 5:00pm | More info to follow |
| Friday 15 th December | Year 1 & 2 Nativity | 9:30am | More info to follow |
| | Year 3 & 4 Nativity | 1:30pm | More info to follow |
| | Children invited to wear something festive | | No cost. Relevant classes to wear clothing/footwear suitable for PE, please. |
| Sunday 17 th | Choir performing at St | TBC | ParentMail to follow |

| | | | |
|---|--|---------------|---|
| December | Thomas' Church | | |
| Tuesday 19 th December | Year 1 & 2 visit to St Nicholas' Church | am | More info to follow via ParentMail |
| | Year 1 & 2 Christmas Crafts | pm | More info to follow |
| | Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party | pm | More info to follow |
| Wednesday 20 th December | Year 3 & Year 4 Tyne Theatre | 10:00am | Please pay via ParentMail |
| | Year 1 & 2 Christmas Party | pm | More info to follow |
| Thursday 21 st December | Year 1 & Year 2 Tyne Theatre | 10:00am | Please pay via ParentMail |
| | Year 3 & 4 Christmas Crafts | pm | More info to follow |
| | Nursery & Reception Christmas Party | pm | More info to follow |
| | Celebrating Talents & Achievements | | Children invited to bring meals, certificates or badges from out of school activities. |
| | Class attendance reward | | More info to follow |
| Friday 22 nd December | Year 1 – 4 Carol Service at St Nicholas' (South Gosforth) | 1:30pm | More info to follow |
| | Children invited to wear something festive to school! | | No cost. Relevant classes to wear clothing/footwear suitable for PE, please. |
| 22.12.23 – 5.1.24 | Christmas Holiday | | More info to follow |
| January 2024 | | | |
| Thursday 11th January | Year 2 leading Collective Worship | 9:00am | Parents/carers welcome to attend |
| February 2024 | | | |
| Friday 2 nd February | Year 3 leading Candlemas worship | 9:00am | Parents/carers welcome to attend |
| 19.2.24 – 23.2.24 | February Half Term | | School closed to children |
| Tuesday 13 th February | Year 4 Leading Shrove Tuesday Collective Worship | 9:00am | Parents/carers welcome to attend |
| Wednesday 14 th February | Year 1 Leading Collective Worship | 9:00am | Parents/carers welcome to attend |
| Thursday 15 th February | Year 3 leading Ash Wednesday Collective Worship | 9:00am | Parents/carers welcome to attend |
| March 2024 | | | |
| Friday 8 th March | Year 1 & Year 2 Mothering Sunday Service | 9:00am | Parents/carers welcome to attend. |
| | Year 3 & Year 4 Mothering Sunday Service | 2:45pm | Parents/carers welcome to attend. |
| Thursday 14 th March | Healthy Active Lifestyle opportunity for Year 1 & Year 2 (Multiskills) | am | Children should arrive at school in PE kit please. |
| Tuesday 19 th March | Year 3 visit to Cragside | | More info to follow |
| Wednesday 20 th March | Year 2 visit to Newcastle Castle | | More info to follow |
| Tuesday 26 th March | Year 1 visit to St Mary's Lighthouse | | More info to follow |
| Thursday 28 th March | Easter Service at All Saints' Church | 1:45pm | Parents and carers invited to attend |
| 29.3.24 – | Easter Holiday | | School closed to children |

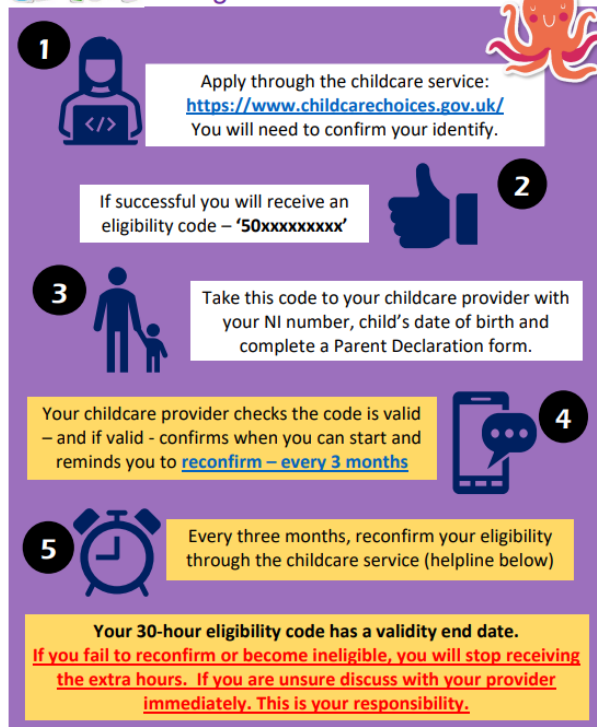
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|---|---|--------|--|
| 12.4.24 | | | |
| April 2024 | | | |
| Monday 22 nd April | Year 1 leading Collective Worship | 9:00am | Parents and carers welcome to attend |
| May 2024 | | | |
| Thursday 9 th May | Year 4 leading Ascension worship | 9:00am | Parents/carers welcome to attend |
| Monday 13 th May | Year 1 leading Christian Aid Collective Worship | 9:00am | Parents and carers welcome to attend |
| | Healthy Active Lifestyle opportunity for Nursery & Reception children | am | Children will wear PE kits already in school |
| Tuesday 14 th May | No Outsiders demo lessons, open lesson and staff training. | | More info to follow |
| Friday 17 th May | Pentecost Service at St Nicholas' Church (led by Year 3) | 1:30pm | Parents and carers invited to attend. |
| Friday 24 th May | Year 4 leading Trinity worship | 9:00am | Parents/carers welcome to attend |
| 27.5.24 – 31.5.24 | May Half Term | | School closed to children |
| Thursday 16 th May | Year 4 Residential at Dukeshouse Wood | | More info to follow |
| June 2024 | | | |
| Monday 3 rd June 2024 | Staff training day | | School closed to children |
| Thursday 27 th June | Year 3 sleepover at school | | More info to follow |
| July 2024 | | | |
| Tuesday 2 nd July | Year 2 visit to Grace Darling Museum | | More info to follow |
| Thursday 11 th July | Music Concert at All Saints' Church | | More info to follow |
| 22.7.24 – 30.8.24 | Summer Holidays | | School closed to children |
| September 2024 | | | |
| Tuesday 3 rd September 2024 | School re-opens to children | | |


Be courageous; be strong.


Do everything in love.


1 Corinthians 16:13-14


Childcare Applying for 30 hours free childcare
Choices through the childcare service




1  Apply through the childcare service:
<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>
You will need to confirm your identity.

2  If successful you will receive an eligibility code – '50xxxxxxxx'

3  Take this code to your childcare provider with your NI number, child's date of birth and complete a Parent Declaration form.

4  Your childcare provider checks the code is valid – and if valid - confirms when you can start and reminds you to [reconfirm – every 3 months](#)

5  Every three months, reconfirm your eligibility through the childcare service (helpline below)

Your 30-hour eligibility code has a validity end date.
If you fail to reconfirm or become ineligible, you will stop receiving the extra hours. If you are unsure discuss with your provider immediately. This is your responsibility.

For support call Customer Interaction
Centre on **0300 123 4097**

Newcastle
City Council 