

July 2025

Newsletter 19 - 4.7.25

SECTION 1: ATTENDANCE

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 attendance have higher rates of attainment.
- National data shows us that children not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths.
- For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for children's needs to be identified and support provided. Research has shown there are clear links between regular absence from school and harm to children.

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.

WFFKI Y ATTENDANCE

WEERLI ATTENDANCE					
	Whole School Attendance	Highest class attendance!	Second place	Third place	
	(excluding Nursery)				
Wb 23.6.25	96%	Year 1 (99%)	Year 3 (98%)	Reception (97%)	
Wb 30.6.25	96%	Year 4 (100%) 👃	Year 2 (97%)	Year 3 (96%)	

Did you know ...?

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- · 95% attendance = two weeks absence
- · 90% attendance = 4 weeks absence
- · 85% attendance = 6 weeks absence
- · 80% attendance = more than half a term of absence
- · 75% attendance = more than 9 weeks of absence

Please remember that I am unable to authorise absences during term time for family holidays. We would be grateful if

parents/carers could also inform grandparents, family and friends, who may be looking to book birthday or Christmas trips away, that these do not fall under exceptional circumstances and will not be authorised.

If you need any support regarding attendance, please do not hesitate to come and speak to us as we can help you access support from the school nurse, attendance officer or other appropriate services.

We recognise that children may sometimes have a legitimate reason to be absent from school, and we are also aware that some families face difficulties which may impact on their child's education, therefore, the traffic light system has been put in place to support families by highlighting concerns at an early stage.



We hope that you will continue to support our school by promoting school attendance and by informing us if you feel there are any issues that are preventing your child from attending school regularly.

If you would like to discuss this further, please get in touch (grant.short@clennelleducationsolutions.org).



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MINUTES MISSED

During this fortnight, 2 hours 5 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. Our first lesson of the day is reading so children arriving late miss vital learning.

For children who arrive late, more than once in a week, we run a Friday lunchtime catch-up session with class teachers.

PUPIL ABSENCES

	Whole School absence (excluding Nursery)	Absence caused by holidays	Other absences
Wb 23.6.25	4%	1.5%	2.5%
Wb 30.6.25	4%	1%	3%

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	Staff
Demonstrating Love	Muhamm ad Haris	Izzy Aima	Masa Urwah	Ruby Maliha	Hannah Indi	Nialah James	Miss Cairns Mrs Nelms Mrs Norman
Demonstrating Determination	Amayah Sara	Josiah Torin	Penny Rudi	Isla Scarlett	Sienna Max Co	James Harry	Mrs Lowe Mrs Crozier

TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS

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



	Children Need to Learn	Highest engagement this fortnight	Highest accuracy this fortnight
Year 1	x 2, x 5, x 10 (and	Yashika	Yashika
	corresponding division facts)	Ani	Ani
		Nyah	Aaidah
Year 2	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3 (and	Musa	Mika
	corresponding division facts)	Mika	Musa
		Sacha	Sacha
Year 3	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8,	Elvis	Henry
	x 6 (and corresponding	Henry	Nuh
	division facts)	Nuh	Elvis
Year 4	All tables to 12 x 12 (and	Jacob	Jacob
	corresponding division facts)	Theo	Theo
		Percy	Percy

Current rank of ARFS among nearby	4	Mean studio speed (seconds per question)	2.6
schools			

HANDWRITING HEROES

As a school, we continue to have a real drive to improve handwriting, letter formation and presentation of work. 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
Torin	Carter	Melissa	Mabel	Abbie
Phoenix	Zephy	Ava	Henry	Thomas

SECTION 3: SOCIAL ACTION



SCHOOL COUNCIL

During transition we have been busy electing our new School Council. Our current councillors talked to their class about their current role and what they have achieved this year. Watch this space for the names of our new School Council!

LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

Ensuring that our library is organised and tidy, ready for next academic year is no mean feat! Our Library Champions have been checking that all of our books are still fit for purpose, categorised in the correct box and link to our curriculum and interests. Fantastic job Library Champions, we will miss you next year!





PLAY LEADERS

Now that the current Year 4s are beginning their transition to Middle School, they have been helping to train up some of the new Play Leaders ahead of next academic year. We are very proud of the four children who have led so many games this year and supported the staff in maintaining our wonderful play space. Thank you Theo, Harry, Bella and Scarlett!

YOUNG LEADERS

Our Young Leaders have now finished their final topic and Mrs Ellwood has submitted their completed work and is awaiting final certificates. It has been great to see the group consider leadership issues and grow in confidence over the course of the year.





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GREEN TEAM

Green Team have had a busy week! Yesterday, we hosted representative from the Diocesan Education Board to talk to children and staff about our work. This included giving them a tour of the school to showcase our green spaces and talking about what we do to improve our school grounds and the local area. We showed them our wild flower garden and other areas of the school grounds that have been allowed to go 'wild' to encourage biodiversity within our site. Well done Green Team (and special thanks to Rory and Nuh for helping out in the absence of Year 4 reps).

SECTION 4: SCHOOL NEWS!



TRANSITION DAYS

Hopefully your child has come home excited about their visit to their new class (or school) this week. Children have spent 2 days with their new teacher, in their new classroom and trying out their new routines. They all rose spectacularly to the challenge!

Meet the teachers meetings have also taken place as an opportunity for parents and carers to meet new teachers, see the classroom and hear a little bit about what will be happening next year. Thank you to everyone who came along.

REPORTS

Hopefully, you will all have received your child's end of year report from class teachers via email today. If you have any questions about these, there is a 'drop in' on Monday, 3:30-5:00pm, for parents and carers of children in Nursery, Years 2, 3 and 4.



Please note: Year 1 'drop ins' will take place on Tuesday and Reception 'drop ins' will take place on Thursday next week, 3:30-5:00pm.



END OF YEAR PLANS

As we near the end of the school year, we are making plans for our final couple of weeks. Please check the dates at the back of this newsletter.

Please could each child in Reception — Year 4 bring a sturdy, named Baq4Life to school on Monday 14th July.

As we head into the Year 4s final two weeks with us at ARFS, we have been planning a fun-filled day for them on Friday 18th July. After the leavers performance at 9:15am, Year 4 will be completing activities with Mrs Ellwood and Mrs Norman and then enjoying a picnic-style lunch on the field with the rest of the school. Year 4 will end the day with a water fight followed by their final 'guard of honour' exit through the Year 4 door. Please ensure that the children come to school with a change of clothes and shoes to get wet, a school polo shirt for signatures (along with a Sharpie) and a water qun of their choice. Thank you.

BEACH TRIP

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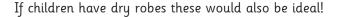
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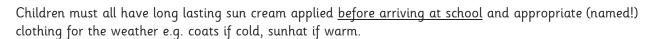
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As part of our end of year celebrations, on Tuesday 15th July, all children in Reception — Year 4 are going to Tynemouth Beach. We will travel on coaches and, once at the beach, spend the day playing and paddling! Please keep your fingers crossed for sunshine!

Children are invited to come to school in swimwear (so that they do not need to change on the beach) covered with a hoodie and shorts. They should each bring a small backpack containing:

- a named towel
- a named change of clothes
- a named packed lunch we can provide these for children who usually have a school lunch (please indicate this on ParentMail).
- a named bucket and spade





All staff will be going to the beach too (along with some regular helpers in school) so children will be well supervised. We will have a designated area in which to play on the sand and, if they wish, children will be able to paddle (to ankle depth) in small groups. We have asked children to arrive already in swimwear (under their clothes) so that they only need to get fully changed at the end of the day. Swimwear dries quicker than clothing so, if children get wet, they will not be uncomfortable.

We will be taking playground equipment and balls from school so children should not bring any additional items, please. Thank you.

STAY AND PLAY



We cannot wait to welcome our Nursery and Reception parents to our final 'Stay & Play' this year Nursery parents and carers are invited to join us from 2:00pm on Tuesday and Reception parents and carers are invited to join us from 2:00pm on Wednesday. The children are very excited to share their play experiences with you.

CAKE SALE

The final cake sake of the school year will be hosted by Nursery on Thursday 10th July. A polite reminder that all ingredients must be displayed in case of allergies, thank you. Please only send cakes and biscuits — not sweets. A reminder that we now only accept card payments. Thank you.





CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

You may have seen on our Facebook page that, this week, we have had electric charging points fitted in the staff carpark. All schools are required to have a Climate Action Plan in place by September 2025 with a vision of being 'Net Zero' by 2030.

'Net zero', or net zero emissions, refers to achieving a balance between the greenhouse gases put into the atmosphere and the amount removed from it. This means reducing greenhouse gas emissions as much as possible and then balancing out any remaining emissions with removal methods like reforestation or carbon capture technologies. Essentially, it's about no longer adding to the total amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.



Climate change will be an ongoing focus of collective worship and of Green Team's work.



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COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Collective Worship has focussed on climate change over the last couple of weeks. We have discussed our school vision of being net zero by 2030, energy use and efficiency as well as aspiring to have green skills and green careers. We will continue to learn about other aspects of this agenda over the last couple of weeks in school.

PHARMACY FIRST

I have attached four documents about the Pharmacy First offer, which has been designed to support health services. Unfortunately, it doesn't seem to be widely known: the pharmacy can prescribe antibiotics for certain conditions and will feed this back into GP services so it's still on a child's medical record. Hopefully the scheme will reduce the need for GP appointments during the school day for pupils and staff, and, it will hopeful be a bit quicker and easier for parents.





UNIFORM UPDATE

A reminder that, from September, only children in Years 3 and 4 should wear the navy PE uniform. Children in Years 1 & 2 will still come to school in PE kit, but this will consist of the usual yellow polo shirt and blue school jumper rather than the navy hoodie along with navy joggers or royal blue shorts. From September 2026, the aim is to have removed the navy hoodie from our

uniform list completely, in order to reduce costs to parents, by only requiring one uniform for the full week.

Additionally, a reminder that children should wear **black school shoes** or trainers. Please do not send children in multi-coloured footwear or sandals/flip-flops. Thank you.

Similarly, for forest school, children will continue to wear yellow polo shirt and blue school jumper rather than the navy hoodie along with navy joggers and bring named wellies in a bag (not to wear all day). Please ensure these are washed after forest school as children often get wet, dirty and smoky at forest school. Thank you.

Please remember that we have a pre-loved uniform library in the main entrance for anyone who would like to buy/swap/borrow items.



JOSEPH & HIS AMAZING TECHNICICOLOUR DREAMCOAT CONCERT - REMINDER

A reminder that Miss Bowers has organised a Music Concert for our school community on 11th July. This will be held at All Saints' Church and everyone is welcome to join us. The children from choir and each class will be performing songs from an abridged version of Joseph so there will be plenty to sing along with! This will be a lovely way to say farewell to our wonderful Miss Bowers so bring along family and friends!

ANDREW CARTWRIGHT FOOTBALL & MULTI SKILLS COACHING - REMINDER

https://andrewcartwrightfc.com/schools-programmes/

From September, on a Monday night, Andrew Cartwright Football Coaching (ACFC) will be offering some fun afterschool sessions for children from Reception through to Year 4. ACFC has a focus on providing engaging and enjoyable sports coaching without any fear of failure. ACFC will be in school next Tuesday to offer some taster sessions.



UNIFORMS

Please note: if you would like your child to attend After School Club *after* this session, don't forget to book them in separately.

To sign up, please visit:

Rec & KS1 Multi Skills - https://goteamup.com/p/7576178-andrew-cartwright-footbal/courses/118755/KS2 Football- https://goteamup.com/p/7576178-andrew-cartwright-footbal/courses/118756/

LEE STERRY FOOTBALL CLUB - YEARS 3 & 4

📤 Lee Sterry Sports Coaching @ Archbishop Runcie First School — Autumn Term Football Club (2025)

Tuesdays for 7 Weeks: 9th September — 21st October 2025 🕒 After School — 3:30pm to 4:30pm

Book your place here: https://ls-sports-coaching.classforkids.io/cms/bookings/register/759



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READING BUDDIES

Could you or a grandparent spare 20 - 30 minutes once or twice a week to help children with reading? We operate a successful reading buddy scheme with parents, grandparents and friends of the school, sharing books with children in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. If you could spare an hour or two a week please contact the school office. You will require DBS clearance through the school - please contact Mrs Coates.

PLAYGROUP

Our pre-school playgroup runs every Wednesday during termtime from 1:30-3:00pm. It is now well established and growing each week, which is fantastic. If there are any members of our school community who would like to be included in a rota for helping at playgroup (setting up, serving refreshments and tidying up etc), please let Mrs Francis know. You will require DBS clearance through the school - please contact Mrs Coates. Thank you.





SCREEN TIME

We have been asked to share some information with parents and carers about screen time, and it's impact on children's speech and language development, in advance of the upcoming summer holidays.

A child's vocabulary at age 2 predicts performance at school entry. This, in turn, predicts their adult mental health, wellbeing & future life chances.



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Chatterbox

Why does it matter?

Screens affect every part of a child's life **Emotional Regulation** Relationships **ADHD** Mental Health Language Social isolation Academic Attainment Physical changes in the brain Self harm **Developmental Delays** Musculoskeletal Eyesight Obesity Sleep Harmful Content **Body Image** Attention Anxiety

Impact on language development:

• Greater screen use is associated with delayed speech and language development

- The earlier screens are introduced, the worse the problems become
- The average 3-year-old's screen time of almost 3 hours a day (instead of the recommended limit of 30 mins per day) means they miss hearing 1,100 adult words, making 840 vocalisations and taking 194 conversational turns a day.

Impact on eyesight:

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- 1 in 5 UK children are now shortsighted.
- Every hour of screentime increases the risk of myopia by 21%
- Children need at least 2 hours a day outside for their eyes to develop normally

Impact on obesity:

There is increasing evidence of a strong association between screentime and childhood obesity:

- Using screens during meals means children do not register when they are full.
- Increased exposure to advertising which promotes unhealthy food.
- Less time or inclination to take part in exercise.
- Reduced sleep duration.

SCREEN TIME LIMITS

based on WHO/NICE recommendations, clinical experience and has been accepted by NHS England Mental Health Leads



Birth - 24 months no screen time unless video chatting with family

'Studies have shown a clear link between excessive screen time and issues such as delayed speech and language development, communication difficulties, reduced concentration spans, poor sleep and mental health problems.'

Mitigating the harm:

- Delay devices for as long as possible
- · Be aware of screen time limits
- Have screen-free areas/days
- · Encourage your child to be active and play outdoors
- · Make time to chat and prioritise play
- Avoid using a device to settle a child when they are upset
- · Avoid using screentime as a punishment or reward
- Avoid screens in the background or at bedtimes



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Long Term Impact of Delayed Language Development



Academic:

Not "School Ready"
Fall behind at School

6 X more likely to be behind in ENGLISH⁶

11 X more likely to be behind in MATHS⁶`



Mental Health:

Emotional and Behavioral Disorders

81% of children with disorders have significant speech and language challenges⁵



Future Life Chances:

Less Secure Employment Increased Offending

Twice as likely to be unemployed⁸

> **60**% of young offenders have language difficulties⁷

SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey, Mrs Francis, Mrs Crozier and Mrs Ellwood are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL). Mr Brown is DSL for Wraparound care. Children are regularly reminded who they can talk to if they are worried about something in school.



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:

If you have a non-emergency concern about a child contact:

- Initial Response Service 0191 277 2500
- Emergency Duty Team 0191 278 7878 (out of hours)
- 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

All concerns that a child or young person is suffering or is at risk of suffering significant harm must be referred directly to the Initial Response Service of Children's Social Care in accordance with the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board Procedures. Please refer to the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Partnership website for safeguarding policies and procedures. For more information, you can read our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy on our school website.

With my very best wishes,

Kate Massey

Headteacher





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DIARY DATES

New dates are in red, for your information

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Monday 7 th July	Year 1 SEND Reviews	From 3:30pm	Relevant parents have been sent booking
			info via ParentMail.
	Drop-in for parents/carers	3:30-5:00pm	No need to book
	wishing to discuss end of		
	year reports (not Year 1 or		
	Reception)		
Tuesday 8 th July	Nursery Stay & Play	2:00pm	No need to book — just come along (only 1
			parent/carer per child, please)
	Andrew Cartwright Football	pm	Children in Reception - Year 3 should come
	taster sessions		to school in their PE kit, please.
	Reception SEND Reviews	From 3:30pm	Relevant parents have been sent booking
			info via ParentMail.
	Year 4 visit to Vindolanda &	All day	See ParentMail for further info.
	Roman Army Museum		
	Drop-in for Year 1	3:30-5:00pm	Year 1 parents/carers only — no need to
	parents/carers wishing to		book
	discuss end of year reports		
Wednesday 9th	Reception Stay & Play	2:00pm	No need to book — just come along (only 1
July			parent/carer per child, please)
	Playgroup	1:30-3:00pm	For pre-school children. £3 per session. All
			welcome.
	Mini Athletics (final session)	3:15 — 4:15pm	For children in Reception to Year 2
	Gosforth Band	3:45 — 4:45pm	Archibald First School
Thursday 10 th	Reception visit to Discovery	All day	See ParentMail for further info.
July	Museum		
	Green Team visit to	12:00 – 2:00	Selected children only (info has been sent to
	Gosforth Central Park		relevant children)
	Joseph rehearsal	pm	
	Rugby Minis (final session)	3:15 - 4:15pm	For children in Reception to Year 2
	Nursery class cake sale	3:15pm	Please could the parents/carers of Nursery
			children send donations of cakes with
			ingredients displayed. Thank you.
			Card payments only, please.
	Drop-in for Reception	3:30-5:00pm	Reception parents/carers only — no need to
	parents/carers wishing to	·	book
	discuss end of year reports		
Friday 11 th July	Years 1 — 4 Music concert	1:45pm	To be held at All Saints' Church – please
			join us
	No "Freeze Friday" today		
Monday 14th	Year 1 Forest School	pm	Children should wear uniform tops with
July			joggers and bring wellies and waterproofs to
			put on later in the day.
	Please can all children in		i i
	Reception — Year 4 bring a		
	named bag4life to school		

Tuesday 15 th July	Reception — Year 4 trip to Tynemouth	All day	More info to follow via ParentMail (not for children in Nursery
Wednesday 16 th July	Nursery 'Beach Day'	All day	This will take place in school. Children should have long lasting suncream applied before school.
	Playgroup	1:30-3:00pm	For pre-school children. £3 per session. All welcome.
Thursday 17 th July	Guitar lessons as usual	After school	
Friday 18 th July	Year 4 Leavers' Service (at school)	9:15am	Parents/carers of children in Year 4 invited to come along. We anticipate this will finish around 10:45am.
	Picnic lunch for all children		Please book via ParentMail if you do not usually have school lunches
	Year 4 water fight	Pm	Children need to bring clothes and shoes to get wet, a water gun and a towel
	PTFA "Freeze Friday"	3:15pm	
Monday 21 st July — Friday 29 th August	Summer holiday	-	School closed to children
September 2025			
Monday 1st	Staff Training Day	School closed to	
September	Stay Training Dag	children	
Tuesday 2 nd	Children back to school	8:35am	
September	Nursery stay and play	0.000	
	sessions for new admits		
Wednesday 3rd	New Nursery children		
September	morning or afternoon sessions		
	Playgroup restarts	1:30-3:00pm	
	RWI Phonics meeting for Year 1 parents and carers	5:00pm	Please sign up via ParentMail
Thursday 4th	RWI Phonics meeting for	5:00pm	Please sign up via ParentMail
September	Reception parents and carers	3.30pm	Trease sight up via Farenti fait
Monday 8 th	New Nursery children start		
September	usual attendance pattern		
September	Launch of walk to school		
TI 1 Oth	programme		Maria Cara Cilian
Thursday 18 th September	Flu immunisations		More info to follow
Friday 19 th September	Nursery parents invited to stay for lunch		More info to follow
Wednesday 24 th September	SEND coffee morning	9:00am	
Friday 26th	MacMillan World's Biggest		Histed by Year 4 but everyone is
September	Coffee Morning		encouraged to attend. Please save the date
October 2025			
Friday 3 rd	Harvest Festival at All	1:45pm	
October	Saints' Church		
Monday 6 th October	SEND Reviews — all year groups		
Monday 20 th & Tuesday 21 st	Parents Evening	From 2:00pm	
October Friday 24 th	Staff training day	All day	School closed to children
October			

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



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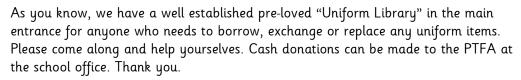
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UNIFORM LIBRARY & EXCHANGE - REMINDER

As we near the end of the school year, I wanted to remind you that donations of outgrown uniform can be made at the school office. Please ensure items are clean and name labels are removed. Thank you!

The clothing industry significantly impacts climate change due to its high greenhouse gas emissions, water consumption and waste generation. It is responsible for a substantial portion of global CO2 emissions and estimated to be responsible for about 20% of global clean water pollution.

Extending the lifespan and recycling uniform can help reduce waste and minimize the environmental impact.







WRAPAROUND BOOKINGS

Bookings for Wraparound Care are 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 523335



NURSERY 30 HOUR PLACES



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

HEALTHIER TOGETHER

The Healthier Together website (https://www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk) 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.



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COMMUNITY HUB NORTH



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Children & Families Newcastle is part of a community network providing activities and services across four localities in the city for babies, children, young people and families. We are part of the North Community Hub. Community hubs link to other buildings in the locality to create a network of venues that offer activities and services.

The community hubs also offer a range of services including — health visiting, family support, community midwifery, mental health support, children's therapies, youth provision, training opportunities, childcare and employability services. To find out what is available near you, telephone your local Community Hub at Fawdon Children's Centre, Cairns Way, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 2SN. Telephone 0191 2115773 Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm. https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/north

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