

June 2025 Newsletter 17 – 6.6.25

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.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

	Whole School Attendance (excluding Nursery)	Highest class attendance!	Second place	Third place
Wb 19.5.25	94%	Year 2 (97%)	Year 3 (95%)	Year 4 (94%)
Wb 2.6.25	90%	Year 3 (97%)	Reception (91%)	Year 4 (90%)

Did you know ...?

- \cdot 95% attendance = two weeks absence
- \cdot 90% attendance = 4 weeks absence
- \cdot 85% attendance = 6 weeks absence
- \cdot 80% attendance = more than half a term of absence
- \cdot 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.



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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).

MINUTES MISSED

During this fortnight, 2 hours 10 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

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	Whole School absence (excluding Nursery)	Absence caused by holidays	Other absences
Wb 18.5.25	6%	2%	4%
Wb 2.6.25	10%	4%	6%

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	Annabelle Yassin	Heidi Charlie	Ada Yashika	Isla Felix	Henry Isaac	Lydia Scarlett Daniel	Mrs Armstrong Mr Hunter
Demonstrating Determination	Harry Otis	Margot Jude	Masa Rosa Eric	Logan Ava	Elli Phoebe	Georgie Razan	Mrs Brown Miss Bowers

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 engaged highly with TTRS in the past fortnight. Well done everyone!







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	Children Need to Learn	Highest engagement this fortnight	Highest accuracy this fortnight
Year 1	x 2, x 5, x 10 (and	Ani	Ani
	corresponding division facts)	Marcel	Carter
		Yashika	Zephy
Year 2	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3 (and	Mika	Mika
	corresponding division facts)	Lyla	Lyla
		Aadriti	Aadriti
Year 3	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8,	Elvis	Thanuja
	x 6 (and corresponding	Harmony	Elvis
	division facts)	Mia	Mia
Year 4	All tables to 12 x 12 (and	Jerome	Theo
	corresponding division facts)	Theo	Jerome
		James	Jacob D

Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools 2 Mean studio speed (seconds pe	er question)	2.5
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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:



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Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Ziyad	Nyah	Rohan	George F	Theo
George	Sami	Henry	Harmony	Rex

SECTION 3: SOCIAL ACTION

WORSHIP COUNCIL

Huge thanks to our wonderful worship council who planned and led our Ascension Day service at All Saints' before half term. They are currently busy planning for our Pentecost service at St Nicholas' this Friday.

As you know, this year, we have moved away from classes leading worship in school throughout the year to worship council leading services at churches for the main liturgical festivals in the year. As we start thinking ahead to next year, we would appreciate your feedback on these events. Please look out for the ParentMail next week. Thank you.

SCHOOL COUNCIL



School council met with MP Catherine McKinnell to tell her all about their campaign to ensure the roads around our school were safe for our school community. They were amazing at explaining their campaign and she was impressed by their dedication to bring about change. The



PLAY LEADERS



During the recent staff inset day, some of our teaching assistants completed an audit of our playground equipment, removing any broken pieces and considering what we would need to order for the upcoming term. Our Play Leaders have been tasked with reminding





YOUNG LEADERS

As we head towards the end of the academic year, in Young Leaders we are starting our final unit - Community Action. This week, the group have been introduced to our last Big Question - 'Does it matter if people say thank you?'. Together, we will consider the community action that ARFS has done this year and complete some action planning for next academic year.





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GREEN TEAM

Green Team have been out and about in the local area over the last couple of weeks. We are also keeping a close eye on our wildflower garden. You may also have noticed that we have left the grass in the staff carpark unmown; this is to encourage biodiversity on our school site.

SECTION 4: SCHOOL NEWS!

PE WEEK

Sports week will take place during week beginning 16th June. Children can wear their PE clothes for school all week. The children will be taking part in different sporting activities throughout the week, including class sports days.

BEACH TRIP

We will be sending out a ParentMail form to parents/carers, next week, seeking volunteers to support Nursery & Reception classes on the upcoming beach trip. For these classes we require a higher ratio of adults: children so we will need plenty of help, please.

STAFFING UPDATE

It is with a heavy heart that I share with you that Miss Bowers and Mrs Palmer will be leaving us in July:

• Miss Bowers' has made the decision to relocate to Scotland with her partner this summer. Miss Bowers joined ARFS as a newly qualified teacher in 2022 and has blossomed in her time at ARFS; taking over the leadership of Music, Art and D&T in school as well as establishing our fabulous choir. She will be a huge miss and will leave big shoes to fill!



- Mrs Palmer has also informed us of her intended return to Alabama next year. She will not be returning to ARFS in September as she will be preparing for the move later in the year. Mrs Palmer has worked at ARFS since 2020, as a support assistant and has touched the lives of many, many children and families during that time. She leads Worship Council and will be a huge loss to our school community.
- A reminder that Mrs Crozier is returning to work on Monday 30th June so we will be saying farewell to Miss Dodds (Year 2 supply teacher) later this term too.

I know you will join me in wishing them all the best of luck for their next steps.





CHILDREN'S CANCER RUN

Huge thank you to all our amazing children and staff who took part in the NECCR. It was great to have our school represented by so many families and friends.

YEAR 4 LEAVERS

Staff from GCMS have now visited school several times to meet our Year 4 children. They observed children learning with Mrs Ellwood and, over the next few weeks, GCMS staff will be leading some lessons. Some of our children have undertaken visits in small groups and fed back to their peers. Mrs Ellwood has met with the head of Year 5 and the SENCo at GCMS to share relevant information about transition.



The SEMH team will be working with a small group of children, in school, in preparation for transition (relevant parents have been informed via email).

SEND reviews for children in our current Year 4 class will take place on Thursday 19th June (please sign up via ParentMail). These will be attended by Mrs Ellwood and the SENCo from GCMS.

Children who are transferring to our feeder middle school, Gosforth Central (GCMS), should come to school as normal, via the KS2 cloakroom door, on both transition days (Wednesday 2nd & Thursday 3rd July) and a member of our staff will walk them to GCMS at 9:00am to begin their transition days. They will be collected at 2:45pm and dismissed, as usual, from ARFS via the Year 4 cloakroom door on both days.

All children in transition years from Church of England Schools in our Diocese are invited to attend the Leavers Service at Newcastle Cathedral on Tuesday 17th June. This will be an opportunity for our children to reflect upon their time at our school and think about their next steps as part of our wider Diocesan family of schools.

Additionally, Year 4 will be holding their Year 4 Leavers' Service in school on Friday 18th July at 9:15pm and parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. Tea and coffee will be provided. As always, bring your tissues, as it is sure to be an emotional event!

NEW NURSERY WELCOME EVENTS



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We can't wait to welcome all of our new Nursery parents to come and look around our provision and hear key messages for the forth coming year on Tuesday 1st July at 5.30pm. Parents will hear about all of the exciting things their child will do as we welcome them into our Nursery family.

NEW RECEPTION WELCOME EVENTS

Our meeting for parents of children starting Reception is on Tuesday 24th June at 5.30pm (this meeting is not for children). Children will then take part in transition days where they will have the chance to meet staff and play in their new classroom.

On Wednesday 2nd July, existing Nursery children will spend the morning in their new classroom. Children new to our school are welcome to join us for the morning along with their parent or carer. All parents (new and existing) are welcome to stay for lunch with their child on Wednesday 2nd July.

On Thursday 3rd July, existing Nursery children and children new to school will spend the morning together in their new classroom and will all stay for lunch. Children who are new to school will leave school after lunch. All arrangements will be fully explained at our welcome meeting.

INTERNAL TRANSITION

For children currently in Reception-Year 3, transition activities will take place on 2nd & 3rd July. On these days, children in current Reception and Year 1 should enter school via their usual door (KS1 cloakroom) and children in current Year 2 and 3 should enter via the KS2 cloakroom door (next to the field). Children will spend two full days in their new class with their new class teacher and support staff.

STATUTORY ASSESSMENTS

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As you know, children in Year 1 will take part in their Phonics Screening Check during the week of 9th June. The check will assess children's ability to read a range of words including the sounds they have learned during Reception and Year 1. Miss Bowers ran a parent workshop for this in April. More information can be found here.

Additionally, Year 4 will take part in their Multiplication Tables Check over the next couple of weeks. It will assess children's ability to recall multiplication facts from all the tables they have learned in Years 2, 3 and 4. Mrs Ellwood held a parent workshop for this in spring term and the PowerPoint has been shared with all year 4 parents. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

Mrs Ellwood has sent individual "heat maps" home for all children so parents and carers can see which multiplication questions they are getting stuck on. Thank you in advance for your support.

STAY & PLAY

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Parents/carers of Nursery and Reception are invited to come and play in school with their child on Tuesday 8th July (Nursery) & Wednesday 9th July (Reception) at 2:00pm. Please save the date!

SCHOOL SHOES

A polite reminder that children are asked to wear sturdy, flat, black school shoes or plain black trainers that are appropriate for outdoor play for school. Sandals and flip flops are not permitted. Please could we kindly ask that these are not worn for school. Many thanks.



PLAYGROUP

Mrs Francis and Mrs Armstrong have welcomed some more new faces to the ARFS family this week in our pre-school playgroup session. This runs every Wednesday from 1:30pm -3:00pm during term time. Please help us spread the word. Thank you!

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.



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In worship this week, we have reflected on the significance of Pentecost and the symbols often used to represent the Holy Spirit.

CHURCH LINKS

You may already be aware that Rev Miriam Jones is coming to an end of her time at All Saints'. Her last day will be Sunday 29th June when there will be a service









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followed by a goodbye brunch. She will also be leading Faith@4 at 4:00pm that day. Please do come along if you can.

Miriam has led worship in school each week for the last 3 years and I know that our children have enjoyed her enthusiasm and upbeat songs! Miriam is moving to Oxford to take up her next post. She will be a huge miss to our community.



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UNIFORM LIBRARY & EXCHANGE

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.

As you know, we have a well established pre-loved "Uniform Library" in the main entrance for anyone who needs to borrow, exchange or replace any uniform items. Please come along and help yourselves. Cash donations can be made to the PTFA at the school office. Thank you.





CAKE SALE

Year 1 raised £38 at their cake sale. Well done everyone!

The next cake sale will be hosted by Reception on Thursday 19th June. A polite reminder that all ingredients must be displayed in case of allergies, thank you. Please only send cakes and biscuits – not sweets. We are hoping to have a card payment option available instead of cash.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

A polite reminder that stock for school meals is ordered 2 weeks in advance so we require a minimum of two weeks notice for changing from packed lunch to school meals or vice versa, please. Children are not able to change between packed lunch and school meals across a week – they need to commit to one or the other for the whole week please. Thank you for your understanding.





EMAILS

A reminder that our staff emails are available to parents and carers to contact class teachers directly, if they wish. As a working parent, I understand how important this line of communication is for many of our families. However, this is not common practice across all schools and, if emails are aggressive, this right may be withdrawn. Please treat our staff with the dignity and respect they deserve. Staff

will endeavour to respond to emails within 5 working days. Please avoid contacting staff outside their working hours wherever possible, in particular at weekends or during evenings when they are spending time with their own families. Thank you for your understanding.

HOLIDAY CLUBS

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As we near the summer, I wanted to highlight a couple of locally run holiday clubs that may be of interest.

Epic Holiday Camp Held at Dame Allen & GJHA £34 per day	https://www.epiccamps.co.uk/summer
Lee Sterry - Gosforth Academy £22 per day	https://ls-sports-coaching.classforkids.io/camps
Ladybird at Archibald £31 per day	https://www.ladybirdholidayclub.com/about1-c1x1t
Playtime Paradise at Havannah First School £28 per day	https://ppwraparound.co.uk/holiday-club-great-park/
Sport Schools at various locations £30 per day	https://sportschools.co.uk/dates-and-prices/
Next Gen Sports Camps Held at Brunton/Westfield/Kingston Park and other locations	https://nextgensportscamps.co.uk/book/
Pebble at Dinnington	https://activities.bookpebble.co.uk

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.



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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 Safequarding Children Board Procedures. Please refer to the Newcastle Safequarding 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





New datas are in re		DIARY DATES	
June 2025	d, for your information		
Wb 9 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screen	All week	
	Check statutory assessment		
	Year 2 Forest School	pm	Children should wear uniform tops with
			joggers and bring wellies and waterproofs to
			put on later in the day. Please make
			donations via ParentMail.
Wednesday 11 th	Gosforth Band	3:45 – 4:45pm	Archibald First School
June	Mini Athletics	3:15 - 4:15pm	For Reception to Year 2
Thursday 12 th	GCMS staff visiting ARFS	11:00	
June	Big Gig rehearsal for choir	3:15 - 4:00pm	Please see info on ParentMail
	members taking part		5
	Rugby Minis	3:15 - 4:15pm	For Reception to Year 2
Friday 13 th June	PTFA "Freeze Friday"	3:15pm	
Wb 16 th June	School Sports Week	All week	If any parents/carers have any connections
	·		to sports coaches/providers, please let Mrs
			Francis know.
Monday 16 th	Year 4 Sports Day	2:00pm	Children should wear PE kit for school,
June			please. All children will need to bring a
Tuesday 17 th	Year 2 Sports Day	2:00pm	water bottle to school and have sun cream
June			applied before school. Children will not be
Wednesday 18 th	Nursery Sports Day	9:15am	able to take part if they are wearing
June	Year 3 Sports Day	2:00pm	jewellery.
Thursday 19th	Year 1 Sports Day	2:00pm	Playground gates will be opened at 1:45pm
June			and closed before children come outside at
Friday 20 th June	Reception Sports Day	2:00pm	2:00pm.
Tuesday 17 th	Year 2 SEND Reviews	From 3:30pm	Relevant parents have been sent booking
June			info via ParentMail.
	Year 4 Leavers Service at	am	See ParentMail
	Newcastle Cathedral		
	Nursery SEND Reviews	From 3:30pm	Relevant parents have been sent booking
			info via ParentMail.
Wednesday 18 th	Year 3 SEND reviews	From 3:30pm	Relevant parents have been sent booking
June			info via ParentMail.
	Mini Athletics	3:15 -415pm	For Reception to Year 2
	Gosforth Voices	3:45 - 4:45pm	Grange First School
Thursday 19 th	Big Gig rehearsal for choir	3:15 - 4:00pm	Please see info on ParentMail
June	members taking part		
	Year 4 SEND reviews	Within school	These meetings will also be attended by the
		day	SENCo from GCMS. Please book via
			ParentMail.
	Reception class cake sale	3:15pm	Please could the parents/carers of Reception
			children send donations of cakes with
			ingredients displayed? Thank you.
	Rugby Minis	3:15 - 4:15pm	For Reception to Year 2

DIARY DATES

Friday 20 th June	Big Gig (Choir)	All day	More info to follow
5	PTFA "Freeze Friday"	3:15pm	
Monday 23 rd	Year 2 visit to Grace Darling	All day	More info to follow
June	Museum		
	Year 1 Forest School	pm	Children should wear uniform tops with
			joggers and bring wellies and waterproofs to
			put on later in the day. Please make
		5.00	donations via ParentMail.
Tuesday 24 th	Welcome meeting for	5:30pm	Information will be sent directly to parents
June	parents and carers of		on Monday 9 th June
	children starting Reception in September 2025		
Wednesday 25 th	Mini Athletics	3:15 - 4:15pm	For Reception to Year 2
June	Gosforth Band	3:45 – 4:45pm	Archibald First School
Thursday 26 th	Rugby Minis	3:15 – 4:15pm	For Reception to Year 2
June	Year 3 sleepover at school	All day	More info to follow
-riday 27 th June	PTFA "Freeze Friday"	3:15pm	
Sunday 29 th	Miriam's last service at All	9:30am	At All Saints' Church – please come along
June	Saints'	noount	Prese contention preuse contentiony
	Faith@4 – Miriam's last	4:00pm	At All Saints' Church – please come along
	one!	1	L
Monday 30 th	Nursery & Reception Forest	pm	Children should wear uniform tops with
June	School	•	joggers and bring wellies and waterproofs to
			put on later in the day. Please make
			donations via ParentMail.
July 2025			
Tuesday 1 st July	Welcome meeting for	5:30pm	Information has been sent directly
	parents and carers of		
	children starting Nursery in		
	September 2025		
Nednesday 2 nd	Mini Athletics	3:15 – 4:15pm	For Reception to Year 2
July	Gosforth Voices	3:45 - 4:45pm	Grange First School
Nednesday 2 nd	Transition Days	All day	More info to follow
and Thursday 3 rd			
July			
Thursday 3 rd July	Rugby Minis	3:15 – 4:15pm	For Reception to Year 2
Friday 4 th July	PTFA "Freeze Friday"	3:15pm	
Monday 7 th July	Year 1 SEND Reviews	From 3:30pm	Relevant parents have been sent booking
			info via ParentMail.
Tuesday 8th July	Nursery Stay & Play	2:00pm	Please save the date
	Reception SEND Reviews	From 3:30pm	Relevant parents have been sent booking
Mada and an Oth		2.00-	info via ParentMail.
Wednesday 9 th	Reception Stay & Play	2:00pm	Please save the date
<mark>July</mark> Tuesday 8 th July	Year 4 visit to Vindolanda &	All day	Mora info to follow via ParentMail
i uesuay o July	Roman Army Museum	All day	More info to follow via ParentMail
Nednesday 9 th	Mini Athletics (final session)	3:15 - 4:15pm	For Reception to Year 2
fuly	Gosforth Band	3:45 – 4:45pm	Archibald First School
Thursday 10 th	Reception visit to Discovery	All day	More info to follow via ParentMail
fuly	Museum	mi uuy	
July	Rugby Minis (final session)	3:15 – 4:15pm	For Reception to Year 2
	Nursery class cake sale	3:15pm	Please could the parents/carers of Nursery
	I varsery class cake sule	5. i Spin	children send donations of cakes with
			ingredients displayed Thank you.
Friday 11 th July	Years 1 – 4 Music concert	1:45pm	To be held at All Saints' Church
i aug i i buig	No "Freeze Friday" today		
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July	Tynemouth		
Friday 18 th July	Year 4 Leavers' Service (at school)	9:15am	Please save the date
	PTFA "Freeze Friday"	3:15pm	
Monday 21 st July – Friday 29 th August	Summer holiday	-	School closed to children
September 2024			
Monday 1 st September	Staff Training Day	School closed to children	
Tuesday 2 nd September	Children back to school	8:35am	

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NURSERY 30 HOUR PLACES

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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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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



COMMUNITY HUB NORTH



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.

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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