



“People tend to forget their duties but remember their rights”

Imran Gandhi

As we entered the new Carolean Era following the coronation of King Charles III I had an interesting discussion with some students about the King's rights and responsibilities. Becoming the King at the age of 74 is certainly a huge responsibility and probably not something we would relish taking on at that age. Undertaking the constitutional and representational duties which have developed over one thousand years of history is put ahead of any personal wishes.

Rights ensure that individuals are protected and treated fairly, while responsibilities establish the framework for ethical behaviour. However, in recent times, there has been a growing concern that the emphasis on rights has overshadowed the importance of responsibility. This shift can have various negative consequences, as seen in modern society.

With the advent of social media and the proliferation of online platforms, individuals have gained the freedom to express their opinions and exercise their rights to free speech. However, this often leads to the neglect of responsibility. People may engage in cyberbullying, spread false information, or participate in online harassment without considering the consequences of their actions. This can have severe implications for individuals who become victims of online abuse and for society as a whole.

It is crucial to strike a balance between rights and responsibilities in order to maintain a functional and harmonious society. While rights empower individuals and protect their interests, responsibilities ensure that those rights are exercised with consideration for others. By being mindful of the impact of their actions and understanding their responsibilities, individuals can contribute to the well-being of society as a whole.

This is something we regularly talk to our students about. It is inspiring to see our young people recognising their responsibilities, from simple things like tidying up after themselves in the dinner hall and offering to help others to developing more pro-active groups such as the eco-enthusiasts - who incidentally have identified June 15th as 'clean air day' - more details to follow soon!

We all have a responsibility to keep our standards high so please have conversations with your child and ensure that they are prepared for school with the correct equipment and uniform. We have noticed several students have let this slip recently. We are proud of our young people and our uniform represents the standards parents and the school hold our them too. It is important, and fair to others, that these standards are kept high and students who do not follow these rules understandably receive sanctions.

Southgate, Killingworth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 6SA

T: 0191 216 1115

E: enquiries@gshs.org.uk

W: www.gshs.org.uk

Headteacher:

Peter Douthwaite BSc (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher:

Kathryn Williams BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher:

Louise Dunn BA (Hons)

It is always pleasing to hear about our students' achievements outside of school so please let the school know of any success stories you are happy to share. This week Thomas Young in Year 9 was part of the Northumberland Schools Under 14 Representative team that won the Inter Counties Cup Final v Surrey Schools. The match was played at Stoke City's ground. A fantastic achievement for Tom who has shown great determination and effort in being selected for the team and contributing to their successful season.



Thomas Young (furthest right)

The exam season is now under way and our students have been impeccable so far. We hope they get a just reward for all of their efforts, not just this term but this year. There may be ups and downs throughout the exam period but we encourage them to stay positive and simply do their best. The teachers, as always, are here to support and help. We are very proud of them and genuinely wish them the best of luck.

Finally, Mr. Allan would like to share with you his first careers bulletin and a link to 'Careermag' for parents which is particularly useful at this time for parents of students in Year 11 or 13.

Best wishes

Mr P. Douthwaite
Headteacher

“Inspiring students to be passionate, confident and aspirational about their career choices, and equipping them with the skills, qualities and experiences needed for successful and happy futures”.

Our careers intent at George Stephenson High School (GSHS)

Sitting down to formulate our whole school intent, almost five years ago, was a difficult task. I wanted it to be non-generic and honest, something that was easily understandable and relevant to students, parents and staff. In that vein, I would like to share with you just some of the many key careers related activities that we have been working on/involved in this year, invite you to support us, and also talk a little about what makes our careers provision unique and relevant for our students.

With this being our first Careers Bulletin, there is much that I would like to share with you, however I am going to try to stick to just a few key messages.

Firstly, and most importantly, I wanted to talk to you about our unique offering at GSHS. Valuing Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) we, uniquely, have careers as a ‘taught’ lesson in Years 7, 8, 10 and 11. This enables us to have a structured form of progression throughout a students time at our school. In addition to this offering we use Y9 to support key students through a more bespoke curriculum. We also have a commitment to offer at least one whole year group activity to each year, every year.

In late January, all staff took part in a ‘Careers in the Curriculum’ professional development session where they shared resources with each other, to further embed careers across the curriculum. We also invited organisations (Equinor, Bernicia and representatives from The Port of Tyne), North Tyneside Learning Trust, The North East Local Enterprise Partnership, our Connexions team and our Enterprise Advisor to talk to staff at this event in order to provide more ‘real world’ careers links.

Thirdly, we were one of 50 schools nationally to be invited for a special OFSTED Careers Review. We grasped this opportunity to show off our curriculum and its effectiveness. The day involved the inspector meeting with myself and the Senior Leadership Team, a range of staff and two student panels. Even though there was no official feedback (as it was a national review) we were left with a sense of pride from the enthusiasm and passion that students had over their own careers and the CEIAG that they received.

Before I close, I would also like to share with you a superb resource, [careermag](#), which has been formulated with parents in mind, whether you are preparing to support your child through the options process having a discussion about T Levels or Apprenticeships or even helping your child to research jobs in a specific sector, this magazine really does provide useful and up-to-date information to facilitate discussions at home.

Hopefully this has given you a small insight into some of the activities that have kept us busy, reflecting back on our opening statement of intent, I plan to continue to inform you of our plans around the Careers Curriculum and share with you more useful resources that can help you support our young people, so that we can work together in supporting them to continue to make informed and relevant choices over their futures.

Best wishes

Mr L. Allen (CEIAG Lead)

Meet the Staff

Meet the Staff: Miss Bell

What is your role at GSHS? Acting Head of Sixth Form (secondment from Post 16 Learning Mentor)

How long have you worked here? Almost four years



What does your job involve? I support students during their two-year Sixth Form journey with things such as their studies, mental health and wellbeing and wider pastoral needs. I am lucky enough to get to know students really well and help prepare them for life beyond Sixth Form whether that's at university, in an apprenticeship or in employment.

Do you have any hobbies? I'm preparing for baby no.2 to arrive so have had a go at decorating (not well I must say!) and enjoying spending time with my daughter before little brother arrives.

Favourite thing about GSHS? The staff at GSHS are incredible and always supportive of what we do in Sixth Form. We are also lucky to have lots of amazing students with great character and ambition who choose to remain at GSHS for their Post 16 education.

Favourite memory of GSHS? I don't have one particular favourite but I always love putting together and delivering the Year 13 Leavers Assembly each year so we can see the journey our students have been on, the achievements they have had but also to celebrate the wonderful things which are to come for them. Exams aside, it's a lovely time of year.