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**Information for**

**Parents and Students**



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**Online Learning:**

In addition to the resources provided by teaching staff at GSHS, which are on our school website, there are a growing number of fantastic online resources currently being developed which parents and students may choose to access.

As a school we have a comprehensive Online Safety Policy which can be found on our school website. In here, you will find a reminder of the STUDENT E-SAFETY AND ICT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (STUDENTS) which you might find useful to discuss this with your child as a way of refreshing their understanding of how to keep themselves safe online.

Two further more points to note here during the COVID-19 situation, are that students must only use their GSHS Office 365 outlook email accounts if they need to contact their teachers , not any other sort of personal account.  Furthermore, students should respect the online privacy of all teaching and support staff and not seek to make contact with them on any form of social media.

For the time being, we have advised all staff against using any form of live video conferencing with students via such platforms as Zoom. Only the Guidance Team and Careers Team are able to use Microsoft Teams for appointments.

**Safeguarding:**

To support you in safeguarding your child during any online learning, it is essential that you are aware of the very clear reporting routes in place so you can raise any concerns whilst online. You are now temporarily able to report any online safety incidents through our normal guidance system and through contacting [safeguarding@gshs.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@gshs.org.uk) and any emails can be directed to the most suitable member of staff.

Additionally however, we would also like to signpost children to age appropriate practical support from the likes of:

* Childline - for support
* UK Safer Internet Centre - to report and remove harmful online content
* CEOP - for advice on making a report about online abuse.

Parents and carers may choose to supplement the school or college online offer with support from online companies. We would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of securing online support from a reputable organisation/individual who can provide evidence that they are safe and can be trusted to have access to children. Support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online includes:

* Internet matters - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
* London Grid for Learning - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
* Net-aware - for support for parents and careers from the NSPCC
* Parent info - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
* Thinkuknow - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online
* UK Safer Internet Centre - advice for parents and carers

**Safeguarding Update**:

We have published a COVID-19 annex to our GSHS Child Protection policy on the Safeguarding page of our school website which has been developed in partnership with North Tyneside Local Authority in response to new government guidelines which can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/coronavirus-covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers>

In addition to this policy, we would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the main points of concern for parents to be aware in terms of safeguarding during this period of partial school closure.

As a school, we will continue to operate our Safeguarding procedures. Any concerns raised by students, staff or parents/carers will be dealt with as per the child protection policy and, where appropriate, referrals to Children's Services will be made.  During this time, our school Guidance Team have been asked to make remote or phone contact or door-step visits to conduct welfare checks on some of our young people.  

If as a parent/carer, you have safeguarding concerns about a young person during this partial school closure period, you can contact our temporary safeguarding email address on [safeguarding@gshs.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@gshs.org.uk) which will be checked daily. You can also speak to a social worker by calling the Front Door Service in North Tyneside on 0345 2000 109. They are open 8.30am – 5pm, Monday – Thursday and 8.30am – 4.30pm on Friday. Outside of those hours you can call the After Hours Service on 200 6800. You can also email Children's Services at childrenandadultscontactcentre@northtyneside.gov.uk. **If you have an immediate concern and feel that a child is at risk of significant harm or danger you must contact the police first on 999.** 

It would be helpful if parents / carers could monitor how their children are balancing their time and ensure that each element is proportionate and not placing their children under too much stress.  As children are spending a lot more time online, I have included a key message from Northumbria police about safeguarding are children at this time.  Please take notice of this and try to monitor how your children are accessing online sites and emphasising the importance of keeping safe.

**Family Wellbeing:**

When schools are closed, this can be a worrying time for young people and parents for lots of reasons. We are conscious that some members of our school community might be experiencing problems at home, be worried about exams, struggling with their own mental health or lots of other issues that young people deal with daily.

For this reason, we would also like to draw your attention to the section of the North Tyneside Council website page: nteysis.org.uk a called ‘home learning’. On here you will find a ‘Wellbeing’ section which will be updated every week containing some useful links. This week's are as follows:

 Children’s Guide to Coronavirus from the Children’s Commissioner (Cross phase) - <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/publication/childrens-guide-to-coronavirus/>

 Guidance on supporting bereaved children during the coronavirus outbreak (Cross phase) – <http://www.childhoodbereavementnetwork.org.uk/help-around-a-death/covid-19.aspx>

 Family SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of learning) booklets – which contain lovely activities for children to do with families (Primary) [https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110810113520/http://nsonline.org.uk/node/66364](https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110810113520/http:/nsonline.org.uk/node/66364)

Little Rescuers – First Aid home learning sessions for Primary schools- <http://tumblesandgrumbles.co.uk/little-rescuers-learning/>

Find your Brave – Children’s Mental Health Week resources (Cross phase) <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/schools-and-youth-groups/>

Mud and Lotus Mindfulness practises – free audio recordings that could be a helpful antidote to all the uncertainty, isolation and stress, which are known ingredients to trigger negative states of mind <https://mudandlotus.co.uk/audio-practice/>

**Anna Freud – Schools in Mind** have created a new page on their website to help provide clear, simple advice to all those supporting children and young people, including the young people themselves: <https://www.annafreud.org/coronavirus/>

**British Red Cross** have published ‘Coronavirus teaching resources’: for teachers and parents of children aged 11+, <https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/teaching-resources/coronavirus-newsthink>

**Place2Be**– Guide to helping parents answer questions from their children and to support family wellbeing, can be found: <https://www.place2be.org.uk/about-us/news-and-blogs/2020/march/coronavirus-information-for-children/?dm_i=43MR,SZ24,5QMZYG,3HKE4>

**Scouts UK** have compiled a list of activities and instructions on indoor activity for children: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors/>

**MIND** – Coronavirus and Your wellbeing- general care advice and resource: <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/?dm_i=43MR,SZ24,5QMZYG,3HKEA,1>

**North Tyneside: Children and Young People’s Services during COVID-19**

**0-19 Public Health Service: CHAT Health**

The Chat Health texting service, with school nurses, is available for young people aged 11-19, for confidential advice.

**Contact Details**

Available Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm:  07507332532

**Kooth: Online counselling and emotional wellbeing support**

An award-winning online counselling service helping those aged between 11-25 years old with any difficulties or concerns they may have. Kooth.com provides an anonymous and confidential service using a mix of BCAP qualified counselling, support and advice on a drop in, out of hours and structured sessions.

Continuing to provide online mental health and wellbeing support to young people via any internet accessible device.

**Website –**[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com/)

**Phoenix Detached Youth Project**

PDYP supports young people 12- 25 years of age living in; Chirton, East Howdon, Meadow Well, Percy Main and Royal Quays. All face to face work and activities have been stopped but they are continuing to support young people over this period and will aim to offer practical support to young people in crisis.

**Contact Details**

**Mike**– By phone and text on 07940 513209. Or by email; [mike@pdyp.org](mailto:mike@pdyp.org)

Monday and Wednesday 10am – 9pm

Tuesday and Thursday 10am – 5pm

**Luke** – By phone, text or WhatsApp 07508 876826. Or by email; luke@pydp.org

Tuesday and Friday 10am – 5pm

Wednesday and Thursday 10am – 9pm

**Becky** – By phone, text or WhatsApp 07930 84451. Or by email; [becky@pydp.org](mailto:becky@pydp.org)

Monday and Thursday 10am – 9pm

Wednesday 10am – 4pm

**Website –**[www.pydp.org](http://www.pydp.org/)

**North Tyneside Young Carers**

North Tyneside Carers’ Centre is a charity offering support and information for carers in North Tyneside, including Young Carers. Their advice line is open as usual for carers to contact for advice and support.

**Contact Details**

[(0191) 643 2298](tel:01916432298)

[enquiries@ntcarers.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ntcarers.co.uk)

**Opening Times**

Monday to Wednesday 10am – 4pm

Thursday 1pm – 4pm

Friday 10am – 4pm

**Website –**[www.northtynesidecarers.org.uk](http://www.northtynesidecarers.org.uk/)

**YMCA**

YMCA North Tyneside has temporarily closed all services with two exceptions. The day nursery remains open for children of key workers and vulnerable children, and they continue to provide supported accommodation using a minimum number of staff.

**Contact Details**

0191 257 5434

0191 282 8137 – more nursery details

[enquiries@ymcanorthtyneside.org](mailto:enquiries@ymcanorthtyneside.org)

**Opening Times**

Monday to Friday 7.30am – 6pm

**Website** – [www.ymcanorthtyneside.org](http://www.ymcanorthtyneside.org/)

**The Base, Barnardo’s**

The Base, Barnardo’s, provide individual targeted holistic support and group engagement programmes for vulnerable young people and care leavers aged 13-25. All young people they have been working with have been contacted so they can access one-to-one support over the phone. Providing support regarding self-care and signposting to services for children on the phone and through appropriate online platforms wherever possible.

**Contact Details**

0191 253 2127

[thebaseproject@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:thebaseproject@barnardos.org.uk)

**Website** – [www.barnardos.org.uk/thebase.htm](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/thebase.htm)

**Anxious Minds**

Counselling and support services, including providing early intervention for young people. Centres are closed but the public are still able to talk to a trained counsellor via telephone or can get support by joining the Facebook group.

**Contact details**

0191 262 0305

**Opening Times** – Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm

**Website** – [www.anxiousminds.co.uk](http://www.anxiousminds.co.uk/)

**Drug and Alcohol**

**Props**

Props North East help families who are caring for or concerned about someone they love who misuses drugs or alcohol. Offering support to all carers and young people via telephone and other communication platforms and still delivering group support via video conferencing.

**Contact Details**

0191 226 3440

[office@propsnortheast.org.uk](mailto:office@propsnortheast.org.uk)

**Opening Times**

Monday to Sunday 9am – 9pm

**Website** – [www.newcastleprops.org.uk](http://www.newcastleprops.org.uk/)

**CYP Drug and Alcohol Service**

NTRP is a dedicated service for anyone living in North Tyneside who is experiencing problems with drugs and alcohol, including children and young people. Telephone and group support via video calling are still available.

**Contact Details**

0191 240 8122

[NTAWNT.NTRP@nhs.net](mailto:NTAWNT.NTRP@nhs.net)

**Opening Times**

Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm

**Website –**<https://www.cntw.nhs.uk/services/north-tyneside-recovery-partnership/>

**Domestic Abuse**

**Acorns**

Acorns support the recovery of children and young people who are affected by domestic abuse in North Tyneside. Currently providing telephone support for existing referrals is still taking place but are not taking any other referrals at this time.

**Contact Details**

0191 200 6302

[admin@acornsproject.org.uk](mailto:admin@acornsproject.org.uk)

**Opening Times**

Monday to Thursday 8.30am – 6pm

Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm

**Website –**[www.acornsproject.org.uk](http://www.acornsproject.org.uk/)

**Online Parenting Support**

**Solihull Parenting Online**

Four online courses available for parents and carers in North Tyneside – from bump to 18 years old.

* Understanding Pregnancy, Labour, Birth and Your Baby
* Understanding Your Baby
* Understanding Your Child (0-19 years)
* Understanding your teenagers’ brain (short course)

For free access North Tyneside residents use the code: QUADRANT

**Website** – [www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk/)

**COVID-19 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENTS**

**Social Distancing**

* We will follow the government guidance on social distancing. Where it is marked out in classrooms and around school it should be followed without exception. This applies at breaks and lunchtimes as well.
* There should be no physical contact between students.
* In classrooms students must follow instructions from staff at all times this is especially important with regards seating instructions and entering and leaving classrooms.

**Conduct in class:**

* As always students will be expected to maintain excellent behaviour during lessons (Ready, Respectful, Safe) e.g. concentrating on tasks set, listening carefully to teacher explanation and treating all people with respect.

**Equipment**

* It is crucial that students come to school fully equipped and ready to learn. As it is no longer practical to ask to borrow equipment from friends or members of staff if an item is forgotten.

**Hygiene**

* You should wash hands thoroughly using soap on arrival to school and at other points throughout day, especially before eating and as directed by an adult.
* Only use the toilet when an adult tells you it is safe to do so. Flush the toilet after you have used it. If there is someone else in the toilet area or at the sinks you must stay 1m away from them. You must wash your hands thoroughly and dry them.
* Try not to touch your face with your hands, especially your mouth, nose and eyes.
* If you need to cough or sneeze use a tissue and then put it in the bin. If you don’t have a tissue then cough or sneeze into your elbow/ upper arm. Immediately wash your hands.
* Do not share drinks bottles or food. Water fountains will no longer be in use for hygiene reasons, please bring your own filled water bottle (s) to school.
* Tell an adult straight away if you feel unwell or have been coughing quite a lot.

**Uniform**

* From September, students will be required to wear full uniform for school. Please see additional information in this pack and on the school website.
* Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended.

**Mobile Phones**

* The rules on mobile phones remain unchanged, in short they should not be seen or heard during lessons or changeover time; unless it is part of on line learning.

**Entering and Leaving the School Site**

* Students should be encouraged to walk or cycle where possible.
* We will give clear messages to pupils about minimising the use of public transport and how to reduce the risks of transmission outside of school.
* Students will be given instructions about which entrances that they may or may not use.
* Follow the one-way system and signage in school.
* Students are expected to depart the school site immediately when dismissed and should not wait for friends from other groups.
* Parents/carers are advised not to congregate in groups on, or directly outside the school premises.

**Online Learning**

All work online should maintain the same high standards of behaviour as if they were face to face in school with a member of staff.

* There should not be any offensive language or derogatory terms used
* Students should always think appropriately about the audience they are writing for

**Sanctions**

Behaviour that wilfully undermines the safety measures that the school has put in place or risks the safety of students or staff will not be tolerated and will be dealt with via the normal school disciplinary procedures and the established sanctions system.

Examples might include:

* Deliberately ignoring the social distancing measures or hygiene routines put in place by the school
* Spitting at another student/member of staff
* Deliberately coughing at a student/member of staff
* Behaviour or language that is intended to cause alarm or distress to students/staff about the current situation

Students who do not comply with the above will face consequences depending on the severity or the frequency of the non-compliance. This could include:

1. Clear warning given by class teacher.
2. Removal from session
3. Parents are contacted.
4. Student completes the work in isolation.

If the behaviour of a student is such that a child is posing serious threat to the safety of others and the school has exhausted all strategies to reduce that risk, then exclusion remains an option. However, the head teacher would seek guidance from the Local Authority before carrying out this sanction as in the context of the virus, the safety of the pupil at home may also be seriously compromised and this risk should, not be diminished, but viewed as part of the overall risk assessment for the child, taking on board the views and advice of all relevant stakeholders and agencies.

**Rewards**

We will adapt our systems in the spirt of our school values to ensure that all children feel valued as celebrated. This may well evolve once teachers begin to support children and devise and adapt the most appropriate strategies for their group. This may include:

* Verbal praise
* Text to parents
* Phone call to parents
* LORIC Cards and points (via SIMS App)

These expectations will underpin everything we do to **Be Ready, Respectful and Safe and Protect Our Community.**

# UPDATE ON SCHOOL UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

We have been in contact with Emblematic and are able to update you on the service they are providing within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Their embroidery facility is currently open, with a reduced staff following all Government Guidance, therefore they are able to complete all current online orders. They are also taking school orders via email as normal to orders@emblematic.co.uk. Following the government update on 10 May 2020, they will be offering the following options to parents this summer.

* Free delivery on all orders placed until the 1st July.
* After that, parents will either pay for delivery to home or use Emblematic’s “Click and Collect” option (starting date to be decided). Parents will not be able to order with “Delivery to School” as an option.
* They have put measuring videos on their website, which parents can use to purchase the correct size, using measurements they have taken at home.
* They currently offer a free returns system, where parents use their website to return items, parents must then make a new order for the correct size (i.e. this is not an exchange service, as garments must be safely stored (Covid-19) before going back into stock).
* They are also offering a “Click and collect” option in the future from our Benton shop only (date and times to be decided), but plan to stop this mid-August, so we don’t have the final rush of the summer with long queues which would be deemed unsafe.
* Emblematic will continue to follow the guidance and decide if/when their shops can re-open and what other changes can be safely made. They have also confirmed that all their plans are working to time and that their manufacturers have not missed any delivery dates as yet, so they will have a full stock available all summer and don’t foresee any shortfalls in supply for going back to School in September. That said, Emblematic have asked us to express to parents the need to order early (especially this year i.e. before 1 August 2020) so they can deliver all the correct uniform, with plenty of time available for exchanges.

Footwear may be purchased from a range of suppliers, however, school approved footwear is available from: Wynsors World of Shoes, Unit 3, Whitley Road Retail Park, Whitley Road, Benton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 9SZ. Telephone: 0191 270 9200.

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| **DAILY UNIFORM**  Navy blue school sweater with school badge\*  School tie (clip on only)  Black school trousers with school badge\* or  Trutex pleated black school skirt with school badge/or school check skirt\*  Plain white school shirt with collar  Black tights / black or white socks  Sensible plain black school/ Shoes with a low heel  A plain dark outdoor jacket or coat |
| ***\*students in all year groups must only wear the authorised branded trousers, skirts and sweaters available from Emblematic Ltd – www.emblematic.co.uk*** |

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| **GIRLS SPORTSWEAR**  Black school polo shirt (short sleeved – PE indoors)  Black school sweatshirt (outdoors)  Black shorts (plain – no stripes)  White socks (PE indoors)  Black football socks (Games)  Training shoes (non-mark soles, not plimsolls)  Football boots (advisable)  Shin pads (advisable)  Tracksuit bottoms (PLAIN BLACK – NO STRIPES) (optional)  Black Leggings (optional-from Emblematic) with school badge  Gum shield (advisable) | **BOYS SPORTSWEAR**  Black school polo shirt (short sleeved – PE indoors)  Black school sweatshirt (outdoors)  Black shorts (plain – no stripes)  White socks (PE indoors)  Black football socks (Games)  Training shoes (non-mark soles, not plimsolls)  Football or rugby boots (advisable)  Shin pads (advisable)  Tracksuit bottoms (PLAIN BLACK – NO STRIPES) (optional)  Gum shield (advisable |

**ALL UNIFORM AND KIT MUST BE NAMED**

**We do NOT allow:**

Hoodie-style jackets/sweatshirts, tracksuit-type or sports tops, or denim jackets for outdoor wear.

Polo neck shirts, tee-shirts and shirts with a sports type collar (shirts must have a collar and be large enough at the neck to allow the top button to be comfortably fastened at all times).

Any colour, other than white, for shirts.

Brown or any other colour of shoes.

Trainers, trainer-type boots, boots, ankle boots, cross trainer shoes, ANY sports branded shoes (e.g. Nike, Adidas, Puma, Umbro, La Coste, Converse, Vans etc.), canvas shoes of any kind, plimsolls or sandshoes – no coloured laces, logos or labels.

Designer shoes of any kind e.g. Vivienne Westwood

Fashion belts or scarves.

Non-school sweaters or cardigans.

Non-school trousers or skirts.

Hats to be worn in school.

Hairstyles which follow extremes of fashion such as shaved heads, patterns or dyed hair (only simple, plain headbands or hairclips are allowed for girls). We reserve the right to determine what is a reasonable style or colour of hair and to insist that students with inappropriate hairstyles have them restyled or coloured, or remain in isolation until their hair is acceptable.

Excessive amounts of makeup.

False eyelashes.

Expensive fashion items, which are not appropriate for school.

**Jewellery**

Students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 may wear one ring only (on either hand), a maximum of two ear rings, one in each earlobe (simple studs or sleepers) and a watch.

Any other rings/studs/bars used in face, mouth, ear or body piercing are not allowable in school for health and safety reasons.

Ear expanders must not be worn.

All jewellery must be removed for PE/Games.

Necklaces and bracelets should not be worn.

We reserve the right to confiscate or insist that students remove any item which contravenes these guidelines or which is a potential safety hazard. Students who refuse to remove such items will remain in isolation until they do so.

**Equipment**

Being well organised with books and equipment is essential if students are to learn effectively.

The school will provide most of the equipment and books needed for learning. As a minimum, students must bring to every lesson a blue or black pen, a pencil and ruler. A spare pen, rubber, pencil sharpener and a few coloured pencils are strongly recommended. Correction fluid (Tippex) is not allowed. Every student must have an appropriately sized strong bag to carry his or her own and the school’s equipment. There are specific requirements relating to Health and Safety in certain practical lessons, of which students will be made fully aware.

**COVID SUMMER FOOD FUND**

Through the Covid Summer Food Fund, schools can support eligible pupils with a £90 voucher to cover the 6-week holiday period.

The scheme has been designed to offer a £90 voucher for the standard school summer holiday. The school will register all FSM students, including current Year 11 and Year 13. Registration will be complete by by Friday 10th July.



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