

# Newsletter

Friday 10th December 2021

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Confirmation Congratulations

We begin this week's newsletter by congratulating the 17 Notre Dame students who were Confirmed last night by Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald at St Anthony's Church. The service was truly uplifting, celebrating the students' continued commitment to following the example set by Jesus Christ and to live out our Catholic faith. They are a credit to our Notre Dame family and we are incredibly proud of them all. A special thanks to our Chaplain, Miss Wall, for guiding and supporting the students through their preparation for this important sacrament.



### End of term arrangements

As parents and carers will be aware, our Autumn term ends on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**. As in previous years, students will finish early on this final teaching day of the term. Years 7, 11, 12 & 13 will finish at **11.45am** and Years 8, 9 & 10 will finish at **noon**. Year groups will leave via their normal exit points.

Continued ....



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### **Misuse of College Toilets**

Here at Notre Dame, we take great pride in the care with which we treat our shared environment and facilities. On the whole, students are fully appreciative of just how fortunate we are to have such an amazing, state-of-the-art home in which to learn and work. Disappointingly, in recent weeks we have witnessed an increase in the misuse and vandalism of student toilets, by both genders. Not only does such vandalism cost the college precious time and money that we would much prefer to direct towards the enhancement of your child's education, the numerous repairs required force us to close toilets whilst this work is undertaken, thus depriving well-intentioned students of the use of these toilets.

We are asking parents to support the college in reinforcing the basic expectations of how to use our communal toilets respectfully and support college staff in ensuring the following:

- As always, students are encouraged to use the toilet before or after the school day, at break time or lunch time.
- Any student who needs to go to the toilet during a lesson, must get the express permission of their class teacher in the form of a written note or yellow lanyard.

- No more than one student will be allowed to leave a classroom to go to the toilet at any one time
- From Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December, no student will be allowed to go to the toilet during the first or last ten minutes of each lesson.

### **Returning after Christmas**

Today, all parents will have received a letter from Mrs Brennan outlining the arrangements for your child's return to school on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January. Parents will be aware that the government have requested that schools offer every student one COVID Lateral Flow Test (LFT) on their return. As with all previous testing offers, students will only be tested if we have received consent from parents. **No students will be tested without express consent from parents.**

Any parents who would like their child to be tested on return must complete a consent form that can be accessed using this [link](#) or the QR code below. Please be aware that **parents who have already provided consent need to resubmit consent for this new round of tests.** Mrs Brennan's letter also confirms details of the staggered student starting times required to facilitate the testing programme.



Wishing every Notre Dame family a peaceful and safe weekend.

Mr Duffy



# COLLEGE INFORMATION



Notre Dame  
Catholic College

Established 1869

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Email: [ao@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk](mailto:ao@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk)  
[www.notredameliverpool.com](http://www.notredameliverpool.com)

Headteacher: Mr Peter Duffy BA (Hons) MA NPQH

10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the announcement by the Prime Minister that plan B measures will come into force in England on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the measures we are using to reduce the spread of Covid-19 in our school.

- **Lateral Flow Tests (LFT)** – we will continue to encourage students to take LFT tests twice a week at home. Students can collect tests from their head of year office to take home if needed.
- **Face coverings** - All staff, students and visitors are reminded that face coverings are to be worn in communal areas of the school unless they are exempt. Please ensure that your son/daughter brings face coverings to school.
- **Vaccines** – All eligible staff and students (aged 12 or over) are encouraged to take up the offer of the vaccine, including boosters. To book a vaccination, please visit the NHS webpage [here](#).
- **Flu vaccine** – NHS staff will visit the school in January 2021 to administer flu vaccinations to those students who missed the previous visit or had not registered in time. The online form can be accessed [here](#).
- **January return to school** – All students will be offered a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) on their return to school. Details of arrangements are below.
- **Good Hygiene** – we continue to encourage all members of our school community to have high standards of hygiene including regular hand washing.

## End of term arrangements

All students will finish school on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021. Year 7, 11 and Sixth form students will finish at 11:45 a.m. All other students will finish school at 12 noon.

## January return to school arrangements

When students return to school on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 the Department of Education has asked school us to arrange Covid tests for all students. These are the same tests that were conducted in September 2021.

Students will only take part in the testing if parents/carers have given permission via the school online form. This is a new form and it must be completed for January 2022 if parents/carers want their son/daughter to receive a test. The test can be accessed [here](#) or



by scanning in the QR code.

Arrangements have been made that Covid testing will take place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Students will have a staggered start to the day to facilitate testing.

08:45 a.m. Year 7 and 6<sup>th</sup> form students will return  
10:15 a.m. Year 8 and Year 9 students will return  
11:30 a.m. Year 10 and Year 11 students will return

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'E Brennan'.

Mrs. E Brennan  
Senior Assistant Headteacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead

# YEAR 11 INFORMATION

Thank you to everyone who attended the Sixth Form Open Evening. I hope you found it very informative and assisted you in selecting your Sixth Form subjects.

If you were unable to attend, there is still time to peruse the website and visit the subject videos recorded by teaching staff. In addition to the courses promoted on the website, we will also be offering A-Level Theology and Ethics. You are encouraged to visit departments in school and talk directly to staff about subject content and you may be able to see student exemplar work.

We also have Student Subject Ambassadors working within departments to assist students in achieving their highest grades. Please feel free to approach these students to ask about their learning and their opinions of Sixth Form life.

Although the deadline has now passed, your application will still be considered if you complete it, either online or a paper copy, and return it to Miss Lee as soon as possible.

In January, the Sixth Form team will be interviewing every student who has made an application, so it is important that you have thought about what subjects you enjoy and that you are good at. If you are unsure and need further advice or guidance, please speak with Mrs Hall or a member of the Sixth Form Team.

Have a great weekend

Miss Nicol and the Sixth Form Team.

28<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer,

A new COVID-19 variant of concern has been identified in the UK amidst high local infection rates. Concerns are that the new variant, called Omicron, can spread more quickly and may be more likely to cause reinfections of COVID-19. It is essential we act now to stop infections spreading in our homes, schools and communities.

From today, the Department for Education states, **'face coverings should be worn in communal areas in all settings for Year 7 and above by staff, visitors and pupils or students'**, unless they are exempt. Pupils or students (in year 7 or above) should also continue to wear face coverings on **public and dedicated school transport**, unless exempt.

Parents and carers, staff and visitors should wear face coverings both inside and around school premises where social distancing cannot be maintained such as **pick up and drop off** times. This guidance is further to the Liverpool Health Protection Board recommendations issued in October 2021.

### Testing

In order to reduce any further impact on schools leading into Christmas, it is essential that eligible students continue to test weekly using the lateral flow devices provided to students by their schools. Testing helps identify cases early, and therefore reduces the likelihood of COVID-19 spreading within schools. Please make sure students are testing regularly (twice weekly), and report the results on the government website.

### Vaccination

We must do everything we can to reduce both the current variants and any new variants from spreading through schools. All eligible adults and students aged 12 and over are strongly encouraged to take up the offer of the vaccine, including boosters.

Vaccines are our best defence against COVID-19. There has been some coverage in the media suggesting that the Omicron variant may be less responsive to the vaccine. The evidence on this is still emerging, but even if the vaccine is less responsive it will still help to protect young people and adults, and benefit those around them. Vaccination makes people less likely to catch the virus and less likely to pass it on. Any parents whose children have missed the opportunity to be



vaccinated as part of the school vaccination programme will be able to book a vaccine [here](#).

### **Contact tracing and the Omicron Variant**

All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status and age, will be contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace and required to self-isolate immediately and asked to book a PCR test.

We appreciate everything you are doing to help us with this and thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

**Matt Ashton**

Director of Public Health, Liverpool

**Steve Reddy**

Director of Children's Service, Liverpool

### **Key actions people can take to keep themselves and their communities safe**

- Get vaccinated
- Get your booster when it's your turn  
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-booster-vaccine/>
- Continue to test regularly – with lateral flow tests
- Wear face coverings in communal areas and when advised / appropriate to do so
- Wear face coverings on public and school transport
- Maximise ventilation
- Maintain good hygiene – wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser
- Self-isolate if not well with covid symptoms, and get PCR test asap
- Self-isolate if asked by NHS Test and Trace

# SCIENCE

## Who are we?

Mrs Ghorbani – Head of Science  
Mrs Serrels – Second in Science  
Miss Neilson – Head of Physics  
Miss Jacks – Head of Chemistry  
Mr Sweeney – Science teacher  
Mr McVey – Science teacher  
Mr Crispin- Science teacher  
Mr Frowe – Science teacher  
Miss Hobson- Science teacher  
Mrs Martin – Science teacher

## What we are currently studying:

Year 7 – Cells, Energy and Particles  
Year 8 – Skeletal and Magnetism  
Year 9 – Reactivity and DNA and inheritance  
Year 10 – GCSE - Unit 2 Electricity  
Year 11 :  
Biology – Infection and response  
Chemistry- Rates of reaction  
Physics- Waves

## ASSESSMENT REMINDER

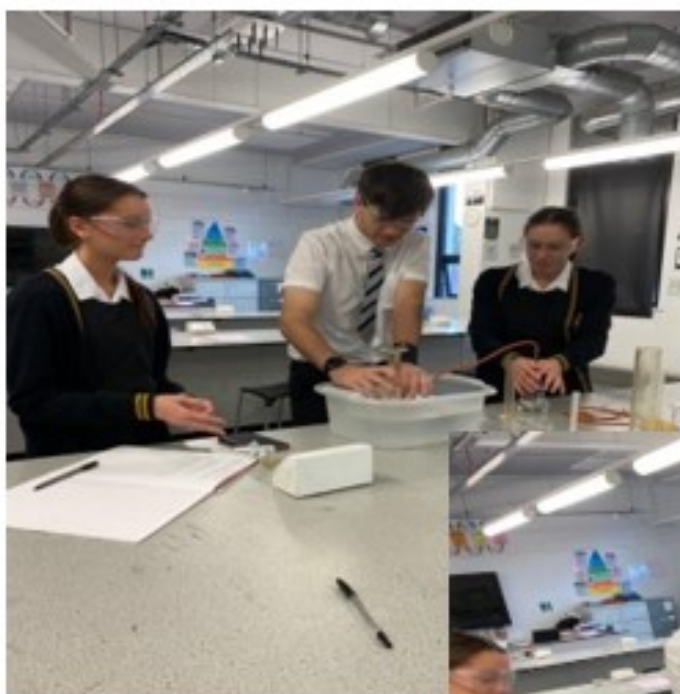
AP Assessments for Year 7-10 and year 12 are held three times throughout the year, at the end of every term



## Year 9- Food Climate Challenge

The Take a Bite out of Climate Change project offered schools the chance to take part in cooking, calculations and climate change activities. Students chose ingredients to make a tasty and climate friendly burrito. These ingredients were chosen to keep the total greenhouse gas emission value of the meal below 500g CO<sub>2</sub> and total protein content of the meal above 15g.





### 6<sup>th</sup> Form Study:

Year 12 BTEC students studying the effects of substrate concentration on enzyme action.



### A Christmas Puzzle – What do the first letters spell?

- ☐ The symbol for the unit coulombs.
- ☐ The only gas in group 1
- ☐ What is missing:  $V = I \times ?$
- ☐ The symbol for the chemical used to test for starch.
- ☐ Stink bomb gas
- ☐ What quantity do we measure in seconds?
- ☐ The symbol that stands for amount of matter.
- ☐ Toxic chemical that can be found in spinach

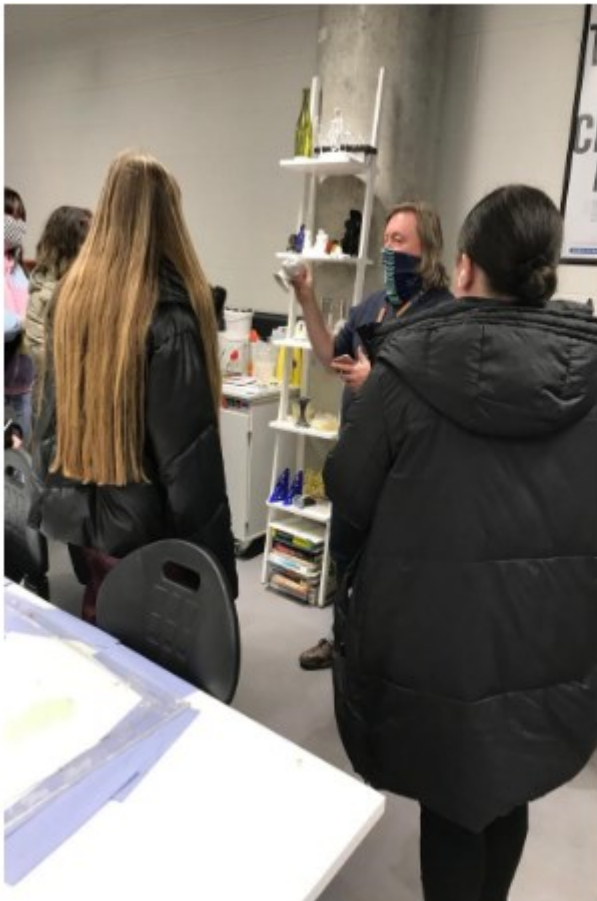
# ENRICHMENT

Year 12 and 13 Art students went on a visit to the Tate gallery.



They observed, in their own time, at their own pace, some of the greatest art pieces from past and present.

On the same day the students also went to John Lennon Art College where they were exposed to contemporary art in progress, new ideas and new materials

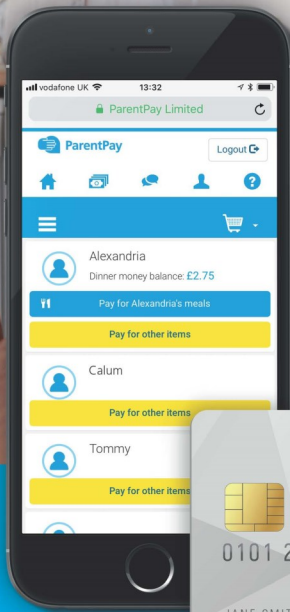




# THE EASY WAY TO PAY

We're using ParentPay so parents  
can easily pay online for school  
dinners, trips and clubs.

**No stress, hassle free.**



**SIMPLE  
QUICK  
SAFE**



[www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)



**ParentPay**  
COUNT ON US

**VISA**

**VISA Checkout**



# SAFEGUARDING REMINDERS



## Important Contacts

If you currently need support for your mental health or well being these are some of the organisations who are happy to listen and help

### Anxiety UK

03444775774 (Helpline)

075374160905 (Text)

### Childline

0800 1111 (Free 24 hr helpline)

### Papyrus Hotline

(Under 35s at risk of suicide or concerned for another)

0800 068 4141

07786209697 (text)

### The Mix

(Support & Advice for under 25s)

0808 068 4994

85258 (Text THEMIX)

### Young Minds

0808 803 5544 (Parent helpline)

85258 (Free 24hr crisis messenger, text YM)

### Young Stonewall

Information & support for young people who identify as LGBTQ

0800 050 2020

### Samaritans

Support for anyone who needs to talk

116 123 (Call)

### Bullybusters

0800 169 6928

**Please refer to the school website for further contact details/ websites**

## If you feel a child is at risk

**(suffering harm, neglect or abuse)**

Any member of the public can contact

Careline on 0151 233 3700 or

Merseyside Police on 0151 709 6010

## CAMHS Crisis Care Team

Supporting children and young people in crisis regarding self-harm, suicidal ideation and acute mental health difficulties. Speak to a mental health practitioner 24hrs/day

## Childline - [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

• Childline is available to you if you have any concerns about:

- Bullying
- Abuse (physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, neglect)
- Your body and self esteem
- Your feelings
- Friendships
- Sexual advice
- Home life and families
- School

• You can ring them on 0800 1111 or message them online here <https://www.childline.org.uk/registration/>

• There are loads of resources available for you to download and read as well <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/>



## Domestic Abuse/Violence

Please remember, in an emergency dial 999 for immediate assistance.

**You can call 999 without speaking then pressing 55, or tapping or coughing into the phone.**

**This will enable police to respond**

### Women's Aid

0808 2000 247 (24 hr helpline)

### Men's Advice Line

0808 801 0327

### Worst Kept Secret Helpline Merseyside

0800 028 3398



# SAFEGUARDING

## CONTACT US

Email: [sg@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk](mailto:sg@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk)

Emails are answered within 24 hrs Mon—Fri 9-3

Phone: 0151 330 5122

PC P Wood Schools Safer Police Officer

## The Safeguarding Team

Headteacher – Mr P Duffy  
Deputy Headteacher - Mrs AM Costello

### Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs E Brennan – Senior Assistant Headteacher

## Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mrs J Littleboy – Assistant Head of Year  
Mr D McKeon – Leadership - Director of Behaviour  
Mr A McVerry – Leadership - SENCO

PC P Wood – school's safer police officer  
Leadership/ Alternative Provision – Miss H McCullen  
Attendance Officer – Mrs P Shrimpton  
Special Educational Needs – Mrs K Sweeney  
Pastoral Assistant Heads of Year – Ms R Glorman Y7, Mrs Doran Y8, Mrs E Garvey Y10, Miss C Lee Y11



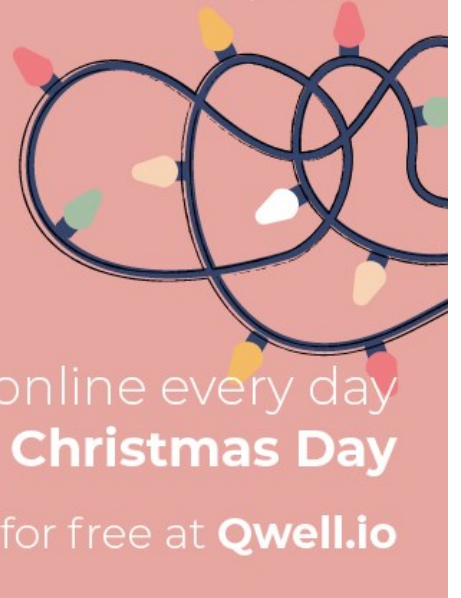
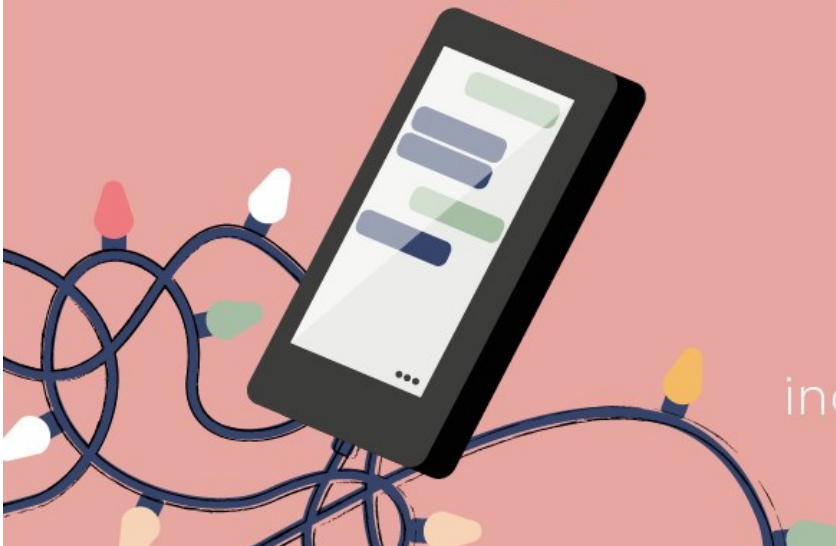


You can still access support  
over the holiday period



We're online every day  
including **Christmas Day**

Sign up for free at **Qwell.io**





# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. It now has around a billion users worldwide.

## AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TikTok Jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view third-party content outside the app.

18

CENSORED

## EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the app's young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and then be inclined to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.

W&H\*!

## TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities: Charli D'Amelio and Lil Nas X, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok – leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become "TikTok famous". While most aspiring stars hoping to be 'the next big thing' will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.

OSCAR

## HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is simple on TikTok – including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but – because of its abundance of teen users – TikTok has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.

## ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media, TikTok is designed to be addictive. It can be hugely entertaining – but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep users intrigued about what's coming next mean it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.

## IN-APP SPENDING

There's an in-app option to purchase 'TikTok coins', which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 99p to an eye-watering £99 bundle. TikTok is also connected with Shopify, which allows users to buy products through the app.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information like their school or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.

### MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

The default setting for all under 16s' accounts to 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution: it means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The 'Stitch' (which lets users splice clips from other people's videos into their own) and 'Duet' (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are now only available to over 16s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortify their account against predators.

### LEARN ABOUT REPORTING AND BLOCKING

With the correct privacy settings applied, TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok allows users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.

### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

'Family Pairing' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

### USE RESTRICTED MODE

In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' section, you can filter out inappropriate content (specific content creators or hashtags, for instance) using 'Restricted Mode'. This can then be locked with a PIN. You should note, though, that the algorithm moderating content isn't totally dependable – so it's wise to stay aware of what your child is watching.

### MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child to manage their time on it in the 'Digital Wellbeing' section. Under 'Screen Time Management', you can limit the daily permitted time on the app (in increments ranging from 40 minutes to two hours). This preference can also be locked behind a PIN. That way, your child can get their regular dose of TikTok without wasting the whole day.

## Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



**National Online Safety®**  
#WakeUpWednesday

SOURCES TikTok, appm



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 03.11.2021



# YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID



Drop in every Tuesday & Thursday  
08.15 – 09.15  
in  
The Suite  
(Next to referral)



Sometimes the smallest  
things take up the most room  
in our minds

# WHISPER



whisper@ndcc

Who can use whisper@ndcc? *parents/carers/students*



- Do you need to inform the safeguarding team about a safeguarding issue?
- Would you like to do it anonymously?
  - \*Neglect \* Abuse \* **Bullying** \*Sexual harassment \*Peer on Peer abuse \*Threats
  - \***Criminal exploitation** \*Drugs/Alcohol \***Worried about a friend**
- Use the QR code to access the online form or <https://forms.office.com/r/WfTPCfWANz>
- You can either fill in your name on the form or you can fill out the information anonymously – it is up to you! If you fill out your name and leave a contact number we will contact you.
- We **all** have a responsibility to help our young people before they come to harm
- The online reports will be monitored during term time and will be checked on a daily basis Monday to Friday
- **Remember – if someone is at risk you should phone Careline 0151 2333700 , if it is an emergency phone 999**

# COVID ADVICE

Schools have been communicating directly with families and carers and keeping their individual websites updated and should always be the first place to go for advice about plans for getting back into the classroom.

However, we have put together the following frequently asked questions to answer some of the general questions about going back to school...

## **How do the [self-isolation changes of 16 August](#) affect school attendance?**

If children and young people (aged 18 years & 6 months and under) have not tested positive for Covid, and they are not otherwise ill they are expected to be in school.

Anyone aged under 18 and 6 months who has been a close contact of someone who has tested positive is no longer required to self-isolate unless the child also has symptoms. They are advised to take a PCR test but they do not have to isolate whilst they wait for the results.

Students who are aged 18 years & 6 months and over will be treated as adults under the guidance and will not be expected to self-isolate if they have had a close contact provided they have received both Covid vaccinations and 14 days have passed since the second dose.

You can find out where drop-in Covid vaccination clinics are on [Liverpool CCG's website](#).

## **I think my child has Covid, what should I do?**

If your child has symptoms, [please book a PCR test](#) and isolate until you have the results. If you receive a positive test result the child should self-isolate following the national guidance. If you need support whilst your family is self-isolating there is information on the [council's website](#).

## **Will children still be expected to take lateral flow tests (LFTs)?**

Testing is voluntary, but it is encouraged as it is still one of the best ways to break the chain of infection.

We're encouraging secondary school pupils to take an LFT **before** they return to school.

When schools return, government guidance will be followed:

**Nursery and primary school children** – Do not need to take LFTs.

**Secondary school pupils and college students** – In the first week of term, two LFTs will be taken at school three to five days apart. In following weeks, two LFTs to be taken at home each week until the end of September.

## **Will testing continue after the end of September?**

There will be a national review of all testing in September 2021 and this will inform the role of testing in school and other settings



## **What should I do if my child has a positive result on a lateral flow test?**

They should self-isolate immediately and you should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

Other members of the household do not need to self-isolate whilst you await the PCR test result if they do not have symptoms and are aged under 18 years or are fully vaccinated.

## **Will pupils still be part of bubbles?**

Bubbles were introduced to limit contact between groups. Schools are no longer required to do this, but they may be considered if there is an outbreak at the school.

## **What happens if there are positive cases in schools?**

All schools and colleges are required to have outbreak management plans. Action may need to be taken if certain thresholds are met. If risks change significantly the Director of Public Health is able to implement further or different measures to protect population health.

## **Will school continue to inform us if there are positive cases in school?**

Public Health England are currently advising schools that it is not necessary to send *warn and inform* letters for each pupil case. Parents will be informed if additional controls from the outbreak management plan need to be put in place.

Meanwhile schools will continue to maintain COVID prevention measures. This includes maximising ventilation, encouraging good hygiene, thorough cleaning and ensuring that anyone with COVID symptoms or positive test results do not come in to school.

## **Will children be made to have a vaccination?**

No-one will be made to have a vaccination, but having both doses of the vaccination is still the best way of preventing people from becoming very ill with Covid-19.

The national vaccination programme is now open to anyone aged 16 and over. Sixteen and 17-year-olds will be contacted by their GPs and are not able to book vaccinations online.

## **I would like my child to have a vaccination as there is someone in my household who is vulnerable but my child is younger than 16.**

Vaccinations are being offered to 12-15-year-olds if they have an underlying health condition or if someone they live with is immunosuppressed. You should speak to your child's GP.

## **Will my child have to wear a face covering in the classroom?**

Guidance states that face coverings do not need to be worn in the classroom. But if your child travels to school or college on public transport that is crowded and they can't socially distance it is a good idea to wear a face covering if they are able.

Parents are encouraged to wear face coverings at the school gates particularly if social distancing isn't possible.

## **Will normal school activities now be taking place?**

Yes, activities such as sports, singing, playing wind or brass instruments, and going on trips and excursions are now allowed to take place.

## **My child is anxious about returning to school is there any support?**

The last year and a half has been especially tough for our children and young people. If your child is worried about returning to the classroom please speak to the school in the first instance. They can also get help and advice online such as at [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

# ATTENDANCE & UNIFORM

## Attendance and Punctuality

The school's attendance officer is Mrs P Shrimpton

From 3rd September 2021 all students are expected to attend school.

All students should arrive at school before 8:40 a.m. to ensure they have enough time to be at their form classes for 8:45 a.m. Parents/carers must ensure that students leave home in plenty of time to get to school on time.

Breakfast - Students are able to have breakfast in school after 8 a.m. in the lower canteen

Appointments - Please do not make medical / dental appointments for students during school hours. Any appointments during school time will only be authorised with a letter or appointment card.

Holidays - Term Dates are included in this newsletter - please do not book holidays during term times. Any holidays booked during term time will be unauthorised unless with the prior agreement of the headteacher.

## Pastoral Team

If you need to speak to a member of the pastoral team you can contact them via class charts messages.

Mrs Brennan - Senior Assistant Headteacher

Mr McKeon - Leadership Team / Director of Behaviour

Mr Campbell - Leadership Team / Director of Behaviour

**Year 7** - Head of Year - Miss Wishart Assistant Head of Year - Ms Glorman

**Year 8** - Head of Year - Mr Appleton Assistant Head of Year - Mrs Doran

**Year 9** - Head of Year - Mrs Crosslind Assistant Head of Year - Mrs Littleboy

**Year 10** - Head of Year - Mr Bond Assistant Head of Year - Mrs Garvey

**Year 11** - Head of Year - Mrs Smith Assistant Head of Year - Ms Lee

## Uniform standards

Please find attached the appropriate shoe guidance which is part of our school uniform. Parents/carers were provided with a letter regarding uniform and the details of appropriate shoes in the summer term. The information is also available on the school website. If pupils come into school with the wrong footwear from Monday 6th September 2021 they will be given an alternative pair of shoes provided by school. Any queries please speak to your son/daughter's Head of Year.

## ACCEPTABLE AND NON-ACCEPTABLE SHOES



**Polishable Shoe  
Black**



**Polishable Shoe  
Black**



**Polishable Shoe  
Black**



**Plain Black Patent**



**Polishable Shoe  
Black**



**Polishable Shoe  
Black**



**Polishable Shoe  
Black**



**Non-Polishable Shoe  
Trainer**



**Embellishment not same colour as shoe  
Embellishment not flat to shoe  
Open toe**



**Embellishment not same colour as shoe**