

Newsletter

Friday 7th January 2022

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

May we begin the first newsletter of 2022 by wishing everyone a **Happy New Year!** We hope all Notre Dame families had a restful, peaceful and enjoyable Christmas with friends and family. I would also like to take this opportunity to personally thank every student, parent, governor and member of Notre Dame staff, past and present, who took the time to attend Ava's funeral during the Christmas holiday. Our amazing school was brilliantly and respectfully represented at Ava's beautiful send off – thank you.

Response to COVID Testing and COVID measures

Continuing with 'thanks', we would like to thank students and parents for your fantastic response to the appeal for consent for COVID testing on students' return to school. Uptake for testing this week was **the highest we have ever had**. Thankfully, positive cases amongst students have been identified quickly in this round of testing and those students are now self-isolating as per the government guidelines.

Thankfully, staff attendance has also allowed us to keep all year groups in school for face-to-face learning this week. As parents will know from the national and local media, like hospitals and other public services, schools are experiencing significant staff shortages during this Omicron wave. Our unwavering aim throughout this and all previous waves is to provide face-to-face education for as many students as possible, for as long as possible. If at any point we need to take the very difficult decision to ask any students to learn from home due to staff shortages, we will communicate this as early as possible via ParentApp and ClassCharts.

In the interests of everyone's continued safety and vigilance, we will continue to host assemblies virtually for the foreseeable future and continue to ask students to **wear masks both in communal areas around school and in classrooms** unless exempt, regularly wash and sanitize their hands, to socially distance wherever possible and to test twice a week. Directions on how to collect tests from the college can be seen in Mrs Costello's ParentApp message from yesterday.

Continued....



INDEX

	PAGE
PARKING LETTER	4
CAREERS	5—6
VIOLENCE REDUCTION	7—8
PARENT PAY	9
SAFEGUARDING	10—15
COVID ADVICE	16—17
ATTENDANCE/UNIFORM	18—19



The Themes of this Week

In this first short week back, collective worship focused on the **Epiphany** and the hope that is brought by a New Year and the arrival of God's greatest gift to us and remembering the arrival of the Wise Men to the crib.

In my virtual 'welcome back' assembly, I revisited our college vision, mission and values statement and introduced students to the focus for the coming term, which is our **COURTESY** core value. I was disappointed not to be able to deliver this assembly face-to-face but one of the benefits of these recorded virtual assemblies is that parents and carers are able to also watch the assembly, which can be viewed on the college's YouTube channel [here](#).

College Uniform Standards and Expectations

Generally, the standard of uniform and presentation at Notre Dame is excellent. The vast majority of students fully adhere to our long-established uniform and dress code every single day (the full details of these expectations can be found [here](#) and are pictured below). By doing so, these students demonstrate their commitment to and pride in our Notre Dame community and pride in themselves.



Continued.....



However, we have been disappointed to see a small number of students return from Christmas **not** in full uniform or wearing inappropriate items such as trainers instead of school shoes, makeup and outdoor coats that are not navy or black (all of which are clearly outlined in our uniform list which is also sent out every year).

Each holiday provides all Notre Dame families with the ideal opportunity to replenish uniform, replace any items of uniform that have perished or been lost or outgrown. If your child is unable to attend school on Monday not in full uniform for any reason, please write a note in your child's planner explaining the issue and confirm the date on which issue will be resolved.

Sending your child to school not in full uniform, and without a note to explain why, undermines the standards of the college and causes unnecessary disruption to your child's day. **Please support the college and your child by sending them to school on Monday in full uniform** and without any items that go against our uniform code.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Finally, we are announcing that we have a new vacancy for Parent Governor here at Notre Dame Catholic College. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Hitchman for her service to the College as a Parent Governor.

We are now inviting nominations from parents and carers who are interested in serving the College as our next Parent Governor. Along with this newsletter, we have attached a Parent Governor candidate pack that includes information about the role of a parent governor, the timeline for the process and instructions on how to apply. Nominations can be submitted on paper using the agreed Nomination Form or by completing this online Nomination Form [[click here to access the online Nomination Form](#)]. The deadline for nominations is Monday 24th January. Thank you in advance for your interest.

Please click here to access the Parent Governor Candidate Pack_
<https://www.notredameliverpool.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/NDCC-Parent-Governor-Candidate-Pack-January-2022-1.pdf>

Wishing every Notre Dame family a peaceful and safe weekend.

Mr Duffy





January 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

Thank you to all the parents/guardians and pupils who are walking, cycling, or parking further away from the school gates to avoid congestion in the local areas to the school.

Sadly however, there are still motorists who continue to create problems for fellow pupils and parents by parking:

- **on the School KEEP CLEAR Markings**
- **in the location of the School Crossing Patrol**
- **close to junctions**
- **on/in front of dropped kerbs**
- **on double/single yellow lines**
- **double parking**
- **in front of resident driveways**
- **on pavements - the constant bumping up onto the pavement with doors swinging open across the footway continues to pose an ongoing hazard for pedestrians.**

It really should not take enforcement or continuous letters to emphasise the need to think considerately about how we park around the school. Therefore, please make it a **NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION** to **park safely away from the school and walk that final few minutes in.**

Road Safety Team, Liverpool City Council

CAREERS



CAREERS NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022

Welcome to the first Careers newsletter of 2022!

Last term was certainly a busy one regarding careers activities for our students. During PHSCE lessons last half term, students in years 8-12 were focused on their careers education programme. In September, Year 13 attended a Higher Education Conference at Edge Hill University. A group of Year 7 students visited the Into University Centre to take part in a workshop around transition to secondary school. In December, a group of year 8 students attended the University of Liverpool for the day.

The majority of year 11 students have now had their first careers guidance meeting with me to discuss their plans after year 11. These students are now in the process of applying to sixth forms, colleges or training programmes. Year 13 students who are applying for university have been completing their applications ahead of the January 26th deadline.

This term is set to be another busy one too, I have included some details of events this half term at the end of the newsletter. I do hope you find this newsletter helpful.

Regards

Mrs Hall
Careers Leader and Careers Adviser



Morrisby Careers

As a school we subscribe to the Morrisby Careers platform. This is an excellent online careers site that provides students with personalised careers information and advice. Students can explore different jobs and pathways around their interests and personal preferences. All students have had the opportunity to create their Morrisby account and can access this online anytime. As students in year 9 prepare to choose their GCSE options over the next few weeks, Morrisby will be able to provide students with high quality information and advice to support their decisions.

Students can access Morrisby at [Leading Careers Advice & Guidance Platform - Morrisby](#) The sign in steps are as follows. Please encourage your child to take advantage of this resource if they are not already using Morrisby Careers.

[Morrisby Careers Sign Up Guide November 2021](#)

Year 9 Options Evening

Shortly, parents and carers of year 9 students will be receiving details of the arrangements for Year 9 Options Evening on 20th January. During PHSCE last term, Year 9 students spent their careers lessons exploring the things they need to consider in order to make the best GCSE option choices for them. Parents and carers may find the following websites below helpful as you support your child through this process. They can be found on the parent tab of the Careers page on the school website at [Careers | Notre Dame Catholic College \(notredameliverpool.com\)](https://www.notredame.liverpool.sch.uk/careers). If you would like to arrange a careers meeting to discuss your child's next steps, please contact me via email at hallg@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk or via Class Charts.

T Levels

A new technical qualification has recently been launched to provide 16-year-old students an alternative to studying traditional A level courses after year 11. T Levels are new courses which follow GCSEs and are equivalent to 3 A levels. These 2-year courses, which launched September 2020, have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work, further training, or study.

T Levels offer students a mixture of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days).

Please find a link to a short video guide for further information. Local providers of this qualification include Hugh Baird College and Carmel Sixth Form College. Vocational areas include Health and Social Care, Construction, Business.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rua65bHjMw>

Virtual Work Experience Opportunities

Over the last two years there has been a huge shift to employers offering young people virtual workplace and employer encounters, because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Many of our students have opted to take advantage of these opportunities, to help them develop key skills and commercial awareness of different job sectors. If your child is 13+ they can register their interest and apply for a wide range of opportunities. Many of these opportunities take place after school or during the school holidays. Please double check the dates do not fall during term time as we will be unable to authorise participation. As ever, please get in touch if you have any questions.

Speakers for Schools Experience

[Experience > Sign In \(s4snextgen.org\)](https://www.s4snextgen.org/)

Springpod

[Free Virtual Work Experience | Springpod](https://www.springpod.co.uk/)

Parent and Carer Careers Survey

At the end of last term, we asked our students to complete a survey about how they felt about their careers programme and their career learning. The results of these surveys will help us better understand how we can meet the needs of our students with their career learning and planning going forward. We would now like to ask the views of our parent and carers. Please could you complete a short questionnaire-the link is below. This will take around 5-10 minutes to complete. Please can this be completed by Friday 14th January.

<https://forms.office.com/r/2NJMCJt7kH>

Dates for the Diary

January to February Half Term

11th January- Year 10 and 11 students attending a workshop by St Peter's College, University of Oxford on applying to competitive universities

18th January- Women in Technology presentation Year 9 girls

Year 11 Into University Workshop- Post 18 choices

27th January-Year 10 Food Group attending Hugh Baird College L 20 restaurant

8th February BAE Roadshow- STEM careers Year 7 and 8 students

18th February Year 10,11 and 12 students will be visiting St Peter's College, University of Oxford

VIOLENCE REDUCTION



7th January 2022

Dear Mr Duffy,

The Inclusive Hub is working in conjunction with the Kirkdale Neighbourhood Centre and supported by Merseyside Sports to deliver a Violence Reduction Programme to support young people who may be more vulnerable to experiencing violence. This could be due to a lack of self-esteem, experiencing challenges at home, they may live in a community where drugs and alcohol are prevalent, or the community may lack infrastructure and accessible services. All these factors are recognised as increasing vulnerability to experiencing violence and/or exploitation.

We are hosting a 12 week programme of sports, arts and culture based activities; delivered by professional coaches and practitioners. We are also working with external agencies to allow us to meet our identified outcomes:

- increased participation of young people in sports and arts and cultural activities
- Improved reported mental health and wellbeing of young people (including anger management)
- Increased perception of personal safety amongst the young people involved
- Improved social, emotional, and behavioural skills
- Improved awareness of the impact of violent crime, particularly knife crime, and the signs and dangers of child criminal exploitation
- Improved aspirations of young people
- Increased opportunities for young people

Activities offered will include: football, girls' box-fit, circuit training, dance, yoga and a range of arts-based workshops. Participants will also be encouraged to work with us to identify activities they would like to see included. The sessions will be delivered from The Inclusive Hub on Primrose St. L4 1RD (part of the Kirkdale Neighbourhood Centre building) every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. starting Monday 17th January for 12 weeks – there is no cost to young people.

Hopefully you will have pupils who you think would benefit from joining the programme and we would be grateful if you could share this information with them, and encourage them to join us on the 17th January. I have attached a flyer to this email, which can be distributed to pupils.

Please feel free to contact me on 07534952018 haycockwendy@yahoo.co.uk if you would like to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely,



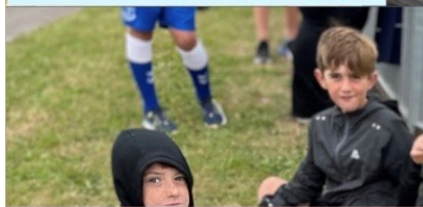
Inclusive Hub Ambassador



Free Activities include:
Football, Dance,
Girls Box-fit,
Yoga, Arts, plus more



Creating



Community
Cohesion



KNC

KIRKDALE NEIGHBOURHOOD
COMMUNITY



Where: Primrose Street,
L4 1RD

When: Starts Mon 17th
January until 15th April

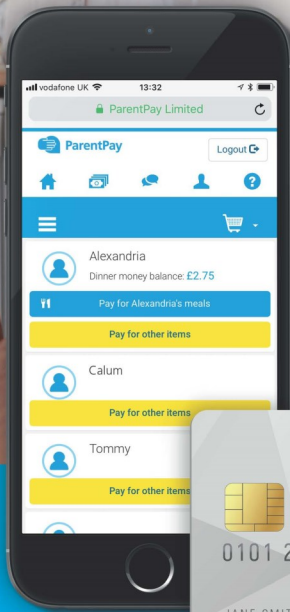
Timetable: Mon, Wed, Fri
4pm to 6pm (age 9 to 18)

Thursdays 11am to 1pm
(Girls over 18s)

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



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

• 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

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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP NEW DEVICES FOR CHILDREN

At Christmas, millions of lucky children will be excitedly ripping the wrapping off new phones, tablets, computers or consoles. However, in the rush to let young ones enjoy their shiny gadgets, many parents neglect to set these devices up safely – increasing the chances of children going online and stumbling across adult content, making expensive downloads or installing unsuitable apps. A little time configuring the device properly can save a lot of anguish later. Here are our top tips to ensure that a dream gift on Christmas morning doesn't turn into a nightmare by New Year.

PASSCODES FOR IPHONE/IPAD

If your child's getting their own iPhone or iPad, you can set parental controls that make it difficult for them to access inappropriate content or download expensive apps. Once the device is set up, go to the Settings app and tap Screen Time, then select Use Screen Time Passcode and enter a passcode. Keep it to yourself so your child can't switch the protection off.

SCREEN TIME SETTINGS ON IPHONE/IPAD

Once you've set a Screen Time Passcode, you can adjust various safety settings. You could, for example, only allow communication with people from the Contacts app, place restrictions on App Store purchases and apply age limits to movies, music and web content. There are many more protective options available within the Screen Time settings section.

FAMILY LINK FOR ANDROID

Parents can manage Android phones and tablets, as well as Google Chromebooks, through Google's Family Link app. This gives your child some independence (and their own Google account) but lets parents monitor which apps are being used, set limits on content and ensure that parental permission is required to install apps. Look for Family Link in the Google Play Store.

ADD A CHILD TO FAMILY LINK

The easiest way to add a child's device to Family Link is to set it up with its own Google account. It's a good idea to create this before they use their new phone, tablet or Chromebook. Once they're logged in, open the Family Link app on your phone, press '+' in the top right and add a new family member using their Google account details. Then follow the on-screen instructions.

FAMILY SHARING ON A MAC

Families using a Mac get similar screen time options to iPhone and iPad users. Again, if you're setting up a Mac for a child, make yourself the main admin and add them as a user. This is handled through Apple's Family Sharing service, which not only allows you to put controls on child accounts but share apps and other purchases with them too. Search 'family sharing' at <https://support.apple.com>.

PLAYSTATION PARENTAL CONTROLS

With parental controls for the PS5, you'll need a PlayStation Network account (as the 'family manager') and the child will need their own account, which they should sign in with on the console. This all needs to be set up in advance, so you might want to do it before the big day. Go to PlayStation.com and search 'family account' for instructions.

DISCUSS IT WITH YOUR CHILD

If you're planning to implement any kind of restriction or protection settings on your child's new device, we'd recommend having a discussion with your young one first about what these controls do, and what they are for. If you try to impose parental controls surreptitiously or with no advance warning, don't be surprised if your child tries to find a way around them.

SET AN ADMIN ON PCS

On Windows PCs and laptops, it's important not to let your child share a general user account or be the main admin on the device. If you're booting up a new family PC or a child's own device, set it up using your own account details and you'll become the admin by default. Then set up children with their own separate account: Settings > Accounts > Family & Other Users > Add Other User.

SET WINDOWS LIMITS

Once your child's account has been created, a parent admin can go back into the Family & Other Users menu and apply limits to it. These include restricting screen time, the type of games and apps that can be installed, web filters and more. Microsoft also includes reporting tools which, for example, can email you with a weekly summary of your child's activity on the device.

TREAT AN XBOX LIKE A PC

The same control settings you use for a PC can be used to apply parental controls on an Xbox. Again, once your child is signed into the Xbox with their own account, you can then monitor and regulate their activity from a PC or web browser. Microsoft's dashboard allows you to manage voice communication through the console: so you can limit who can contact your child, for example.

INSTALL XBOX FAMILY SETTINGS

If you don't have a PC, but your child does have an Xbox, it might be easier to use the Xbox Family Settings app for iPhone or Android. Here, you can restrict console screen time (particularly handy if the console is in a bedroom), restrict communication and monitor the types of game being played. There's also a feature where you can allocate spending money for games or in-game purchases.

STAY VIGILANT

It's important to remember that none of these methods is 100% foolproof. Nobody will ever invent flawless filters or parental controls – not least because what's unacceptable to some parents is perfectly acceptable to others. So although devices' parental controls will help to keep your child safe online, they work best side by side with good old-fashioned parental vigilance.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



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: 22.12.2021

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.



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.



NOS
National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

SOURCES TikTok, appm



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

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