

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,



Sixth Form Open Evening

Firstly, a huge 'thank you' to all students and parents of Year 10 and 11 who attended our sixth form open evening last night. It was wonderful to host parents and students in person and provide that much-needed individual advice and guidance face-to-face at this pivotal time in students' educational journey. Visitors heard a key note presentation from the Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form and our Head Students Alexis and Paul and former students Beth and Ryan. Students then visited subject stalls for course-specific conversations and advice. Thank you' to all staff involved in the planning and preparation of the event.

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MR DUFFY
HEADTEACHER

Students wishing to attend our sixth form need to complete and return their initial application form no later than Wednesday 2nd November.

All Year 11 students have been given paper application forms today or they can [apply online by clicking here](#)

Details of our application process can be found in the sixth form section of the [college website](#). Please do not hesitate to contact the college if you or your son/daughter require any further information or guidance about next year.



GenderSpace Assemblies

As our mission statement declares, the Notre Dame experience is designed and delivered to 'open minds to new ideas, theories, cultures and experiences, breaking cultural barriers'. Likewise, our core values of **Charity** and **Courtesy** declare our commitment to seeking out to understand and truly accept views, beliefs and stories that our different from our own.

Our patron and foundress, St Julie, said "The Good God is blessing your efforts to change your disposition and become more accommodating to all." [L 389]

This week, we welcomed the return of Christian Owens from GenderSpace UK for a second round of truly inspirational assemblies to Years 7, 10, 11 and 12, sharing messages of diversity, equality and inclusion. We would like to thank Christian for sharing our passion and commitment to **'open minds'** here at Notre Dame.



OUR VISION

To Open Hearts, Minds and Doors

OUR MISSION

We are a compassionate Catholic community, inspired by the love of God, the teachings of Jesus Christ and our Foundress, St Julie Billiart.

We **open hearts** to God's love through a passionate and relevant Catholic experience

We **open minds** to new knowledge, ideas, theories, cultures and experiences, breaking cultural barriers through an imaginative curriculum and precise teaching

We **open doors** to ambitious, happy and fulfilled futures for every member of our Notre Dame family, accelerating social mobility through high expectations and academic standards

OUR CORE VALUES

Charity
Courtesy
Courage
Confidence



Cultural Poet Visit

On Thursday, we were delighted to host poet, Kenny Baraka, who delivered a series of brilliantly entertaining poetry workshops on the themes of culture, diversity and the African diaspora. The feedback from staff and student was fantastic. We look forward to reading the poetry competition entries from all students involved. 'Thank you' to our fabulous librarian, Miss Dennis, for organising this experience.



Bonfire Night Celebrations

Finally, this will be our last opportunity to provide parents and carers with some helpful materials to support your conversations with your child on the well-publicised dangers of fireworks so that every member of the Notre Dame family enjoys a safe and enjoyable Guy Fawkes night celebration. For some helpful tips on how to stay safe during bonfire night, please see the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents' website at

<https://www.rosipa.com/home-safety/advice/fireworks-safety>



**WE WISH EVERY NOTRE DAME FAMILY
A PEACEFUL AND SAFE WEEKEND.**

Mr Duffy

Meet our Head Students



Congratulations to our new Head Students, Paul and Alexis.

Our Head Students have the honour of leading our 1804 society, who are the Notre Dame Catholic College's team of student ambassadors. Paul and Alexis joined us for our Sixth Form Open Evening to share their experience of Sixth Form with our current students and what their future aspirations to persue Law and Biomedical Science!

They embodied the College's core value, Confidence, as they participated in our Sixth Form Team's presentation to Parents and Students.



FORM GROUP ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE!

When we return after the Half Term Break, we will be tracking attendance of each form group to crown the winner of the 'Best Attending Form' for every year group.

This will be a collective challenge based on the form group that has the highest attendance from Monday 31st October - Friday 16th December. The winning form groups will not only have bragging rights but will also be taken on a Reward Trip on Monday 19th December, before we finish for the Christmas Break.

Year 7,10 and 11 will be visiting the Christmas Markets in the City Centre.

Year 8 will be visiting the cinema.

Year 9 - will be going to mini golf.

Full details of the reward trips will be confirmed when we return after Half Term Break.



Year 12 Trip to Alton Towers

Our Year 12 Business and Sport students visited Alton Towers this week to study Merlin Entertainments, the owner of Alton Towers to support their Business and Sport coursework modules. Our students studying business got a really insightful experience of how Merlin Entertainment operates. Our Sports students were able to delve into and explore the Hospitality side of the business to support their work. Apart from the rain, everyone had a fantastic experience!



MVP Workshops

We're delighted to share that 17 of our year 10 students have volunteered to become **Mentors in Violence Prevention**.

Our students have taken part in workshops this week to learn what this role involves and how they can support their peers and share the message:

The Standard you walk past is the standard you accept'

They will all be delivering workshops to students from Year 7 throughout the year. We're really proud of all the students who have stepped up to take on this responsibility, displaying our core values of **Courage** and **Courtesy**.



Save the Date!
Tuesday 1st November
Careers Fair for Y10 - 13

Useful links to Government support and advice for cost of living



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING THE OCTOBER HALF TERM 2022

COURTESY OF MONEY SAVING CENTRAL



ASDA CAFE Kids eat for £1 all day, every day with no adult spend until the end of 2022	TESCO CAFES Kids Eat Free with any purchase of fresh fruit by an adult throughout all the UK Half Terms
TOBY CARVERY The Kids Eat For £1 offer will be available from October 24th to 28th with the App	MORRISONS Spend £4.99 after 3pm daily & get one free kids meal (usually all day during half term)
FRANKIE & BENNY'S Adults Eat Free with every under 11 child throughout all the UK Half terms	HUNGRY HORSE Kids eat breakfast free with every adult breakfast, daily from 9am - 12pm.
PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm	PRETO Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto during Half Terms
WHITBREAD INNS Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased	FARMHOUSE INNS Kids eat for £1 when you sign up to their email list before October 26th 2022
FUTURE INNS Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal. During the school holidays	YO! SUSHI Kid's eat free all day, Monday to Thursday until 29th October 2022
TABLE TABLE Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!	SA BRAINS PUBS Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Only valid Wednesdays but on all day
THE REAL GREEK Kids eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult	IKEA From October 11th kids get a meal for 95p or £1.50 from 11am - All day, every day.
SIZZLING PUBS Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.	ANGUS STEAKHOUSE One free children's meal per paid adult meal 12-5pm daily throughout the holidays
BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!	BELLA ITALIA Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Monday to Thursday

LINK: [Household costs - Help for Households](#)

LINK: [Help in a crisis - Liverpool City Council](#)



**ARE YOU A YOUNG PERSON IN
LIVERPOOL AGED 14-24
INTERESTED IN HAVING A SAY
AROUND RACISM AND DIVISION?**

We want to invite young people and professionals to work together to discuss the topic of Racism and Division. What does racism and division mean to you? What do you want to say about why this is an issue in our city? What more can be done around this topic? How can this be achieved?

THURSDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2022



2-4PM



@ MERSEYSIDE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

**YOU WILL BE GIVEN A £20 VOUCHER FOR YOUR TIME AT THIS SESSION,
REFRESHMENTS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED**

Want to get involved?
Scan the QR code to register
or use this link:
<http://eepurl.com/h8ZHqv>



RAISE
Merseyside Youth Association



MERSEYSIDE
Violence
Reduction
Partnership



HOPE COLLECTIVE



Targeted Services
For Young People
Positive about Communities



Letter to parents and guardians from Merseyside Police re. Halloween and Bonfire Night

We are writing to all parents and guardians to ask for your help over Halloween, Bonfire Night and the days around it.

We want everyone to have fun and we'll be working hard to keep you safe.

BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP

Know where your children are

- Encourage kids to go to local events that are being organised, or try a spooky film together
- If your children are going out (particularly on the 30th and 31st of October), make sure you know where they're going. If possible, drop them off and pick them up
- Don't let your children hang around the street
- If they're going somewhere local – walk there with them
- Have an agreed time when they need to be home
- Don't buy fireworks or eggs and flour for them, and don't let them take it out of the house

Know the risks

- Throwing things at cars, buses, shops and houses can hurt people – drivers might swerve if they get distracted and cause a crash, or someone might get hurt by broken glass (and scratched paintwork can be very expensive to fix)
- Getting into trouble with the police can lead to a criminal record, which means not being able to go on holiday to countries like the USA, and not being able to do certain jobs
- Messing around with fireworks is dangerous – some burn as hot as 1,200 degrees - hot enough to melt glass and cause serious or fatal injuries

Know the law

If a young person under the age of 16 commits any of the offences below, the parent/guardian will have to pay the fine.

- A person under the age of 16 can be arrested and fined if found with an unlit firework
- A person under the age of 16 can also be arrested and fined if they throw or light a firework or make a bonfire
- A person under the age of 16 can be arrested and fined for throwing things like eggs, flour, paint or other objects at people, vehicles or property

Thank you for your help and support. By working together, we can keep your children safe this Halloween and Bonfire Night.

Merseyside Police

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SENDIT

Sendit is an add-on to Snapchat, not a standalone app: it requires users to have an active Snapchat account, which they then connect to Sendit. It's important that trusted adults realise, therefore, that any risks associated with Snapchat also affect children using Sendit. Within the app, people play question games like 'Truth or Dare' and 'Never Have I Ever': users select a question to share on their Snapchat story for their friends to reply to. All responses are anonymous, although – for paying subscribers – Sendit reveals hints about who sent which messages.

Age rating:
12+
Teen

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ANONYMOUS RESPONSES
Anonymity online encourages people to say things and act in ways that they normally wouldn't. They're less accountable, and it's harder to track who sent a message. Research has highlighted that children perceive anonymous messages as being more severe than if the same message had come from a friend. Any app that lets children communicate anonymously should be treated with caution.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT
Categories of questions such as 'Ask me anything' or 'Rate me' – coupled with the app's anonymity – mean there is a likelihood of some friends or strangers (if the account is set to 'public') responding in a negative manner. These critical comments (especially if there are several) could ruin a young person's self-esteem – heightening their insecurities and affecting their mental health.

MEMBERSHIP COSTS
Currently costing £8.49 per week, Sendit's Diamond Membership offers clues about who sent a particular message, such as their approximate location, the type of phone used and any mutual friends. Membership also provides exclusive games and an ad-free experience. Young people may well be curious to find out who certain messages are from and therefore sign up for membership.

BULLYING AND HARASSMENT
Open-ended questions which relate personally to the sender are an opportunity for malicious people to make offensive remarks, which can lead to full-blown bullying and harassment. Additionally, bullies and trolls can hide behind the anonymity that Sendit offers, feeling more powerful and able to intimidate their target – who, by contrast, feels hurt, victimised and helpless.

POSSIBLE GROOMING
If your child doesn't have their Snapchat account set to private, or they have previously added strangers as friends, there is a possibility of predators responding to their Sendit questions. They do this in an attempt to gather information about your child – or to initiate a conversation with them, seeking ultimately to form an online 'friendship' and gain the young person's trust.

REPEATED ENGAGEMENT
On Sendit, users receive trophies for reaching a particular number of responses, for answering friends' questions and for posting their own. This sense of achievement could incentivise a young person to be active on Sendit more frequently – spending more time on their phone or tablet as they may naturally want to collect all of the trophies or might be competing with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENCOURAGE EMPATHY
If your child has already downloaded Sendit, it might be wise to have a discussion with them about the impact that saying something anonymously online could have on others. Encourage them to think about how they would feel if they were on the receiving end of a particular comment. Reminding them to stop and re-read messages before sending could reduce the number of regrettable situations.

TALK IT OVER
Before allowing a young person onto a social networking app, it's a good idea to chat with them about the possibility of receiving hurtful comments. Explain that not everyone online is nice; that people often say things they don't mean; and that posts get misinterpreted. Teach your child not to reply to any offensive users on Sendit and simply block instead them (via the three dots in the top right of the screen).

BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES
Even if you do allow your child to use Sendit, you might want to consider talking to them in advance about whether they really need a membership subscription. Either way, it's probably safest to make sure that in-app purchases are blocked in the settings, or that you have configured your child's device to ask for your approval before making a purchase online.

ONLY PLAY WITH FRIENDS
Stress the importance of your child playing Sendit games only with their close friends and not having strangers on their contacts list. This should help to keep the nature of the questions light-hearted – and if the games are being played among a small group, it will be easier for the members to figure out who gave certain answers if someone's been left feeling hurt or uncomfortable by any responses.

Meet Our Expert
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and seeing behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

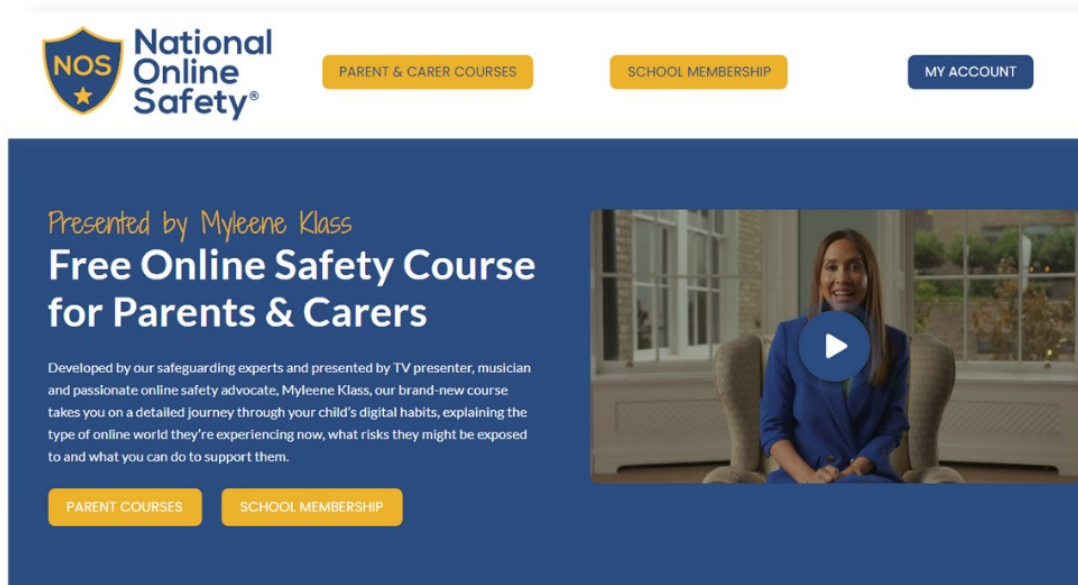
www.nationalonlinesafety.com @nationalonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 19.10.2022

Virtual Courses for Parents

Visit the link below to access this free online course for parents, hosted by Myleene Klass, regarding online safety.

<https://info.nationalonlinesafety.com/myleene-uk>



The screenshot shows the National Online Safety (NOS) website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the NOS logo and three buttons: 'PARENT & CARER COURSES', 'SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP', and 'MY ACCOUNT'. The main content area features a large blue banner for the 'Free Online Safety Course for Parents & Carers' presented by Myleene Klass. The banner includes a video player with a play button and a description of the course. Below the banner, there are two buttons: 'PARENT COURSES' and 'SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP'.

A message for Parents/Carers from The ASD Training Team at Liverpool City Council:

The Liverpool ASD Training Team are providing a series of **Virtual Group Drop in** advisory sessions via zoom.

They are for parents/carers who have any questions or concerns about their child, in regard to pre and post Autism diagnosis. It is also an opportunity to speak with an ASD trainer and other parents.

The sessions will be 2 hours long, you can choose to join anytime within those two hours or stay for the duration. You do not require a diagnosis of ASD to book your place.

Dates:

Tuesday 1 st November	Time: 9.30 – 11.30
Wednesday 2 nd November	Time: 1pm – 3pm
Tuesday 8 th November	Time: 1pm – 3pm
Wednesday 9 th November	Time: 9.30 – 11.30

If you would like to book onto one of the sessions, please email: asdtrainingteam@liverpool.gov.uk

FRI 21ST OCTOBER
2022



NOTRE DAME
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE



SAFEGUARDING UPDATES

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

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

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



<https://ypas.org.uk/services/whats-on-calendar/>

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/register/>

• 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

The Safeguarding Team

Headteacher – Mr P Duffy
Deputy Headteacher – Mrs AM Costello
Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs E Brennan

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 Safer Police Officer
Miss H McCullen – Leadership/Alternative Provision
Mrs P Shrimpton – Attendance Officer
Mrs K Sweeney – Special Educational Needs
Miss C Lee Y7, Ms R Glorman Y8, Mrs S Doran Y9, Mrs J Littleboy Y10, Mrs E Garvey Y11 – Pastoral Assistant Heads of Year

www.notredameliverpool.com/safeguarding/