



Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you to everyone who attended our drop-in Meet and Greet on Wednesday. It was wonderful to see so many parents/carers/aunties/grandparents etc. I hope you enjoyed meeting the teachers and having a chance to see our welcoming classrooms.

### MOBILE PHONES

Our older children are starting to enjoy some independence of walking to and from school. To support parents with this and to help with that additional reassurance, these children may bring their phone to school but must hand it to their teacher on arrival.

Parents need to complete a consent.

### School Admissions for 2027

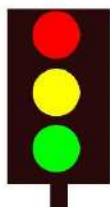
Primary School and Secondary School admissions will be live next week. Nursery and Year 6 children should bring a letter home on Monday.

More information can be found at:

[Primary school admissions September 2027 - Gateshead Council](#) closing date for submitting applications is **15 January 2027**

[Secondary school admissions September 2027 - Gateshead Council](#) closing date for submitting applications is **31 October 2026**

## ATTENDANCE



Red - Danger Zone - Below 90%  
Amber - At Risk Zone - 91% - 94%  
Green - Safety Zone - 95% - 100%

|          |        |         |        |
|----------|--------|---------|--------|
| Rec 1    | 95.9 % | Rec 2   | 95 %   |
| Year 1D  | 93.1 % | Year 1B | 100 %  |
| Year 2ON | 98.9 % | Year 2S | 100 %  |
| Year 3D  | 95.5 % | Year 3S | 98.6 % |
| Year 4H  | 99.5 % | Year 4C | 98.7 % |
| Year 5H  | 96.1 % | Year 5W | 98.5 % |
| Year 6K  | 95.5 % | Year 6C | 97.8 % |

Well done to this week's attendance winners Class 1B and 2S!

## WHATS ON NEXT WEEK

|          |                                 |             |
|----------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 14.09.26 | Cross Country Team Training     | 15:20-17:00 |
| 15.09.26 | Year 5/6 Girls Athletics Trials | 15:20-16:30 |
| 16.09.26 | Year 5/6 Boys Athletics Trials  | 15:20-16:30 |
| 18.09.26 | Year 6 Parent Sharing Assembly  | 9:00        |

You can also stay up to date with dates/times of events on your Arbor Calendar

# CLUBS

Some of our clubs still have spaces available. We have now opened Film club up to Year 5.

**No Gymnastics on 22<sup>nd</sup> October due to the Disco**

**Clubs will finish W/c 7<sup>th</sup> December (Except Karate which finishes w/c 30.11.26)**

|           | Time        | Club Name             | Autumn Term 1 | Autumn Term 2 |                     |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Monday    | 8:00-8:45   | Monday Morning Movers | Year 1-6      |               | <b>Still Spaces</b> |
|           | 15:20-16:20 | Basketball            | Year 5        | Year 6        | <b>Sign up 6pm</b>  |
| Tuesday   | 15:20-16:20 | Games                 | Year 1&2      |               | Full                |
|           | 15:20-17:00 | Movie Mania           | Year 4        | Year 5        | <b>Still Spaces</b> |
| Wednesday | 7:50-8:40   | Karate                | Year 1-6      |               | Full                |
|           | 15:20-16:20 | Number Ninjas         | Year 2&3      |               | Full                |
| Thursday  | 8:00-8:45   | Grassroots            | Year 1-6      |               | <b>Sign up 6pm</b>  |
|           | 15:20-16:20 | Choir                 | Year 1&2      |               | Full                |
|           | 15:20-16:20 | French                | Year 2&3      |               | <b>Still Spaces</b> |
|           | 15:20-16:20 | Gymnastics            | Year 4-6      |               | Full                |
|           | 15:20-16:20 | Maths Club            | Year 5        |               | Full                |
|           |             | Homework Club         | Year 6        |               |                     |
| Friday    | 8:00-8:40   | Karate                | Year 1-6      |               | Full                |
|           | TBC         | Girls Football        | TBC           |               |                     |

## **YEAR 6 - CURRENT YEAR 5 (3 DAY RESIDENTIAL) AT WEARDALE**

We have taken the decision to hold the Year 6 residential for our children currently in Year 5 at the beginning of the academic year rather than in the summer term.

The residential provides an excellent opportunity for pupils to build positive relationships with their peers and their teachers. The experience encourages the development of teamwork and communication skills, and promotes the growth of confidence resilience and determination.

By taking part in the residential earlier in the year, children can establish strong friendships, learn to work together effectively, and also have the chance to use these skills to support their learning and wellbeing throughout their final year of primary school.

An email was sent at the start of the week asking you to register your child's interest in attending so that we can secure the booking. If you haven't already, please sign up via Arbor.

**I have a duty of care to safeguard all children.**

**Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs H Gladstone, Deputy - Mr Lakey, Miss Houlst, Mrs O'Neill, Mrs Wilkinson, and Mrs Bolton. We have a duty of care to pass on any concerns to Children's Services.**

**If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.**

**H J Gladstone Head Teacher**

# INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

## A MESSAGE FROM WHICKHAM SCHOOL

### Year 6 Open Evening

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to the Whickham School Open Evening. This event is for parents, carers and pupils who are currently in Year 6 and will therefore start secondary education in September 2027.

The purpose of this evening is to provide you with information about our school, ask questions of key staff and see our school. Due to increasing demand for places we have decided to run a number of events that will allow you and your child to visit the school. Each event will last approximately one hour thirty minutes and we ask that you use the link <https://forms.gle/ZScr4gAypHxL6mjSA> to register your place or alternatively, access the link on our Whickham School website in the Year 6 Open Evening menu. Please note that we have restricted the number of places at each evening and therefore once a specific event is full we will not accept any further bookings.

Events will take place on the dates and times below. Note that there are two separate events on each date.

- Thursday 17 September at 5pm
- Thursday 17 September at 7pm
- Tuesday 22 September at 5pm
- Tuesday 22 September at 7pm

If you have any difficulties in booking a place or need any further information please contact us on 0191 4960026.

A useful document for all prospective parents and carers to read is our Admissions Policy, which a copy has been included with our prospectus, and can also be found on our school website.

I look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely



Fraser Turnbull

Headteacher

## Five reasons why a school meal is better than a packed lunch:

- School meals provide essential nutrition to children, helping them focus on their education.
- Nutritious meals contribute to better health, improved academic performance and overall well-being of children.
- Children who have a proper lunchtime meal concentrate better and learn more quickly.
- Eating together helps children to develop social and interpersonal skills.
- Our varied menu teaches children about the world's foods.
- They taste great!

## TELL ME MORE!

Contact us on: 0191 433 5522  
or email at: [schoolcatering@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:schoolcatering@gateshead.gov.uk)  
to find out more about our school meal menus.



# IS YOUR CHILD MISSING OUT?

You can claim free school meals for your child if you are currently receiving certain welfare benefits.



**Free school meals...**  
*it's one less thing to worry about.*

## Worried a free school meal will single your child out? Don't Be.

In the dinner queue it's **IMPOSSIBLE** to tell who receives a free school meal and who doesn't. That wasn't always the case in the past, but things have changed.

Whether you pay for your child's meals or you register for free meals, both processes are completely private and confidential. The UK's new strict data laws see to that. In fact, we would be committing a serious offence if we revealed how any child's meal is paid for.

**So, when your child stands with their friends at the servery, nobody will ever know how those meals have been paid for.**

## Free school meals are good for your child, but their school could benefit too.

That's because when entitled to free school meals, your child's school may be able to access additional funding in excess of £1000 per pupil from the government, which can be used to pay for extra tuition, more teaching assistants, more family support workers, more after school clubs.

## FUSSY EATERS

We know children can be fussy - that's why we have a varied menu with a choice of up to **FOUR** options every day.

Our staff encourage children to try new dishes, vegetables, and fruits because eating a school meal is also about learning about food and tastes.

## ...BUT WE'RE FUSSY, TOO!

**You won't find anyone fussier than us about the food we feed to your children.**

That's why we only buy quality ingredients from good local suppliers. And you can see where they come from on a food map we publish on our website. This explains where everything comes from, and the standards we work to.

## DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE SPECIALIST DIETARY NEEDS?

We can cater for this too. Please speak to your school office who can share our alternative dietary pack

## DO YOU QUALIFY?

It's easy to apply.

Phone: 0191 433 3729

Visit: [www.gateshead.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.gateshead.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

Email: [benefitsfm@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:benefitsfm@gateshead.gov.uk)

If your child attends a Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust school, or Heworth Grange or St. Aidans you will need to contact the school about applying as we do not administer Free School Meals for these schools.



## GATESHEAD WEST UNIFORM SCHEME



Did you know?

We sell surplus  
stock on Vinted as  
gwusne.

If it's easier, please  
buy from us online.

We have children's  
Halloween costumes  
and other fancy dress  
too. Please donate  
your outgrown  
costumes to us and  
shop with us for this  
year's outfits.

**Who are we?**

We are a registered charity,  
operating in Gateshead West  
since 2021.

We provide good-quality preloved  
and brand new school uniforms to  
our community, from our site in  
Blaydon, NE21 5PT.

We operate on a  
pay-what-you-feel basis.

## Sept/Oct 2026 Blaydon Markets...

Friday 4th Sep 3:30pm - 5pm

Saturday 12th Sept 9:30am - 11am

Saturday 19th Sept 9:30am - 11am

Monday 28th Sept 6pm - 7pm

Friday 2nd Oct 3:30pm - 5pm

Saturday 10th Oct 9:30am - 11am

Saturday 17th Oct 9:30am - 11am

Monday 26th Oct 6pm - 7pm

Find us in St Cuthbert's  
Community Hall NE21 5PT, next to  
the big blue building behind  
Morrisons. The door we use is  
**ROUND THE BACK** ❤️



[www.facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform](https://www.facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform)  
<https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk>  
[contact@GatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk](mailto:contact@GatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk)  
and find us as gwusne on Vinted