



Kieran McGrane - Headteacher

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Dear Parents

Y11 Opportunities Summer Term 2021

As you are aware, Friday 28 May is the last official day in school for Y11 students. To support them to make use of this time in the coming weeks we have compiled a range of information to suit all needs. I would encourage you to read the information with your son or daughter to help them make some informed choices from what is available.

Many of these opportunities require students to sign up in advance; the deadline to sign up is **Thursday 27 May**.

College Visits

An opportunity to visit the college students may be going to or at least considering going to. The colleges have arranged a time for students from Ponteland High School to be shown around their campuses. If students are intending to go, the colleges are expecting them to attend this visit. Students will make their own way to the college as good practice for September and they will meet a member of our staff at a prearranged time and place (details will follow) and then students will be taken on a tour by college staff. Students will make their own way home.

Newcastle College: Thursday 24 June. Full details to follow. Sign up [here](#).

Gateshead College: Friday 25 June. Full details to follow. Sign up [here](#).

Apprenticeship Preparation Day

Experts from ASK Apprenticeships will work with students hopeful of getting an apprenticeship. There will be help with finding and applying for apprenticeships, working on CVs and interview technique.

Tuesday 22 June in school. 9:30am - 11:30am and then an optional additional hour for a chance to get some individual help. Sign up [here](#).

Students can view some of the current apprenticeship vacancies in the North East [here](#).

Sixth Form Preparation

Students staying on to sixth form will have transition work set for them to be completed before September. If students are not certain of their subjects yet they should have a look at the transition work



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for all the subjects they are considering - this may help them make a final decision. The work will be set via Google Classroom with full details to follow via email to their school GMail account.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

All students will be expected to complete an EPQ in Year 12. This is an extended research project which carries the UCAS points equivalent to half an A Level. Completion of this will strengthen any Post-18 applications and can make the difference between being accepted onto a university course and not. Students will be expected to get started with some of this research before September. A launch video and details will follow in due course.

Preparing for A-level English and/or Maths

Students who are considering taking **Maths** or **English** A levels will be expected to come into school for some important preparatory work. Students must fill in the relevant form(s) if they want to study any of these subjects even if they cannot attend the sessions.

Maths: Students are to attend both sessions. Fill in the form [here](#).

- Friday 25 June (9:15am - 12:35pm)
- Wednesday 30 June (9:15am - 12:35pm)

English Language: Fill in the form [here](#).

- Thursday 17 June (10:15 - 1:35pm)

English Literature: Fill in the form [here](#).

- Friday 18 June (9:15am - 12:35pm)

Work Experience opportunities

Students are welcome to organise any work experience that they are able and there will be numerous virtual work experiences made available to them.

We have two in-person opportunities that students may be interested in.

1. Working in a primary school

- 1.1. Classroom support in Pele Trust primary schools.
- 1.2. This will likely be one week or could be a morning or afternoon each week starting the week beginning 7 June.
- 1.3. Students can probably do more days if they want to. Training will be given in a session during the week before they start.
- 1.4. Students, please sign up [here](#) if you are interested.

2. Construction

- 2.1. A week's work experience placement helping build the new Hexham Middle School starting Monday 28 June. Lots of different roles are available.
- 2.2. It is likely students will need to make their own way there and back but depending on numbers we may be able to help organise lift shares etc. More details will follow.
- 2.3. Students, please sign up [here](#) if you are interested.



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NCS - National Citizen Service

“If you want to make this summer one you’ll never forget, get yourself on NCS. Spots are open now! Sign up for big lols, new pals, and experiences that’ll show you just what you’re made of.”

Watch the video [here](#) to learn more.

Various dates available for a two or three week programme. Sign up [here](#).

Volunteering opportunity - Feeding Families

Our school community recently donated a range of food and other household products to help those in need. Here is a chance to work alongside the charity.

“8.4 million people in the UK are experiencing food poverty. There are numerous and often complex reasons why this happens, it impacts people of every age, from all social backgrounds. Feeding Families was founded and is based in the North East of England, with 2 packing centres, one in Byers Green, Spennymoor and the other in Gateshead. Our 'Emergency Food Boxes' provide food that will support 2 people for 3 days. We need a constant supply of food so we can support those in need in our local communities.

Sometimes we feel that the little we can do will have no impact, but your support will make a huge difference.”

The charity is looking for students to volunteer to help pack or sort emergency food boxes. Mondays and/or Wednesdays 10.00am - 12.00pm. If you are interested, please email Steve Shard: steve@feedingfamilies.org.uk

I trust that your child will find something of interest within the information shared and make good use of some or all of these opportunities.

Yours faithfully

Kieran McGrane
Headteacher

