



YEAR 11 KEEPING CONNECTED



Welcome to our first edition of the *Year 11 Keeping Connected* newsletter. The purpose of this publication will be to keep you up-to-date on everything that is currently going on in year eleven. We will be writing to you on a monthly basis and ask that you read through the information and discuss the key messages with your son/daughter.

Attendance will be a huge focus for year eleven throughout the month of October. Since returning to school in September, attendance in year eleven has fallen below that of our other year groups in school and below what we expect for students in their final year of school. This is something that we will work with students and families to remedy, however we must reiterate that we expect students to attend school every day, on time and ready to learn when they are fit and well to do so.

The Year 11 Team

Headteacher Update

I am delighted with the way that the students, especially Year 11 have returned to school following the summer. Staff keep telling me how pleased they are and how hard Year 11 are working currently. From my point of view the big worry is having to self isolate significant numbers of Year 11 should there be a Covid case in that Year group. We have robust plans in place for remote learning but it is still a worry. Please speak to your children about the importance of internal assessment and mock exams. Whilst the government have assured us that they intend for exams to go ahead as planned, we must be prepared for all eventualities.



I realise that having your last year at school impacted by Covid-19 makes things very challenging for students. We are doing an awful lot to keep an eye on student wellbeing but you must do so as parents too. Please watch for signs that they are struggling and let us know. We will try to run as normal a curriculum and year 11 experience as we can and need your support in doing so.

Given the importance placed on our annual Prom by students who regard it as an integral part of school life, I would hope that the school will be able to run the Prom and Leavers Assembly as we have done in the past. I must make it clear, however that I am not able to guarantee this and given the current situation must make you aware that it may not be possible to host a Prom in the summer of 2021. I know that if we are unable to hold a Prom then it will be a major disappointment to yourselves and your children. These are very uncertain times and given the Government's current restrictions and warnings that they may well be in place for the next six months and beyond it would be irresponsible of me to allow you to think one is assured.

Therefore, I would strongly advise all parents at this stage to not spend any money on Prom attire or booking any transport or treatments. I am writing this now in advance of half term as I know this is when a lot of students traditionally begin to look for dresses. I know especially with Prom dresses there is significant pressure placed on parents by shops to guarantee holding a particular outfit etc. If you do decide to purchase items, then this must be entirely at your own risk. If Government restrictions are lifted and we are able to do so, then we will of course hold one, but that decision is ultimately out of my hands. Please discuss this with your children as I know it seems very unfair. I hope you don't think I am being overly pessimistic or negative but I don't want parents spending a lot of money on something that we might not be allowed to host.

Thank you once again for your continued support. I know that this is a more challenging year than any of our Year 11 have previously faced. By working together we can make it as smooth and enjoyable as possible.

Mr G. Lumsdon

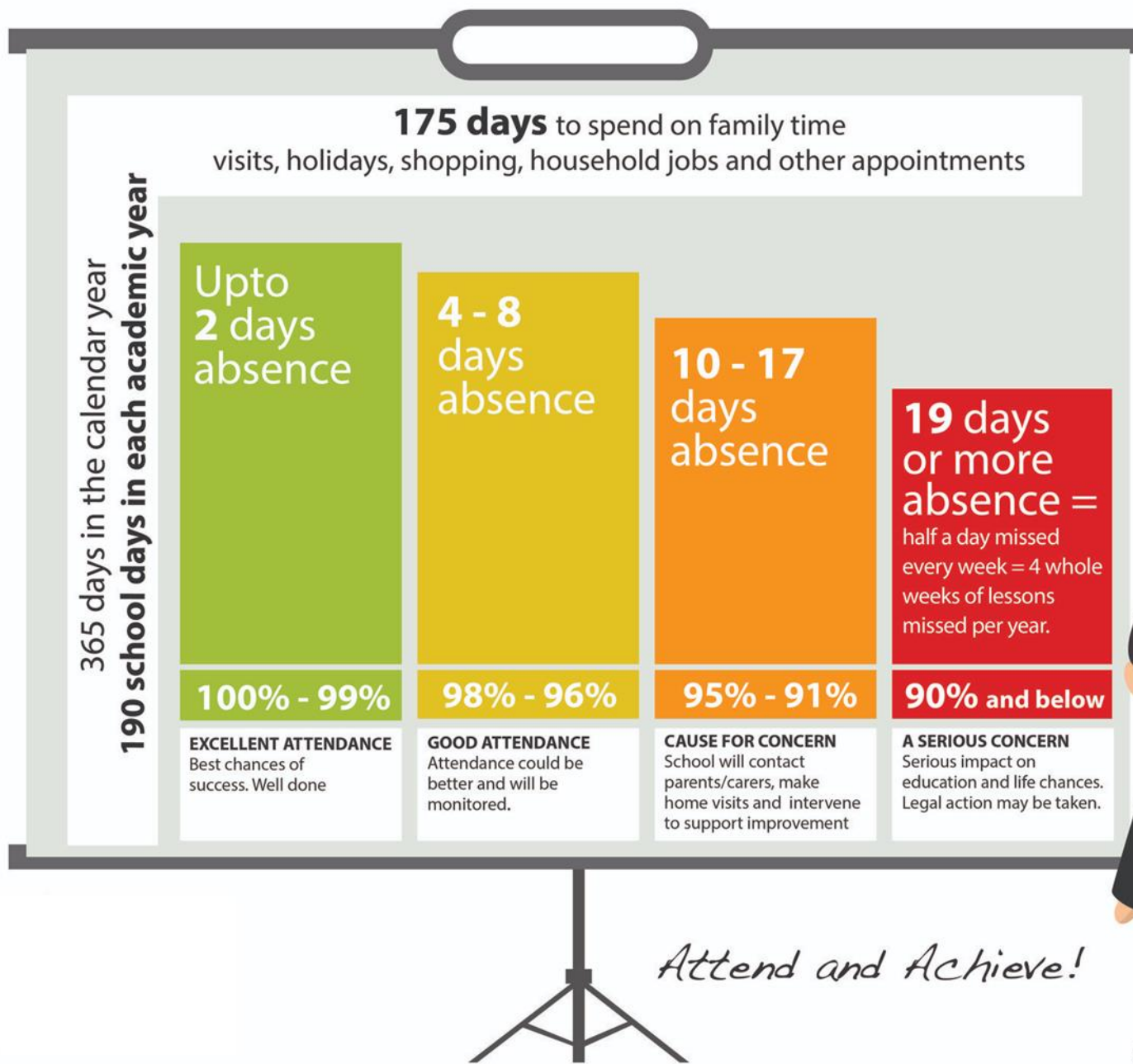


PARENT & CARER UPDATES



Google Classroom

Google Classroom is now fully up and running across the school. This means that in the event of any disruption to learning we are prepared to move all learning online. This would incorporate a mixture of live virtual lessons and online resources. Teachers are setting more classwork, homework and independent based revision tasks using Google Classroom. We expect all students to engage in these important learning activities in order to ensure they are fully prepared in the event of any disruption to learning.



GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS

being in school at least **97%** of the time (between **184** & **190** days).



Post-16 Open Evenings and Applications

All post-16 providers in the area have now published their arrangements for open evenings and applications. We would encourage all students, parents and carers to review the websites of local providers for further details. All updates are emailed directly to students by Mr Reid and we would urge any students who feel that they need support or guidance to contact Mr Reid directly to discuss their options for September 2021. Communication details for Mr Reid can be found on our 'Meet the Team' update. It is advised that all students complete college applications now before the demands of year 11 increase.



MEET THE YEAR 11 TEAM



Mr Green – Year Achievement Leader

Responsible for academic achievement and student progress.

Contact: GRA@seahamhighschool.com

Mrs Haswell – Year Manager

Responsible for behaviour and attendance. Also provides pastoral support and guidance for students.

Contact: HAT@seahamhighschool.com



Mr Parker – Assistant Headteacher

Responsible for whole school achievement strategies. Senior Link for year 11.

Contact: SCP@seahamhighschool.com

Mr Reid – Careers Leader

Responsible for careers advice and guidance. Including preparations for post-16 education, training or employment.

Contact: REM@seahamhighschool.com



Mrs Lythgoe – Education and Welfare Officer

Responsible for providing support where attendance concerns are identified.

Contact: LYP@seahamhighschool.com

Revision, Intervention and Student Independence

Mr Green has launched the year eleven revision and intervention programme for the term ahead. In year eleven we expect that students will engage in the additional activities designed to promote independence. We will offer further details in our next parent update but below is a summary of the basic expectations:

1. Students will engage in all period six sessions where they are requested to do so by the teacher.
2. Students will prioritise their revision using the Personal Learner Checklist (PLC) documents.
3. Students will aim to complete one revision/reflection sheets per day in order to maintain a structured revision routine.
4. Students will use their flipped learning folders to organise their revision.
5. Students will engage in the use of revision platforms such as Google Classrooms, GCSEPod, Seneca and Hegarty Maths.

The collage includes several documents:

- GCSE Literature – Personal Learning Checklist Paper 2 – Section A: An Inspector Calls**: A checklist with columns for 'Student' and 'Teacher' and rows for various tasks like 'Read Overview', 'Character', 'Setting', etc.
- GCSE Photography: Personal Learning Checklist**: A checklist with columns for 'Student' and 'Teacher' and rows for tasks like 'Read Overview', 'Background', 'Genre', etc.
- OCSE Cambridge Nationals Creative Media – Personal Learning Checklist**: A checklist with columns for 'Student' and 'Teacher' and rows for tasks like 'Read Overview', 'Genre', 'Style', etc.
- Revision Reflection Sheet**: A grid with a central 'Reflection' box and surrounding boxes for 'What I learned', 'What I struggled with', etc.
- Reduce and Transform**: A flowchart diagram showing a process of reducing and transforming information.
- Priority – Significance and Importance**: A flowchart diagram showing a process of prioritizing information based on significance and importance.



Local & National Support for Students



Mental Health & Emotional Support

for children, young people & families in County Durham

This is a **great starting point** to help you **access support**



Local Support



One Point

Advice and practical support across all aspects of family life



03000 261 111



Education & SEND Support

Support for children with special educational needs or disabilities



Humankind

Health and wellbeing support for LGBT young people (15-24yrs)



01325 731 160



Investing in Children

A children's rights organisation, creating spaces to be heard



Rollercoaster Parent Support

Helping parents to support children with mental health issues



07415 380 040



DurhamWorks

Supporting 16-24 year olds not in education, employment or training



03000 262 930



Recovery College Online

Educational resources for people experiencing mental illness



County Durham Together Hub

Help when self-isolating/how to volunteer



03000 260 260



Children's Social Care First Contact

Report a concern about a child's welfare



03000 267 979



CAMHS - Single Point of Access

Community mental health teams for children



03001 239 296



CAMHS Crisis Team

24/7 service for young people experiencing a mental health crisis

0191 441 5733



National Support



KOOTH

Free, safe, anonymous online support for young people aged 11+



Anna Freud Centre for Children and Families

Self-care to look after our own mental health



Charlie Waller Memorial Trust

Resources for schools and families



Childline

A free, private and confidential service where children can talk about anything



Headspace

Free tools around mindfulness and meditation



Public Health England

Guidance on health and wellbeing aspects of coronavirus



MindEd

Safe and reliable advice about young people's mental health



Young Minds

Support for mental health during the pandemic



NHS

Get medical help near you



111

Remember your **local school** and **GPs** are **available to help**.

You are not alone, we can get through this **together**.

County Durham
Care Partnership



NHS
County Durham
Clinical Commissioning Group

Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys
NHS Foundation Trust

