



Norton Canes High School  
Safeguarding and Inclusion Newsletter 5  
July 2020

*“A vigilant school is a safer school.”  
“Stay Alert. Control the Virus. Save Lives.”*

May I start by thanking all parents and carers for their support, since schools closed for educational purposes. We appreciate that this unprecedented time will have brought difficulties and even sorrow for many of you. We thank you for your support in continuing the education of your children and hope you appreciate the support our school has provided. Over the last four months, teaching staff have continued to educate your children through a variety of themes. Support staff has made weekly contact with over 100 vulnerable students and their families, ensuring directed assistance has been made. We have also supported our outstanding critical workers by providing the school as a venue for their children, so they can continue their vital work. By working together, your child has been provided a platform enabling them to restart their formal education with the knowledge that home and school were there to support them during this period.

Whilst we understand the government’s decision to close schools on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020, we are mindful that this may cause apprehension to students and families that have welcomed the support school has provided. Whilst you will appreciate that school services will be closed for the summer, there are other areas of support available. For those families who are in receipt of free school meal vouchers. You will know that support will now continue throughout the summer months. As a school that started the voucher scheme before the government announced their decision, we welcome this move. We can state that families will receive an additional £90 for each child for the summer period. This will include those in current year eleven, even though they have officially left Norton Canes High School. Respective families will receive £15 per child before the 17<sup>th</sup> July as normal. Then, during week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> July, families will receive an additional £90 per child from the government’s scheme to cover the summer break. This will be through your normal arrangements.

For families who are supported through external agencies; including children services, family support workers and CAMHS, can I ask that you have all the contact details of your workers and keep in regular contact with them. They are there to assist you and can provide the advice, information and guidance whilst schools are closed. If you are a family who is not in receipt of support but feel you need assistance, please refer to the contact lists below. Although not an exhaustive list, this can be an essential guide for support.

For parents whose child has an education, health and care plan we would ask that you continue to support your child through the coming weeks in the build up to a start in September. Over the next week, your child’s key worker will contact you. If you have any questions please liaise with them or contact the school prior to July 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 and a member of staff will contact you back. If you have any questions or concerns during the summer period, we would ask that you refer to your SEND worker at Staffordshire SEND Team. Please see details below.

There will be parents reading this newsletter whose children are yet to start at Norton Canes High School. Although the government has prevented a transition programme for year six students, Mrs Tuli has put together a package of support for our



upcoming students. All year six students will receive a welcome pack from our school providing them with important details for September. This will include a contact details list. This is extremely important to the school and essential for your child's safety and wellbeing. Government guidance now asks school to hold three contact details for each child. Can you please ensure that this is completed and returned to the school with your child when school resumes. As well as producing the welcome pack, Mrs Tuli and your child's Form Tutor have also created an introductory video giving some advice and guidance for their tutees. This can be found on the school's website <https://www.nortoncaneshighschool.co.uk/tutors-y7/>

You can be assured that we have taken appropriate steps to assist your year six child in September. We have been communicating with primary school staff to ensure all information has been received. This is particularly vital for those children who are in receipt of external support, have an education, health and care plan or medical conditions. Although this knowledge is vital in planning for your child to start secondary school, we appreciate this will still be a daunting task for many. You can be confident that this has been considered when we are able to allow students back in to school. Our Headteacher, Miss Birchall will provide more details closer to our proposed start in September via the school's website.

Once again, a big thank you to you all. Your support is welcomed and we look forward to seeing your child when schools are allowed to reopen for educational purposes. Although the government wish for all students to start in September, we have seen over the last few months that ideas can change. I would therefore ask that you keep up to date with government announcements and regularly check our school's website for more information. I hope over the coming weeks you are able to get a break for yourself and your family as lockdown restrictions are eased. If you are stuck on ideas for your child over the summer, can I suggest the Staffordshire Connects website, that provides a list of activities and groups that may be available <https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/home.page>. This site also provides information on other questions or concerns you have many.

From all at Norton Canes High School, we wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable summer.

Mr Stokes  
Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion  
(DSL/SENCO and Designated Teacher for LAC)



## Important contact details

### Emergency Services

- 📞 Police/Fire/Ambulance – 999
- 📞 Non-emergency Police – 101
- 📞 NHS direct – 111
- 📞 Children's Services (Staffordshire) - 0800 1313126 (any serious safeguarding concern)
- 📞 Children's Services (Walsall) - 01922 650000 (any serious safeguarding concern)

### Useful contacts

#### Feel worried or have a concern

- 📞 Norton Canes High School – 01543 622600 (during school hours and before the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2020)
- 📞 NSPCC – 0808 800 5000 (If you feel unsafe and want to speak to someone privately)
- 📞 “Childline” – 0800 1111 or <https://www.childline.org.uk/> (if you are worried or frightened)
- 📞 Samaritans - 116123 (24 hours) or email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)
- 📞 Staffordshire Connects - <https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/home.page> (useful contacts for services in Staffordshire)

#### Health and wellbeing

- 📞 Kooth - <https://www.kooth.com/> (A free, online mental health support tool for young people aged 11- 18 (and up to 25 with SEND).
- 📞 Young Minds - <https://youngminds.org.uk/> (information regarding mental health) or text YM to 85258 if you need urgent help (texts are free from “most” mobile providers)
- 📞 ‘[Hub of Hope](#)’ link – a directory of mental health online support tools for all – Simply type in your postcode and it will provide you with support information available near you.
- 📞 MIND - 020 8519 2122
- 📞 St Giles Hospice - 01543 434536 (suffering from the loss of a friend or family member)
- 📞 The Dove Service – 01782 683155 (counselling and support for young people suffering from the loss of a friend or family member)



## Internet Safety

- 🐞 CEOP - <https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/> (worried about the way someone has been communicating with you online?)
- 🐞 Childnet - 020 76396967 (on-line concerns)
- 🐞 Safer Internet - 0844 3814772

## SEND

- 🐞 Norton Canes High School – 01543 622600 or [office@nortoncanes-high.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@nortoncanes-high.staffs.sch.uk) (leave a message and a member of staff will call you back) – before 18<sup>th</sup> July 2020
- 🐞 Staffordshire County Council SEND Information - <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/SpecialEducationalNeeds/Home.aspx>
- 🐞 National Autistic Society - <https://www.autism.org.uk/> (information and advice on Autism)
- 🐞 SENDIASS – family support <https://www.staffs-iass.org/home.aspx>

## Financial difficulty

- 🐞 COVID 19 Action Emergency Grant – <https://www.nortoncaneshighschool.co.uk/?s=grant>
- 🐞 Cannock Food Bank - <https://cannockdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/>
- 🐞 Staffordshire Connects - <https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/results.page?familychannel=8>