



Norton Canes High School
Inclusion Newsletter 6
February 2021

*"A vigilant school is a safer school."
"Stay Home. Protect the NHS. Save Lives."*

Good afternoon to all students, parents and carers. I hope this letter finds you and your family well in this unprecedented time. Although we have now completed another half term of lockdown, this time feels so much different to that of last year. Although the school is closed for the majority of students, Norton Canes High School remains open for students identified as vulnerable or those whose parents/carers are critical workers. We now have around 15% of our students attending school, which is significantly higher than the national secondary school average of 5%. Although this places more demands on school, our staff have rose to the challenge and must be thanked for their support of our students in school. We must also give gratitude to the teachers and teaching assistants/learning support assistants who are supporting students not attending school. We must however, not forget you, the parents and carers who have supported your child's education over the last seven weeks. We appreciate there will have been challenges and our thanks go out to you all. I hope you have used the half term to take a well earned rest from supporting your child's education.

As you know, each half term we provide an Inclusion Newsletter, covering all areas that support students and enable them to be included in school life. These are attendance, behaviour, safeguarding and SEN. There is also additional SEN newsletter proving additional information from our wonderful SEN Team.

Attendance

You will be aware that government guidance is for the vast majority of students to be educated remotely. Although there is not a requirement to make attendance registers, for safeguarding purposes we still be a daily form time register at 12:00 and operate normal attendance arrangements, including texts homes or a visit from the education welfare officer. To prevent resources being stretched can we ask all parents/carers to remind their child to make contact with their form tutor daily, using the agreed method. Could we also ask parents/carers to inform school if their child is unable to complete remote learning as they are ill. This is extremely important for children who are affected by COVID.

There is an expectation for children, who are identified as Vulnerable, to be in school. These are children who have an education, health and care plan (EHCP), allocated social worker or who school have decided would benefit from additional support. For parents/carers who take up this option, can we remind you to inform school if your child is unable to attend for any reason so we can update our registers. For those parents/carers whom have decided to support their child at home, places are still available (subject to change).



Behaviour

It is understandable that during lockdown parents may experience behavioural issues with their children. The Local Authority appreciates this and has organised a four-week programme for parents in understanding and managing challenging behaviour. For more details contact raminderdhaliwal.fss@sctsp.org.uk or text/phone with your name, date of programme and email address to 07741645691.

Safeguarding

You will be aware that Norton Canes High School, is a pilot school in the Social Worker in School (SWIS) Project. The result is that we have a trained social worker available to support students and families. Our Social Worker is Rachel Hollingsworth. Although Rachel's work involves duty assessment work, she is also available to support any student who requires information, advice or guidance (IAG). For students in school, Rachel will be in school once a week and if a student wishes to speak to her, they should contact Mr Stokes in school. For students, who are not in school and would like to speak to Rachel, they should contact school reception (01543 622600) and ask for Rachel to contact them to arrange a phone call meeting or face-to-face through Microsoft Teams. Rachel isn't the only source of IAG available. I have included a wealth of support contacts at the end of this Newsletter.

SEN

As SENCO, I am particularly proud of the support we offer at Norton Canes High School. Until all students return to school, your child will continue to have a point of contact at school (SPOC), whose task it is to support your child in their engagement to learning. Can I also remind parents/carers of children with an EHCP or a SPOC, that if your child is struggling to access or understand their work, there is a teaching assistant available on Microsoft Teams (following students' timetables), for support and guidance.

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. There is an announcement by the government on Monday 22nd February 2021 and this form the blueprint of when schools can reopen. After this decision, we will inform you of how this affects your child and when and how they can return to school.

Kind regards and stay safe.

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)
-  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
-  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)
-  Youth and Emotional Support Service (YESS) – 01889 567756/07907 360238/ WWW.YESS.UK - (a service proving support for students struggling with mental health and wellbeing)



Bereavement (loss of family or friend)

- 🦉 Youth and Emotional Support Service (YESS) – 01889 567756/07907 360238/ WWW.YESS.UK - (a service providing support for students who have lost a family member or friend)

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

SEN

- 🦉 Norton Canes High School – 01543 622600 or office@nortoncanes-high.staffs.sch.uk (leave a message and a member of staff will call you back)
- 🦉 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)

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>
- 🦉 SENDIASS – family support <https://www.staffs-iass.org/home.aspx>