



Hawes Side Academy

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Newsletter No. 17

9th April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

It is lovely to see all the children back in the academy after their Easter break. They have returned with smiles on their faces and are eager to learn; the staff are thoroughly enjoying being back with them.

By now, you should have received a communication from your child's class teacher notifying you that we will be carrying out our parent/carer consultations over the weeks beginning the 12th and 19th April. You will be offered a variety of times and the chance to meet with the class teacher either through a virtual meeting or by a telephone call. If you have not received this communication then please contact either your child's teacher or the main office to let them know.

Have a great weekend and we will see you all on Monday.

Mrs Boothroyd

Relationships Respect Resilience Reflection Responsibility

Foundation Stage and Year 6 - Heights and Weights - Parents of our Foundation Stage and Year 6 children received a letter regarding our school nurses coming into school to carry out heights and weights of our Foundation Stage and Year 6 children. I would like to confirm that they will be in school to carry this out on **Monday 19th April 2021.**

Year 1 - NHS Vision screening

Vision screening is an integral part of the universal delivery of the national Healthy Child Programme, and meets the criteria laid down by the National Screening Committee, which recommends that all children should be screened for visual impairment between four and five years of age.

Visual acuity, eye alignment and binocular vision continually develop from birth up to the age of seven. This is why it is important to test, detect early and begin any treatment of defects that may occur. The test also reduces the risk of defects developing into visual impairments if left untreated.

Children in Year 1 been invited to take part in this programme at school. The test will be carried out by staff from Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Orthoptic Department during normal school hours. This is a non-invasive test that should take no longer than a few minutes. To be able to

screen the orthoptist will need to access the name, date of birth and contact details of your child from the school. This will enable us to send a letter to you, usually within two weeks of the initial visit, to inform you of your child's results. Please be aware that this information will only be used by the vision screening service and any sharing is done under appropriate legal gateways. More information regarding the vision screening is at the end of this newsletter.

If you **DO NOT** want your child to take part, please ask your child's class teacher for a form which needs to be completed and returned to school before **Tuesday 13th April**. If you are happy for your child to be tested you do not need to do anything.

LETSLOCALISE: We are delighted to announce a new school partnership with an exciting new social initiative, LetsLocalise. This platform will build a community of committed business and individual supporters, including parents, to aid fundraising activities, and offer expert time and assistance to enhance every pupil's opportunity at school.

Why LetsLocalise?

LetsLocalise provides a solution to the challenge of financial cuts in schools. The platform builds and fosters long-term, meaningful partnerships between members of the community and their local schools. Schools can share details of upcoming events, fundraising drives and requests for volunteers or work experience placements. That way, individuals and companies can see how and where they can offer their help, time and money in ways that are productive, meaningful and enjoyable. This application is FREE for schools and their parent groups. You can find out more about LetsLocalise at www.letslocalise.co.uk.

We would like to ask you to:

- 1) Sign up with LetsLocalise and follow our school (www.letslocalise.co.uk/school/hawes-side-academy/sch121400/campaigns/).
- 2) Did you attend our school yourself? Please identify yourself as an alumnus in the profile.
- 3) Look out for our fun online events and join in.
- 4) Offer support in ways that are convenient for you.
- 5) Share this platform with friends and family. This is a great way for grandparents and others to feel connected, and to be able to support your children in their education.
- 6) Share with local businesses and also your employers. Businesses have budgets to support local communities that is often not utilised. Let's work together and show them how they can benefit our school, our children and their future.

We will post all events on our LetsLocalise page, along with requests for help which our budget will not cater for, therefore adding value to students' education and social benefits to the wider community. We may potentially ask for funds, for resources or for volunteers.

The support of our parent community is invaluable to us, and we would like to thank you in advance for taking time to join, and we look forward to seeing you there, and at one of our future events.... watch this space for more information!

Hawes Side Academy

Term Dates - 2020/2021

	School Closes	School Opens
Autumn Terms 2020 starts		Wednesday 2 September 2020
Inset Day	Thursday 1 October 2020	Monday 5 October 2020
Autumn Half Term 2020	Friday 23 October 2020 (Foundation, Yrs 1, 2 & Siblings @ 3.00 pm) (Yrs 3, 4, 5, & 6 @ 3.10 pm)	Monday 2 November 2020
Christmas 2020	Thursday 17 December 2020 (Foundation, Yrs 1, 2 & Siblings @ 3.00 pm) (Yrs 3, 4, 5, & 6 @ 3.10 pm)	Monday 4 January 2021
Spring Half Term 2021	Friday 12 February 2021 (Foundation, Yrs 1, 2 & Siblings @ 3.00 pm) (Yrs 3, 4, 5, & 6 @ 3.10 pm)	Monday 22 February 2021
Easter Break 2021	Friday 26 March 2021 (Foundation, Yrs 1, 2 & Siblings @ 3.00 pm) (Yrs 3, 4, 5, & 6 @ 3.10 pm)	Wednesday 7 April 2021
May Day 2021	Friday 30 April 2021 (Foundation, Yrs 1, 2 & Siblings @ 3.00 pm) (Yrs 3, 4, 5, & 6 @ 3.10 pm)	Tuesday 4 May 2021
Summer Half Term 2021	Friday 21 May 2021 (Foundation, Yrs 1, 2 & Siblings @ 3.00 pm) (Yrs 3, 4, 5, & 6 @ 3.10 pm)	Monday 7 June 2021
Summer 2021	Tuesday 20 July 2021 (Foundation, Yrs 1, 2 & Siblings @ 3.00 pm) (Yrs 3, 4, 5, & 6 @ 3.10 pm)	

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Inset Day (Friday 1 October)	Thursday 30 September 2021	Monday 4 October 2021
Autumn Half Term 2021	Friday 22 October 2021	Monday 1 November 2021
Christmas 2021	Friday 17 December 2021	Wednesday 5 January 2022
Spring Half Term 2022	Friday 11 February 2022	Monday 21 February 2022
Easter Break 2022	Friday 1 April 2022	Tuesday 19 April 2022
May Day 2022 (Monday 2 May 2022)	Friday 29 April 2022	Tuesday 3 May 2022
Summer Half Term 2022	Friday 27 May 2022	Tuesday 7 June 2022
Summer 2022	Thursday 21 July 2022	

Vision Screening – Year 1

What is vision screening?

The aim of the eye test is to detect significantly reduced vision or the presence of a squint. Young children rarely complain about having reduced vision. If only one eye is affected it is even less likely to be noticed by the child, parents or teachers. The tests are carried out in school by Orthoptists from Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. As NHS staff they are all DBS checked (Disclosure and Barring Service).

What does the screening test involve?

The vision will be tested of each eye using a letter test. Your child does not need to know their letters to be able to complete the test; the test can be a letter matching test. Each eye will be tested separately using glasses with one blacked out lens or an eye patch. We will then ask your child to name or match letters on a card held 3 metres away. The test is entirely safe and children enjoy playing the letter matching game.

We will also perform some simple tests to detect the presence of a squint.

It takes approximately five minutes and the screener is trained to make this fun for the child.

Possible Results

If your child passes you will receive a letter informing you of the result. This means that at the moment their vision in both eyes is as expected for their age. This result does not rule out potential future eye problems. Children's eyes change as they grow so if you have any concerns about your child's eyes at any stage in the future, contact your local optometrist (optician) or GP.

If your child does not pass, you will receive a letter informing you of the result. Your child will be referred to the orthoptic department in Blackpool and you will receive a letter in the next few weeks from the hospital inviting you to an appointment for further tests. It is important to attend the appointment for further tests to confirm your child's results and if treatment is required. Reduced vision may be caused by the child needing glasses or a turn in the eye (squint). Glasses and/or eye patches may be recommended as treatment for these problems. These tests could be carried out by an Orthoptist, who manage visual disorders related to eye development or misalignment, an Optometrist who can prescribe glasses if required, or an Ophthalmologist, depending on the results of the screening.

Sometimes a child does not pass the screening because they are tired or not able to concentrate on the day of screening. If the orthoptist feels this may be the case on the day, your child will be invited to Whitegate Drive Health Centre for a recheck.

If your child is absent on the day of screening, you will be invited to attend at Whitegate Drive Health Centre for a screening check. This appointment will be sent to your home address.

Does my child have to be screened?

No. We strongly recommend that your child is screened for vision defects; however you have the right to decline the assessment. No screening will take place without your consent. A letter will be sent home with your child informing you about the screening; this is an Opt-out letter and only needs to be returned if you do not wish for your child to be tested. If you do not receive a letter please ring the school for a copy.

How is my child's information used?

The school will share your child's name and date of birth with Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. If you opt-out, they will not do anything further with this information. If your child is absent on the day of screening or does not pass the vision screening test, the school will also share your contact details so that we can contact you or make appropriate referrals into the hospital eye service. All results are stored securely at Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

Blackpool Parents and Carers - High School 2021

**Do you have a child with special educational needs
who is moving up to High School in September 2021?**

**Would you like some help to get
them ready for the change?**

**Join one of our FREE online transition
workshops for parents and carers.**

Blackpool SENDIASS have commissioned Transition Workshops for parents of children with additional needs, who will be transferring from primary to high school in September.

Joining an online workshop will enable parents to prepare their child for some of the changes they will experience and help children to be confident that they are ready for their new school.

There will be 3 online sessions for each workshop with a mixture of discussions with other parents and practical tips that families can work on at home together, these will run on the same day and time each week.

For more information or to sign up to
3 sessions of the workshops email Joan at

Trinity Special Needs Advice Partnership

using Trinitysnap17@gmail.com

