



'RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY EXCELLENCE'

NEWRY HIGH SCHOOL

December 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

It is very hard to believe that we are nearing the end of another very busy and successful term in Newry High School.

In order to assist with effective communication with parents, every half-term we will provide information regarding key events that are taking place during the forthcoming months. The information will include any updates / changes to the already published parent calendar and also provide more detail of future pupil events and trips planned. This letter also contains general information and policy updates.

Below are the arrangements for the end of term and key dates and events for next term.

- **School disco on Thursday afternoon 19 December**
- **School movie morning Friday 20 December**
- Pupils will be able to wear **non-uniform from 19-20 December**
- The **end of term / Christmas holidays begin at 12.00 noon on Friday 20 December**
- The new spring term starts on **Tuesday 7 January 2024 for all pupils**
- **Advance notice – whole school examinations taking place January 20 – 24**

Mobile phone / electronic devices policy:

Thanks you to all the parents who responded to our consultation regarding our mobile phone policy. As I am sure you are aware the Department of Education has issued new guidance regarding the use of mobile phones in all schools. While the guidance offers a small range of options for schools to consider the **general intent in the guidance is to restrict and reduce mobile phone access and ensure that pupils do not use their personal mobile phones or other similar devices, during the school day (this includes during break and lunch)**. We are in the process of finalising our new policy and this will be introduced early in the new year and issued to all parents. We are planning to implement a short transition period to allow our pupils to adjust to the new policy. Further information will follow at the start of the new term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for supporting the work of the school. As a school community we have achieved so much this term and a huge amount of hard work has been done by staff, pupils and parents.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your family a very happy and safe Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Yours faithfully

Mr I Brown
Principal

KEY DATES & EVENTS SPRING TERM

Autumn Term	
17 December	School quiz – Year 8,9 & 10
19 December	Yr11 GCSE Intaglio printmaking workshop with artist Robert Peters School Disco – non-uniform day
20 December	Last day - Term 1 non uniform day—School ends at 12.00 pm
23 December - 3 January	Christmas Holidays
Spring Term	
6 January	Staff Training Day 3 – No pupils to attend
7 January	WHOLE SCHOOL RETURNS
8 January	BTEC Psychology exam 1.30p.m. sixth form
10 January	BTEC PE Unit 9.15a.m. sixth form BTEC IT 9.15a.m. sixth form BTEC UPS 1.30p.m. sixth form
17 January	KS3 SEN Shared Ed St Paul's
20 – 23 January	Whole School Exams
23 January	Freelands Art Project Yr11, 13/14 Art Students
24 January	Marking Day – school open only to pupils who have missed exams
27 January	GCSE HE Food & Nutrition practical exam
28 January	GCSE HE Food & Nutrition practical exam
29 January	GCSE HE Food & Nutrition practical exam
30 January	Amazing the Space ALC workshops hosted by NHS GCSE HE Food & Nutrition practical exam BTEC Sport exam Yr12 9.00a.m. Rm17
31 January	Year 12-14 Report Deadlines for teachers Amazing the Space ALC workshops hosted by NHS
5 February	Digital Masterclass (Year 9 - 9.30am-1.00pm)
6 February	Year 8 Health Appraisals and Nurse Reviews - Year 8 (and Nurse reviews Year 9-12) November GCSE modules results day Freelands Art project Yr11, 13/14 Art students
7 February	Shared Education - 8LK Newry High

10 – 14 February	Half Term Holidays
18 February	Year 12 Mock Results Day (PSE) ALC Workshop hosted by NHS Artist Frances Ryan
19 February	Experience of work Yr 10 p1-7 Assembly Hall
25 February	Yr13 English Literature trip all day Seamus Heaney homeplace
26 February	DAS and SAS Biology GCSE module exams
27 February	DAS and SAS Chemistry GCSE module exams
28 February	DAS and SAS Physics GCSE module exams KS3 SEN Shared Education - St Joseph's
3 March – 7 March	Ski Trip
10 March – 14 March	Year 12-14 Intervention Interviews
13 March	Shared Education - 8LK Newtownhamilton High School
17 March	St Patrick's Day Bank Holiday
18 March	Staff training Day – no pupils
19 March	School Nurses - School Leaving Booster - Year 11 and Year 12 mop-up
25 March	Year 10/11 Parent Teacher Meeting includes GCSE subject choice presentation 2.45 pm – 3.15 pm
26 March	Bible Exhibition Assembly Hall Yr9 pupils
11 April	KS3 SEN Shared Education - Newry High
15 April	Post-16 promotional afternoon / careers event
16 April	Staff Training Day 4 – No pupils to attend
17 April – 25 April	Easter holidays
Summer Term	
28 April	WHOLE SCHOOL RETURNS
28 April – 2 May	KS3 intervention interviews
2 May	Shared Education - 8LK St Paul's High School
5 May	Bank Holiday

13 May	SEN visit to Hillsborough Castle
20 May	Yr 8 trip to Carrickfergus Castle
26 May	Bank Holiday
27 May	Staff Training Day 5 – No pupils to attend
2 – 5 June	Whole School Summer Exams
6 June	Marking Day – school open only to pupils who have missed exams
10 – 11 June	Yr 13 Enrichment
12 – 14 June	Yr 13 Work Experience
17 – 21 June	Yr 11 Work Experience
27 June	Last day of term 3
14 August	AS & A2 Level results
21 August	GCSE results