



**WELCOME
TO
NORTH CESTRIAN SCHOOL**

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Welcome to North Cestrian School. The School's Mission Statement is for its pupils to thrive and to go on to lead rich and fulfilling lives, underpinned by the values of hard work, fairness and honesty. As your son or daughter embark on their exciting journey through senior school he or she will be given lots of opportunities to grow and thrive as an individual. In our community we care for each child, show respect for each other, maintain and expect high standards of behaviour, and work hard so that each child achieves his or her potential. Above all, their time here should be happy; happy because they are safe; happy because they are achieving; happy because they are being challenged and stretched.

Along the way we will provide a supportive environment so that any concerns are dealt with swiftly and effectively. We will do this in such a way that your child will build resilience and confidence to help prepare them for the world ahead.

Together - parents, school staff and students – will build up the young people of our North Cestrian family to become confident, articulate, well-qualified citizens who go on to achieve amazing things.

This booklet will help you and your son or daughter to navigate your way around the many new things that will be happening in the first term and beyond; but remember, we are always here to help you.

With best wishes,

Lee Bergin
Headmaster



Mrs Elizabeth Klutz

l.klutz@northcestrian.co.uk

Welcome! It is a pleasure for me to communicate with pupils and parents to help Year 6 children make a smooth transition to North Cestrian School. Next, I look forward to helping students fully engage in school life and have the satisfaction of working hard and making much progress.

Mrs Elizabeth Klutz

Leader of Transition, Numeracy & Literacy



Miss L McTiernan

l.mctiernan@northcestrian.co.uk

A very warm welcome to you all; North Cestrian's new Year 7s! My name is Miss McTiernan, and I will be your Head of Year 7 in the forthcoming year. I hope that you have a very enjoyable day in your induction day, familiarising yourself with North Cestrian School and preparing yourself for the year ahead.

We realise that the move from primary to secondary school can be, at once, a daunting and exciting time. Mrs Klutz, Miss Connell and I are here to make that transition as smooth and enjoyable as possible. Your form tutors will also be available to answer any questions you might have.

I hope to get to know each and every one of you over the course of the year, supporting your development and progress in your time in Year 7 at NCS. In the meantime, I wish you all the best for your first few days at North Cestrian and I look forward to meeting you!

Lauren McTiernan

Head of Year 7



Miss Jenna Connell

j.connell@northcestrian.co.uk

Welcome to North Cestrian School! My name is Miss Connell; my role is Head of Key Stage 3 and I am part of the pastoral team at the school. You will meet me on your very first day of school in Year 7 and I will work with you, support and guide you all the way through to Year 9. I work closely with your Head of Year 7, form tutors, subject teachers and learning support assistants to ensure that your school life is as rewarding and enjoyable as possible.

We understand how daunting it can seem to start a new school. It is our responsibility to help. If you have any concerns, you will have opportunities to share them with tutors and they will try and help you. Older boys and girls will also be there for support.

I am certain that you will enjoy your time here and I look forward to meeting you!

Miss Jenna Connell

Head of Key Stage 3

SCHOOL CONTACTS

School Phone Number

0161 928 1856

Email Address

office@northcestrian.co.uk

Mrs S Roby, Headmaster's PA

s.robby@northcestrian.co.uk

Mr M Bell, Deputy Headmaster:

m.bell@northcestrian.co.uk

Mr A Brown, Pastoral Director:

a.brown@northcestrian.co.uk

Mrs E Klutz, Leader of Transition:

l.klutz@northcestrian.co.uk

Miss L McTiernan, Head of Year 7:

l.mctiernan@northcestrian.co.uk

Miss J Connell, Head of Key Stage 3:

j.connell@northcestrian.co.uk

Mrs H Holmes, SENCo

h.holmes@northcestrian.co.uk

COMMUNICATION

Questions or Concerns

If you have any general questions or concerns, **the first point of contact is the form tutor (who will be confirmed in September)**. The Head of Year 7, Miss McTiernan and the Head of Transition, Mrs Klutz, will also wish to be made aware of matters relating to settling into Year 7.

If the question or concern is more academic in nature, then in the first instance, please contact your son or daughter's subject teacher as they will be in the best position to answer any questions.



We use ParentMail as our main mode of communication and +Pay for the payment of school meals, trips and other events that need payment and permission.

You will be emailed over the summer with a link to verify your account in Parentmail. Please keep an eye on your spam account. If you already have an account it will be moved over to North Cestrian School's database.

Newsletter

There is a weekly newsletter that is emailed to all parents each Friday. Please expect to receive this and read it carefully, as it is an important means of communication from school to home. It contains a range of information from the Headmaster's message to celebrations of achievement and to news of revision sessions, dates, changes and uniform etc.

School Canteen

Our school meals service is operated by Holroyd Howe. There is always a vegetarian option alongside a range of delicious meal selections. They take great pride in their service and are excited with the prospect of having a brand new dining hall and kitchen in the next couple of years. The meals are paid for via a cashless system so that students do not need to bring money into school in order to eat at break or lunch times. The student's school meals account is topped up via +Pay which is part of the ParentMail account. **There is no facility to take cash or cheques for meals or break times.** We work with Holroyd Howe to create a healthy menu that is tasty, wholesome and "fuel for learning". Children must not bring unhealthy food or drinks to school. We are committed to encouraging healthy eating and children who come in to school with packets of sweets, sugary drinks will have these things confiscated.

Packed Lunches

A small number of children select to bring their own sandwiches to school. This is fine but again we will monitor to ensure snacks and drinks are healthy.

School Records

Please contact the School Office in writing if you move home, change telephone number or if there are any other changes to your domestic arrangements of which the school should be aware.

We actively encourage parents to inform the form tutor of any concerns about their child, any factors which should be noted and any achievements outside school.

Similarly, if a pastoral issue arises, we will contact parents as soon as possible.

Assessment and Progress tracking

Using Key Stage 2 data all pupils are given target grades for their projected GCSE outcomes. This forms the basis of our progress tracking, though we appreciate and build in different rates of maturation; targets are **minimum expected grades** and often we set higher to stretch and challenge.

There are four “data capture points”, in October, December, March and June, providing an update regarding academic progress and Behaviour for Learning. A report is available to access via the Sims Learning Gateway (SLG) after each data capture point, indicating whether your son or daughter is on track to achieve their target grades. Your SLG account will also let you see attendance and behaviour data. You will be issued with a unique username and password at the start of term. As we migrate to Office 365 access to their things may also change.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evenings are held once a year and notification is given well in advance by email, newsletter and website. In order to make best use of teachers' and parents' time, parents' evenings **are by invitation**. Where teachers feel a meeting would be appropriate you will be invited to attend a parents' evening to discuss your child's progress. Any parent who wishes to speak to teachers may also make a separate appointment.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

Appearance should be neat and tidy at all times. Please see our Policy on Uniform & Appearance.

Boys

Boys' Blazer *
White Shirt
House Tie
Grey Trousers (not skinny)
Grey V Necked Sweater
Grey Socks
Black leather shoes (not trainers)

Girls

Girls' Blazer *
White Blouse (revere collar)
House Badge (obtained from school)
Grey Skirt with NCS embroidery (either pleated or straight*)
Grey V Necked Sweater
Navy $\frac{3}{4}$ length Socks
Navy/Black Opaque Tights

N.B. To match grey shades please look at the sample on the school website or check with school beforehand.

PE KIT

Boys and Girls

PE Top incorporating House Colours *
Navy Shorts
White Socks
Trainers
Soccer Boots

GAMES KIT

Boys

Games Shirt *
Socks Navy & Gold *
Rain Jacket (Optional) *
Track Suit Trousers (Optional) *

Girls

Navy Sweatshirt with NCS Logo *
Navy leggings
Games Skort *
Socks Navy & Gold *
Rain Jacket (Optional) *
Track Suit Trousers (Optional) *

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Black Apron

Coats: Plain, sensible outdoor coats to be worn over the school blazer. No large unsightly logos.

Naming: Every article of clothing must be clearly marked with the owner's name.

N.B. The headmaster's judgement in acceptable uniform is final.

STATIONERY AND EQUIPMENT

Any equipment ordered over the summer will be available in September

Each Faculty at North Cestrian has advised the Student Stationery Shop on what they believe to be the essential pieces of equipment required to support the students of North Cestrian to focus on their learning and make rapid and sustained progress.

The benefits of this shop are that you know your child has the correct equipment required for each subject and equipment like the scientific calculator are suitable for GCSE examinations.

The purple pen will allow your child to respond to feedback and challenge in order to develop their depth of understanding of topics covered. The pocket dictionary will support the development of your child's vocabulary which can transition to each and every aspect of their lives including their exams.

I hope you take up this opportunity to ensure that your child is fully prepared for September.

Yours Sincerely

Mr S Mills
Teacher of Business & Economics

Student Stationery Shop

Black Pen	60p
Blue Pen	60p
Purple Pen	30p
Pencil	30p
Ruler (30cm)	£1
Eraser	20p
Sharpener	50p
Protractor Set	£2.50
Glue Stick	50p
Pocket Dictionary	£6
Scientific Calculator	£9
Clear Pencil Case	£1

Purchase this all for
£18 making a saving of
£4 if you purchased them
individually



STORING/CARRYING/LOCKERS PROCEDURE

- Each pupil will be issued with a locker
- Each pupil will be issued with a clear wallet
- Every day they must populate their wallet with the knowledge map/work/equipment/reading book/prep book needed for that day, and store their bag in their locker.
- They will only carry round school their folder and their pencil case.

STRUCTURE OF DAY

Times of the School Day

8.45am – 9.00am	Pastoral	
9.00am – 10.00am	Lesson 1	
10.00am – 11.00am	Lesson 2	
11.00am – 11.20am	Break	
11.20am – 12.20pm	Lesson 3	
12.20pm – 1.20pm	Lunch Break & Pastoral	Pastoral (Yr 8, 9, 11) – 12.20 – 12.40
1.00pm – 1.20 pm		(Yr 7 + 10) – 1.00 – 1.20
1.20pm – 2.20pm	Lesson 4	
2.20pm – 3.20pm	Lesson 5	
3.20pm – 3.25pm	Pastoral	

ARRIVAL

School is open to students from 08.00. Entrance is via the side gate onto the school main site. Students should either go to the library for supervised study, the Canteen, or Learning Support. Form rooms will not be accessible until approximately 08.30. This gate is closed at 08.45.

The first point of contact for attendance and absence issues should be Mrs Sharon Williams who works in Reception. Please telephone by 9.00am if your child will not be in school that day.

Direct telephone line: **0161 928 1856**

ATTENDANCE

It is a legal requirement for students to attend school except in case of illness or with the permission of the Headmaster to be absent. Persistent absence, i.e. where attendance falls below 90%, may result in referral to the Local Authority Education Welfare Officer. We aim to achieve 95% attendance rate. Every minute at school is vital. Requests for absence for holidays, visits and the like will not be authorised.

Parents are asked to contact the school on every day of a student's absence from school because of illness or an emergency. The best way is to phone school and leave a message on the dedicated absence reporting option. Please ensure you report the pupils name, their year group/form and reason for absence. Special instructions e.g. after operations should also be sent in writing.

If an absence is anticipated, for example a doctor's appointment, then these can be approved by the form tutor, to whom notice should be given. For other requests for absence, e.g. attending a family funeral, the requests must be made, in writing, to the Headmaster.

Students need to be present in the classroom at 08.45 when the register is taken in order to gain an attendance mark.

Students arriving after this time must enter through the front door and sign in at the School Library. They should then go to their lesson as normal. Pupils who habitually arrive late with no reasonable excuse will serve a 30 minute late detention.

CURRICULUM

Our curriculum for Years 7, 8 and 9 is broad and balanced which allows students to develop their learning skills across all subjects. Our curriculum teams offer learning programmes that meet the requirements of the National Curriculum and ensure that students of all abilities are provided with challenging opportunities to maximise their potential.

At North Cestrian we offer the following subjects:

- Art
- Computing
- Design and Technology
- English (including Performing Arts)
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- French
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music
- Physical Education
- Citizenship
- Religious Education
- Science (covering Biology, Chemistry & Physics)
- Spanish
- Form Time PSHE

We reserve the right to change the subjects offered.



THE CESTRIAN WAY

The Cestrian Way is the title we give to encompass a number of principles we have adopted to deliver first class education to pupils at North Cestrian School. The key elements are:

- A knowledge based curriculum. We believe that all pupils can acquire high levels of knowledge to allow them to analyse, discern and argue from strength and accuracy and this supports greater creativity. All pupils will have *knowledge map* booklets that comprehensively cover these essential building blocks.
- A carefully constructed curriculum that builds in constant self-testing to ensure knowledge is secure and to give pupils a growth and improvement-focused mindset. Intelligence can be increased – it is not static.
- Very high levels of discipline ensure that learning is given the top priority. The school's values are hard work, honesty and fairness. Pupils are constantly drilled on the very high expectations of behaviour so that every minute of each lesson is spent productively. This makes lessons enjoyable, challenging and purposeful.
- A no excuses culture. Whilst there may be occasional legitimate reasons for not following the Cestrian Way, it is our belief that pupils must be held accountable for their progress at school. This promotes self-reliance and prepares our youngsters for the future and supports the school's mission to allow each pupil to thrive and go on to lead a rich and fulfilling life.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CALENDAR SUMMER TERM 2017.

- Cricket
- Cooking Club
- Art Club
- Sports
- KS4 Science
- Five-a-side
- KS3 Science Club
- Spanish Club
- Badminton
- Maths Club
- Table Top Games
- History
- Creative Writing
- Yr 7 Design Technology
- Documentary Club
- Football Yr 7 Girls



ENRICHMENT

A number of times per year the timetable is abandoned to allow organisation of enrichment activities.

The enrichment programme offers students the opportunity to study subjects and participate in activities outside the normal examination curriculum. At NCS every student will participate in enrichment activities on at least one bespoke day each term.

The objectives for the programme are to offer opportunities to experience a wide range of stimulating activities to encourage personal development so that students are prepared for an increasingly competitive world. The core areas that will be developed will be either **work related**, **community related** or for **personal development**.



KEY DATES FOR YEAR 7 – FIRST TWO MONTHS

Monday 4th September - Year 7 Induction Day.

Tuesday 5th September (rest of school starts)

NCS Open Evening

Thursday 7th September (17.30 - 20.00) - Pupils help out.

Red Ridge Weekend:

Fri 29th Sept to Sun 1st Oct (Grp 1)

Fri 6th Oct to Sun 8th Oct (Grp 2)

Red Ridge Parents' Evening

Thursday 19th October (19.00 - 20.00) - chance to meet other parents.



The first few weeks of term are very much about inducting students into the culture and practices of the School, so they develop and maintain excellent work habits.

PARENT / TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

The PTA runs a number of events throughout the school year. Many of our events are for all the family and are run with the help and participation of the students and parents.

The School welcomes the additional funds we provide to purchase items that benefit the wide range of activities and clubs outside the school curriculum, to obtain extra facilities for academic work, and even to help bring major projects to earlier fruition for the benefit of all the boys and girls. All events and new ideas are discussed at the PTA meetings which are open to everyone.

Early in the Autumn Term there is an opportunity to meet the current committee members.

For contact details: Mrs L Johnson — 07816 537 518. Louisegalaxy.lj@gmail.com

NURTURE

The Hamblin

Pupils who are seen to be going through a difficult period may be invited to access The Hamblin. This is especially true if they are losing confidence, suffering emotional difficulties or experiencing undue difficulty with their work. The Hamblin combines both emotional and academic support for identified pupils. It is a calm and supportive environment where pupils have the opportunity to develop their social skills during breaks and lunchtime and work on improving their academic ability either on a 1 to 1 or in small groups. It aims to help them understand their difficulties and develop strategies to overcome them.

School Trips and Outdoor Activities

Activities outside the classroom enhance each person's experience. These may take place as part of lunch or after school provision, enrichment activity, or as occasional trips.

Outdoor Pursuits

Skiing

European Battlefields Tour

Snowdonia

Rock Climbing

Cycling

Duke of Edinburgh Award (Yr 9 upwards)

Outdoor Survival

Dry-Slope Skiing

Theatre Visits

Newcomers' Bonding Weekend

Year 7 Yorkshire Coast Trip

Recent trips to India and Japan and a forthcoming trip to Spain.

The students can also access the annual ski trip which in over the past decade has visited North America, Canada, France, Austria, Spain and next year will see the students ski the Olympic Venue in Sestriere.



SPORTS & HOUSE ACTIVITIES

SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

The aim is to encourage all students to participate in the variety of **INDOOR** and **OUTDOOR** activities. It operates on a competition basis over the following range of activities:

Outdoor

Cross Country
Football
Netball
Sports Day
Tennis

Indoor

Badminton
Basketball
Five a Side
General Knowledge Quiz

The House system also looks at providing opportunities alongside the Physical Education department competitions in Golf, Orienteering, Music and Public Speaking.

The School is divided into four Houses named after four of the great explorers and missionaries.

Grenfell (Green)

Sir Wilfred Grenfell (1865-1940) was born in the north of England. He was an adventurous boy who loved the outdoors and the sea. In 1883 Grenfell entered the London Hospital Medical School. Grenfell joined the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen, an organisation which provided medical and spiritual services to North Sea Fishermen. He was devoted to improving the life of the people. Dr. Grenfell practised medicine, built hospitals and established schools and orphanages.

Hillary (Red)

Sir Edmund Hillary (1919-2008) was an explorer and mountain climber. He was the first to climb to the summit of Mount Everest, the tallest mountain in the world, in 1952.

Scott (Blue)

Sir Robert Scott (1868-1912) was a British naval officer and Antarctic explorer. Scott led two expeditions to the South Pole, and died on the disastrous second trip, along with his crew.

Livingstone (Yellow)

David Livingstone (1813-1873) was an explorer and was famous for his expeditions to Africa. He discovered the source of the River Nile and named Victoria Falls after Queen Victoria.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Every student has a locker and has to pay £5 (non refundable) against the loss of the key provided by the School. This locker should be used for the safe storage of books and other personal items during the school day and overnight. Coats should be left on pegs in classrooms. School bags should also be left in these rooms, or on designated bag shelves, and must not be left in corridors or other rooms. During PE, valuables should be handed to the teacher for safekeeping.

Although rare, it has to be accepted that losses through carelessness and occasionally theft, do occur. Any item found by staff will be returned to a student via their form tutor as long as it is named. Unclaimed items are stored in the lost property (in the Premises Office) and a student may search for a missing item with the permission of a teacher. The weekly newsletter contains periodic descriptions of unclaimed items but, after several reminders, these are eventually donated to charity shops.

Students should not bring valuable items into School. Items such as coats, bags and watches should be of sound basic quality, rather than expensive branded variants. On occasions when it is essential to bring in valuable or delicate items, arrangements for storage can be made with the Deputy Head. PE staff and form staff will assist in providing safe storage, where absolutely necessary. If permission is given to bring a bicycle into School a sound lock must be provided and the bike locked at the bike stands provided. ***Students must wear helmets while riding a bicycle.***

The School does not accept liability for loss of money or valuables left unattended in clothing or elsewhere as the School's insurance policy can only be invoked where there is clear proof of forcible entry. Parents may well need to consider whether the all-risks sections of their domestic insurance gives adequate cover for their child's personal items, ***including bicycles, if used.***

Smart Watches—these are not allowed in school as there is too great a risk for their improper use.

Mobile Phones—these must not be used or be visible around school. They should be turned off and kept safe. If they are seen by staff they will be confiscated, until the end of that day. If they are confiscated again then this will be for 5 school days, kept overnight in the school safe. A further repetition means confiscation will be for 10 school days.

READING LIST

Reading is both a joy and an important life-skill and we expect all students to have on their person – either in their bag or carried - a suitable reading book throughout the school day. There will be DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) slots during the school week and we hope to see students reading for leisure at other times. Below is a suggested reading list. This is by no means exhaustive or prescriptive, but it does indicate the types of material that Year 7s might be aiming for. Many of the books are available in the school library.

Adventure

Stormbreaker / Anthony Horowitz
Swallows & Amazons / Arthur Ransome
Troy / Adele Geras
The Thief Lord / Cornelia Funke
The Moon Riders / Theresa Tomlinson
Alpha Force Series / Chris Ryan

Classics

The Secret Garden / Frances Hodgson Burnett
The Lost World / Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
The Railway Children / Elizabeth Nesbit
The Hobbit / J R R Tolkien
The Water Babies / Charles Kingsley
Anne of Green Gables / L.M. Montgomery

Real Life/Teenage

Noughts and Crosses / Malorie Blackman
Face / Benjamin Zephaniah
Granny the Pag / Nina Bawden
Holes / Louis Sachar
Lola Rose / Jacqueline Wilson

Fantasy

Northern Lights / Philip Pullman
The Hobbit / JRR Tolkien
A Series of Unfortunate Events / Lemony Snicket
The Wind of Fire Trilogy / William Nicholson
Harry Potter / J.K. Rowling
Narnia / C.S. Lewis

Biography/Autobiography

Diary of Anne Frank
A Child Called 'It' / David Pelzer
When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit / Judith Kerr
My Family & Other Animals / Gerald Durrell

Funny

The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole / Sue Townsend
Ally's World (Series) / Karen McCombie

History

Goodnight Mr Tom / Michelle Magorian
The Wheel of Surya / Jamila Gavin
Kiss the Dust / Elizabeth Laird
The Silver Sword / Ian Serraillier
Carrie's War / Nina Bawden
I Coriander / Sally Gardner

Life Issues

Walk Two Moons / Sharon Creech
Vicky Angel / Jacqueline Wilson
Chandra / Mary Hendry

Prize winners

Ruby Holler / Sharon Creech
The Edge / Alan Gibbons
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night
Time / Mark Haddon

Other Cultures

The Garbage King / Elizabeth Laird
The Other Side of Truth / Beverley Naidoo
Chinese Cinderella / Adeline Yen Mah
Journey to the River Sea / Eva Ibbotson

Film/TV Tie-Ins

Freaky Friday / Mary Rodgers
Woof! / Allan Ahlberg
Five Children and It / E. Nesbit
The Borrowers / Mary Norton
Matilda / Roald Dahl
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe / C.S. Lewis

Animal Stories

Watership Down / Richard Adams
The Sheep Pig / D King-Smith
My Family and Other Animals / Gerald Durrell
Dumb Creatures / Jeanne Willis
The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips / Michael Morpurgo

