

Consett Junior School



This is our school and school badge

School Brochure

May 2023

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Consett Junior School. Undoubtedly some of you are new to the school, even to the area, whilst others are familiar with the school and its aims – we place excellent value on Positive Relationships. I would, therefore, like to extend a warm welcome to you all, old friends and new. I trust that you and your child will enjoy a long and happy association with the school.

The education of your child is as important to us as it is to you. Co-operation between home and school is vital if we are to try to maximise the potential of every child in our care. At the start of term, some children take a short while to acclimatise to the unfamiliar environment and routines which are required of them – this is very normal.

Most pupils settle well and settle quickly. However, if at any stage you have any query or worry, please feel free to contact the school for help or advice.

I trust you will find the information in this brochure useful and that you will feel able to give your valuable support to the school. I look forward to meeting you on many occasions in the coming years.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Dixon.

Headteacher.



CONSETT JUNIOR SCHOOL

BEECHDALE ROAD

CONSETT

CO. DURHAM

DH8 6AY

TEL. AND FAX NO. (01207) 504431

E Mail: consettjunior@durhamlearning.net

Website: www.consett-jun.durham.sch.uk

Information may also be obtained from: -

CORPORATE DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

COUNTY HALL

DURHAM

DH1 5UJ

Or: -

SCHOOL AND GOVERNOR SUPPORT SERVICES

COUNTY HALL

DURHAM

DH1 5UJ

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Chair of Governing Body -

- Mrs. A. Fraser

Vice Chair -

- Mrs. K. Turner

Governors

Mr P. Dixon - Headteacher

Mrs F. Welsh - Co-Opted

Mrs. J. Stephenson - Co-opted

Miss. E. Horsman - Co-opted

Mr L Burgess – Parent

Mrs. G. McCreesh - Parent

Mrs. K. Turner - Co-opted

Mrs. G Cornes - Local Authority Governor

Miss R Waters - Staff Governor

Miss F Nichols - Parent

Mrs A. Fraser - Co-opted

Mrs R. Forster - Co-opted

Mr N. Moffett - Co-opted

STAFF OF CONSETT JUNIOR SCHOOL

Head teacher

-

Mr. P. Dixon (Safeguarding Lead)

Deputy Head teacher

-

Miss. R. Waters (Sendco; GDPR)

Teachers	-	<p>Mr. S. Meadows</p> <p>Mrs. L. McMahon</p> <p>Mrs. K. Taylor</p> <p>Miss. N. Hughes</p> <p>Mr. M. Moore</p> <p>Miss. K. McNeill</p> <p>Miss. K. Riley (Maternity Cover)</p> <p>Miss. R. White (Maternity Leave)</p> <p>Miss. C. Thompson</p> <p>Miss. H. Clarey</p>
School Cllrs.	-	<p>Mrs. D. Gilray</p> <p>Miss. L. Oselton</p>
Higher Level Teaching Assistants -	-	<p>Mrs. D. Gilray</p> <p>Ms. L. Oselton</p> <p>Mrs. T. Shield</p> <p>Mrs. N. Hannant</p>
Teaching Assistants	-	<p>Miss. M. Atkinson</p> <p>Mrs. C. Wearmouth</p> <p>Miss. S. Wilson</p> <p>Mrs. R. Wood</p> <p>Mrs. S. Carr</p> <p>Apprentice</p>
School Operations Manager	-	Mrs. D. Raine (Safeguarding Officer and Attendance)

Cook	-	Miss. P. Moreton
Assistant Cook	-	Miss. N. James
Supervisory Staff	-	Mrs. Y. Armstrong Mrs. J. Hudson Mrs. D. Wilson Miss. V. Waters Mrs. K. Guy Vacancy
Site Manager -	-	Mr. K. O'Dowd
Cleaners	-	Mrs. D. Wilson Mr. D. Ismay Mr. B. Thompson

Correct at time of completion – subject to alteration.

OUR SCHOOL

Consett Junior School was opened in 1974 as a modern purpose-built open plan school; since then, we have had many additions to the school building and site. The school serves the town of Consett and attracts pupils from Delves Lane, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Moorside, Leadgate and beyond. The school sits on an extensive site, covering a large area that is tree lined. We have our own allotment and memorial garden, as well as Log cabin, outside gym and play equipment.

The school is proud of its high academic, musical, technical, artistic, and sporting achievements in an environment where learning is an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

All children are encouraged to take pride both in themselves and in their school

The school is extremely well resourced to meet the demands of the National Curriculum and prepares children well for National Tests and develops the skills necessary for life in the twenty-first century.

On transfer from school most pupils attend Consett Academy where the majority go on to achieve excellent qualifications.

Transfers on 1st September 2022 were:

Consett Academy – 57

St. Bedes RCVA Comprehensive - 1

Wolsingham – 2

THE ORGANISATION

The school is organised into 8 classes. These classes are mixed ability classes and form the basis of the teaching groups during the year ahead. At various times children will be expected to work in small or large groups, in class situations and individually. Pupils are encouraged to become more independent and responsible as they progress through school as this is a specific skill which they will require to tackle work in the next stage of their school life.

Class 1 Mrs. L. McMahon	(Y3)
Class 2 Miss. K. Riley	(Y3)
Class 3 Miss H. Clarey	(Y4)
Class 4 Miss. C. Thompson	(Y4)
Class 5 Mr. S. Meadows/Mrs. Taylor	(Y5)
Class 6 Mr. M. Moore	(Y5)
Class 7 Miss. K. McNeill	(Y6)
Class 8 Miss R. Waters	(Y6)
Mr. N. Hughes	All years

We use our range of highly skilled and talented support staff across the school. They support a variety of classrooms with a range of children. They also provide bespoke interventions at certain times of the day, helping children catch up or provide additional challenges.

VISION, VALUES AND MORAL PURPOSE

Our aim is to place the child at the centre of all that we do, enabling them to flourish both academically and as an individual. With high expectations, our staff work to help your child grow and achieve. We will do this by striving to be the best we can be, in terms of teaching, support and as a community.

Our Vision

Consett Junior School is a friendly and caring place. We aim to support our children and their families to achieve their full potential; allowing our children to grow and develop their talents in a supportive environment within the school and in the community in which we live.

Our Staff are passionate about their work, placing children at the centre of all we do. We aim to deliver a range of exciting opportunities both in and out of the curriculum. Children can play in the school band, perform in a whole school show, or represent the school on the sports field the opportunity is open to all.

We believe at Consett Junior school in giving each child the best possible start in life.

Our Values



At Consett Junior School our Values mean:

Fun: Recognising that our learning experiences should be fun, engaging, and educational. That by adding additional challenge, children can grow and achieve.

Adventure: Allow opportunities to try new things, to innovate and develop new ways forward. Life begins at the end of our comfort zone.

Integrity: Having grand expectations in all that we do, rewarding those who work hard – but allow for us all to make mistakes and moving on from this.

Humility: Laying the foundations together that will guide us throughout life, recognising and supporting those in need and supporting those who need our help.

Family: We work in partnerships with children, staff, and families together, to allow our children to grow and achieve. Remembering that by developing positive relationship with all, we can achieve anything.

Our Moral Purpose

To be our absolute best, we use these opportunities to learn and help others learn. We do not have all the answers, but we do have a few steps in the right direction and know that being a great school is only possible in cooperation with others.

Together, we strive to:

To provide a happy, safe, and caring environment for the children to learn and achieve their full potential.

To enrich the children's love of learning through a variety of opportunities within the school and the wider community.

Provide appropriate challenge and support ensuring we always have grand expectations for all. Ensuring all our families are supported, so that the children we care for have the best start in life.



CURRICULUM

The school seeks to provide all pupils with a broad, balanced, and relevant curriculum suited to their individual needs. The aim of the school curriculum is to encourage pupils to become competent, self-reliant children with a knowledge of the world about them.

The Curriculum is all the planned activities that the school organises to promote learning, personal growth, and development.

It includes not only the formal requirements of the National Curriculum, but also the range of additional opportunities that the school organises to enrich the experiences of our children. This includes an ever-growing range of opportunities available to our children across all year groups.

Further information regarding our curriculum can be found on our school website.



CURRICULUM ORGANISATION

Whilst the National Curriculum is taught and covered by the school, the subjects may or may not appear as separate named subjects on your child's timetable. For example, a considerable amount of English

work takes place during lessons which may be labelled Art, Drama or Science. Similarly, topic or thematic work provides pupils with the opportunity to study aspects of History, Geography, Science and Technology and Computing. During the year pupils will receive a balanced curriculum though at various stages of the year there may be a different degree of emphasis (and, therefore, time) allocated to each curriculum area. The National Curriculum as delivered in this school is a legal requirement and ordinarily, no pupil may be excused it.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/COLLECTIVE WORKSHIP

Our Religious Education curriculum is taught according to the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education in Durham. Teachers teach R.E as a discrete subject yet plan for cross-curricular links where appropriate. We have links with our local churches, through frequent visits and visitors to our assemblies.



SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

At Consett Junior School, we regard the safeguarding of children as our main priority. We believe that we all have the right to be happy, to be safe and to learn. We all have the responsibility to make this happen.

Our safeguarding policies cover all areas of school life and include:

- Staff & Visitors- ensuring they are vetted, informed & trained.
- Children's Behaviour- promoting safer & happier behaviours & lifestyles.
- Parents & Carers- promoting links & supporting families.
- Premises -keeping them safe, pleasant & fit for purpose.
- Curriculum -providing positive, life affirming learning experiences.
- Outside School- ensuring safer activities and environments outside school.

All staff have an up-to-date understanding of safeguarding children's issues and can implement the safeguarding children policy and procedure appropriately. Policies are in line with current guidance and procedures.

Staff can respond appropriately to any:

- significant changes in children's behaviour;
- deterioration in their general well-being;
- unexplained bruising, marks, or signs of abuse;
- signs of neglect;
- comments children make which give cause for concern.

All staff are aware of the need to maintain privacy and confidentiality.

SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

The school Governors have determined that, in accordance with DfE (Department for Education) guidelines Sex and Relationship Education should form part of the educational provision made for pupils at the school. This is gradually introduced by means of a larger, more extensive topic on Health Education. Some of the work involves health care professionals at key points over the four years of Junior School, other topics occur as part of the Science curriculum.

HOMEWORK

The expectation is that all children will Read, complete Spellings and Tables practice. In Year 6, homework is structured around revision for SATs (Statutory Attainment Tests.)

READING

At Consett Junior School we use a programme called Accelerated Reader – much like any other reading scheme it is graded in difficulty. The difference from a more traditional reading scheme is that the various levels have a wide variety of books, both fiction and non-fiction – children can choose their own book within their level. It develops greater independence, with a greater focus on reading for pleasure. The scheme provides an electronic quiz at the end of each book, which measures children’s understanding of what they read. Once children have a certain level of understanding they are encouraged to move onto the next level.

For those children who require additional support, we have staff trained to deliver Phonic Interventions.

Children will bring home reading books linked to this scheme – we always encourage parents and family members to listen to their children read. This helps children discover a love of reading. We are lucky enough to have a lovely bespoke library and reading area.



FEEDBACK POLICY

The school operates a carefully considered and structured feedback policy to help pupils understand why their work is

incorrect. It is not helpful for pupils to have all their errors highlighted all the time, especially in areas where they might be experiencing great difficulty or where there is little confidence. Often feedback is given verbally and corrected 'live,' giving the children the best chance to change their work.

As children progress through school there is a hope that children will grow in their independence and be able to self-correct more often. As they grow in confidence the amount of scaffolding in lessons will be removed, allowing for greater independence.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS/LEARNING DISABILITIES

Many pupils experience difficulties at some stage during their educational career. Specific difficulties are dealt with individually or in small group situations. In most cases children encountering problems

will remain working within the class on work which has been carefully tailored to their needs. In certain circumstances it may be possible to provide some additional form of support by means of an extra teacher or support assistant within the classroom. On other occasions a child may be withdrawn from the class to benefit from small group or individual attention. There is no single rule or approach adopted as the needs vary greatly. Parents of pupils thought likely to benefit from additional support are contacted by the school and invited to discuss the issues and share their concerns.

If the school is unable to meet the needs of the pupil despite having varied the provision made, additional help and advice may be necessary. Parents will be invited to discuss the matter further and to help assess the situation. If necessary, the services of professionals from outside the school may be requested. No outside agencies are involved without the full agreement of the parents.

FAMILY CO-OPERATION

Relationships play such a huge role in the life of the children we are lucky enough to have in our school. For this reason, we place great emphasis on creating good relationships. Two-way communications vital to the progress of the children and working together on shared aims is key. We always encourage parents to get in touch should they have any concerns with any aspect of school life. Most problems can be easily fixed and the earlier we know the better.

A great deal of information can be gleaned from our school website and our school app. This enables messages to be sent out extremely quickly.





MANAGEMENT OF BEHAVIOUR AND DISCIPLINE

It is recognised that children may only reach a high standard of achievement when they are working in a constructive, industrious atmosphere. Children are expected to always conduct themselves in a suitable manner and to have regard for the safety and well-being of others. Our focus is very much about the positive, we believe that praise helps children achieve. We have a Positive Relationship policy that focus on praise.

There is a clear route of progression in our policy - most incidents are successfully dealt with in this way but on occasions it may be necessary to ask parents to visit school so the issues can be discussed in a calm, constructive and supportive way.

Our policy is noticeably clear, we will teach the children what makes good behaviour, we have clear and firm expectations, but these are woven into our daily school life.

MUSIC

We place a great emphasis on music as a National Curriculum lesson, we also see the value of specialist music teachers – to fulfil this we have a specialist Brass teacher in school every week. Across the academic year, every child will receive a half term's worth of introduction to Brass. This is at no cost to our families – as we see it as valuable to the children as English and Maths.

Moving on from this, we are incredibly lucky at Consett Junior School in that we have our own Brass Band, taught by Miss

Waters. These groups play regularly in school for coffee mornings etc. and are invited to events in the local community, especially at Christmas, but increasingly at other times of the year. We are also lucky enough to have an amazing link with 'White River Brass' a musical ensemble made up of players from the world famous 'Black Dyke Band

SPORTING AIMS

Sport in school should help to contribute to the overall education of young people by helping them to lead full and valuable lives through engaging in purposeful physical activity. Through a balanced programme of physical education children learn about their bodies and discover their physical potential.

Through physical education we aim to develop social, interpersonal, and cognitive skills by encouraging pupils to:

- Participate in meaningful physical activities thus developing physical competence.
- Participate in physical activity while promoting physical development.
- Develop confidence and self-esteem so experiencing success in a variety of physical activities.
- Be aware of personal safety and the importance of this when participating in physical activities.
- Develop aesthetic and artistic awareness using movement.

The school is an active member of the local School Sports Partnership – we place excellent value in being an active member of this group. We enter all available festivals and competitions and look to include every child in the school across the year.



PE/GAMES

All children are expected to take part in PE and Games which are part of the National Curriculum. Jewellery should not be worn in school and watches should be removed for reasons of safety. If earrings must be left in for any reason they should be covered by a plaster or tape, this only applies to studs – no other type of earring is allowed, please provide these from

home. Pupils must dress appropriately for lessons. Children must come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days, in the colder months they must also wear their school jumper/cardigan – other jumpers or hoodies are not allowed.

Appropriate clothing is as follows:

Plain black or blue shorts/jogging bottoms/leggings.

Plain white T-Shirt

A pair of Gym/Training shoes.

Footwear should be suitable for use outside on the playground or the field. Pupils need different shoes for PE and not the same shoes worn for a normal school day.



SWIMMING

Swimming is a core component of the National Curriculum and therefore is compulsory for all children. It is also a vital life skill.

Currently we have two swimming sessions a week, the timings of these are designated by the Local Authority. We split our classes in half, so that the group size is approximately 15 – this allows for greater participation and the number of children who learn to swim increases. Days and timings are shared at the start of the academic year.

MEDICAL

Please notify the school of any special medical problems which may affect your child whilst at school. During school hours minor cuts, scrapes etc. are treated at school. In the event of a serious accident (e.g., suspected broken arm) parents will be immediately contacted. If no contact can be made the child will be taken to Shotley Bridge or University Hospital Durham for treatment to begin and school will continue to contact parents. Please ensure that emergency contact details are accurate and updated regularly.

MEDICINES

If a child needs to take medication during the school day, we will administer this medication. Parents need to complete a form giving school permission to administer the prescribed medication to their child. Due to Government regulations, we now keep emergency inhalers and a defibrillator in school. Any medicine that is to be administered in school must be in its own container/bottle which has a clear prescription label attached. If it does not have a pharmacy prescription label, we cannot administer it.

No child is permitted to have medication in his/her possession. If your child contracts an infectious disease such as whooping cough, measles, mumps, or chicken pox, please check with your doctor to establish when it is safe for your child to return to school without putting other pupils at risk. Children who are ill with sickness and diarrhoea should be kept off school for 48 hours.

SCHOOL HOURS

Staggered opening times and finishing times:

Year 3 and 4 times from Tuesday 6th September

Start time: 8.40 am – Children are left at the school gate to walk into the yard, no parents/carers should be in the school yard on a morning.

Lunchtime: 12.00 am – 13.00 pm

End of Day: 3.20 pm – collection is from the main school yard. This is the only time parents/carers should be in the yard.

Year 5 and 6 times from Thursday 6th September Start

time: 8.40 am

Lunchtime: 12.00 pm – 1.00 pm End of

Day: 3.30 pm

Normal start times:

School starts at 8.55 a.m.; therefore, ALL children must be in the school yard for this time as this is the time the bell rings. Access to the yard is from 8.40 a.m. and NOT before, unless they are accessing breakfast club. As there is no access to the yard before 8.40 a.m., you should not be leaving your children any sooner than this, as school are not responsible for the child prior to the gates being opened, unless in Breakfast Club.

Morning Session start	8.55 a.m. – 12.00 noon
Lunch 1	12.00 p.m. – 1.00 p.m.
Afternoon Session	1.10 p.m. – 3.20/30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

We place a strong emphasis on good attendance, and regular attendance at school is important but in cases of unavoidable absence parents should keep the school well informed as to the reason for a child's absence.

Particularly if it is likely to be prolonged. A telephone call, email, or text on the first day of absence is preferred as letters are often not handed in. Failure to inform the school of an absence will now by law result in the child being recorded as absent without authorisation and will appear as such on the child's school records. If no message is received by 9.15 a.m. you will receive a text message to find out the reason for their absence.

Where no information has been received from the parents, Mrs. Raine will try to contact the parents. If formal monitoring is necessary, you will be informed of this, and the process will commence. In the school year 2021/22 the total school unauthorised absence figure was 0.87%. A certificate and meal (or shopping voucher) is given to children with 100% attendance for the full school year (September to July). We also reward 96% termly attendance, the year group with the highest attendance receives a monthly reward and the class group with the highest percentage receives a non-uniform day! According to OFSTED 96% of attendance is acceptable; any absence below 90% will be referred to

the Local Authority and assessment will follow.

Our whole school attendance for 2021/22 was 94.34%.

Parents collecting children needing medical treatment during school hours (e.g., visit to dentist or doctors) are asked to call at the school. This enables an exact record of pupils on site to be maintained. This information is important in case of emergency or fire drills. Please note that no child will be allowed to leave school early unaccompanied. No child will be sent home unescorted during school hours and must be collected by a named responsible adult from the main entrance.

FAMILY HOLIDAYS

Due to amendments (April 2013) that have been made to the Department for Education's Pupil Registration Regulations to address attendance issues, it has been made clear to headteachers that they should not grant leave of absence during term time unless there are "exceptional circumstances". The law does not grant parents/carers an automatic right to take their child out of school during term time. **In instances of unauthorised holidays in term- time (where the holiday gives rise to 7 days or more unauthorised absence in any period up to a maximum 12 rolling school weeks).**

EMERGENCY CONTACT

It is especially important that we should be able to contact parents or a named responsible adult in case of an emergency. Parents are asked to complete an information sheet which the school can refer to in such a situation. If there is no telephone at home the number of a near relative or friend is required.

If parents change address, telephone/mobile numbers, or their place of work they should notify the school of such changes as soon as possible.

We use 'Reach more Parents' (Weduc) to send app/email/text messages to parents. It is even more important that we are regularly updated with new mobile numbers. You will receive an enrolment code for our app which can also be downloaded from the Apple or Google Play store.

SCHOOL MEALS

School meals are cooked and served on the premises. These prove popular with the children being both nutritious and value for money. Special menus for children with certain medical conditions are also provided in consultation with both parents, medical practitioners, and the school cook. Packed lunches are also allowed provided we are informed in writing of your wish to provide these, but we request two weeks' notice in advance. It must be understood that the responsibility for the safety and condition of packed lunches lies with the child.

Advice on the nutritional content of packed lunches is available from school. Hot food in flasks/containers of any sort (e.g., soups, pot noodles, hot chocolate) is not allowed in school.

We use a system called Cypad in school which is an interactive software allowing your child to choose their meal each morning at registration.

DINNER MONEY

As from September 2023 school meals increase to £2.50 per day, £12.50 for the week. We need to have two weeks' notice if anyone changes from meals to packed lunches as children cannot swap and change during the week – they must have either a meal or packed lunch for the whole week. We use the ParentPay online system for the payment of dinner money and breakfast club, we do not accept cash in school. If you are in arrears with your dinner money payments, you will be informed when it goes above £10. If it reaches £50 your child will be moved onto packed lunches and the school income team at the LA (Local Authorities) will be notified of your arrears. If you are having difficulty in paying your arrears you are encouraged to contact the school to arrange a payment plan.

BREAKFAST CLUB

We have a daily Breakfast Club with supervision (£2.50 per day), starting at 7.45 a.m. until the start of the school day. **Children must not arrive before 7.45 a.m.**, and they must come to the main entrance to be admitted and signed up by a member of the breakfast club staff. Children remain in the hall until their class starts when they are either taken outdoors for a short break or taken to their class. Please make sure you pay on ParentPay.

Children who do not come to the Breakfast Club should not be on the school premises. We offer free breakfast to children on free school meals or have been entitled to in the last six years. This is not something all schools offer but we have a particularly good uptake of breakfast club and are in an advantageous position financially to offer this again. You do not need to pre-book a place for breakfast club.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Our After-school clubs are run as enrichment clubs. 78% of pupils have attended at least 1 club this year. Our clubs vary, from sports and crafts to activities such as reading and nurture clubs, and everything in between. We try to give as much variety as possible to all the children in our school. The clubs change every half term and are run by a staff and coaches. They usually to run for one hour and are allocated on a first come basis which is then to be paid on ParentPay to secure a place. Please note, our clubs are not after-school childcare and are not consistent due to half term reviews. Therefore, if you require after-school childcare you will need to make other arrangements. You must book your child's

place when they go live on the app – pre-booking is not permitted. Some examples of our clubs are:

Half term one example:

Monday – Year 3/4 Basketball

Tuesday – Karate (all school members)

Wednesday – Year 5/6 Games Club

Thursday – Selected pupils Nurture Club

Friday – Year 4/5 Craft Club



LUNCH SUPERVISION

Children staying at school for lunch are supervised by 'Lunchtime Supervisors.' Behaviour expectations remain as they would as if lunch were supervised by a class teacher. Standards and expectations remain high.

SCHOOL SECURITY

The very design of the school building means that no member of the school staff or pupils need be out of sight of others while in class areas. All entrance doors are fitted with one-way security locks. As such they prevent entry from outside the building while still allowing a quick form of exit from inside the building in case of fire etc.

All visitors, including parents, must report to the main entrance at all times of the school day. Under no circumstances are parents or relatives allowed onto the school playground when children are outside. This is to ensure the safety of all children and staff.

Workers and visitors to the school will be required to provide some form of identification. Once admitted visitors will be asked to sign the visitor's book and note the times of arrival/departure.

PLAYGROUND SECURITY

When children are allowed out at breaktimes at least two members of staff at any one time will be on duty. If there is cause for concern relating to strangers around the school, stray dogs etc., pupils will be brought inside while the matter is investigated by a senior member of staff. Once children are brought back into school at the end of break time the staff on duty will ensure that the door is closed and locked. At lunchtime, the same system will be in operation except that at least two lunchtime supervisors will be on duty as well as the Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher who will be in overall charge.

BUILDINGS SECURITY

The building has four external CCTV cameras, protecting the school site. These are in operation at all times of the day. We have a secure fence all around the school which is locked during the day while children are on site.

UNAVOIDABLE CLOSURE

Whilst we hope it will never be necessary, there may be occasions when, due to circumstances beyond our control, it is necessary to close the school. In times of severe weather or heating breakdowns we may have extraordinarily little notice of such closure. Should it be necessary to close the school we will send an app and text message to all parents/carers. A message will also appear on DCC site and the school website. Information may also be broadcast on local radio, usually Radio Newcastle. If in doubt parents should telephone the school.

The school does not post messages to parents via Facebook or other social media websites.

PERSONAL PROPERTY IN SCHOOL

Children are not expected to wear jewellery or to bring valuable personal items to school. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss of, or damage to any such items. Whilst teachers may from time to time hold valuables for pupils (e.g., during PE lessons) the responsibility for valuables remains with pupils at all times.

Parents are strongly recommended not to allow their children to bring anything of value to school, including

mobile phones or any electronic games. In exceptional circumstances when a child needs to bring a phone to school, it should be handed to their teacher in their classroom and switched off.

DATA PROTECTION

Our school is compliant with the Data Protection Act and follows all procedures within this act.

LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY AND CHARITY WORK

Children in the Brass Band regularly play at the local Care Homes and at events held in the community.

We have welcomed the Princess' Trust into school this year and will look to develop this partnership moving forward. We have also had the pleasure of welcoming the Consett Rotary Club to school – who present a yearly award to one pupil who makes a telling contribution to school life.

The school has been involved over the last few years with events and developments at Consett and Blackhill Park and continues to visit on a regular basis for a variety of activities linked to art, science, allotments, and outdoor educational work.

CHARITY

We make a conscious effort to try to focus on at least one charity event during the academic year.

We also support other one-off events, such as Comic Relief and Children in Need, these are usually in the form of non-uniform days and planned activities.

We will be discussing with our school council and wider population what worthy cause we should focus on in 2023/2022



SCHOOL CLOTHING

The school has a uniform which we hope parents will provide consisting of:

Royal Blue Sweatshirt/Cardigan

Grey or Black Skirt/Trousers

Gold Polo Shirt

Blue/White Dress (optional summer only)

Black or Grey Shorts (optional summer only)

Only black shoes must be worn with school uniform (no white or coloured trainers except for PE).

Royal Blue Sweatshirts, Gold Polo Shirts, Royal Blue Sweat cardigans, PE Shirts/Shorts/String Bag, Dresses,

Tracksuits, Reversible Waterproof Jackets, Fleece Jackets, School Bags and Hats can be ordered from our online

uniform provider 'Tots to Teams.' A supply of Sweatshirts and Polo Shirts are no longer kept in school but can be ordered at any time online. All these garments offer excellent value for money and are made from hard-wearing, machine washable fabrics, specially decorated with our school logo. It is essential that all items of

children's clothing has the child's name clearly marked on them. The wearing of earrings or nail varnish is not allowed in school.

Please make sure that school uniform and coats have children's names in them. There are many children in school who have the same size clothing.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023 (TERMS)

Autumn Term 2023

5th September to 26th October

6th November to 19th

December

Spring Term 2024

3rd January to 16th February

26th February to 18th March

Summer Term 2024

15th April to 25th May

5th June to 21st July

Further dates (including staff training dates) can be found at

<https://www.consett-jun.durham.sch.uk/parents/school-holidays/>

BRINGING CHILDREN TO SCHOOL

Would drivers please note that if transporting children to school the school operates a voluntary one-way system from 8.40 – 9.00 a.m. and 3.15 – 3.40 p.m. (subject to change if staggered times are still in place). Cars entering Beechdale Road are requested to follow a one-way system along Elmdale Road onto Oakdale Road, children can be dropped off and collected on Oakdale Road and then cars continue back along Beechdale Road.

Unfortunately, we do have a problem with parking in the vicinity of the school. Many parents now park on Ashdale Road and walk down to meet their children. Please note the requests below are to ensure that your child can enter and leave school safely.

- Do not block driveways to houses or park on pavements when collecting children.
- Observe the “No Unauthorised Vehicles beyond this point” sign, the double yellow and the yellow zigzag lines (“Keep Clear”). There is an elevated risk of a fine for failure to comply even for dropping off.
- Do not bring cars into the school drive and car park – even to turn around. (Unless there are medical reasons).
- Please inform anyone who will be bringing or collecting your child (including taxis) of these rules and one-way system.
- There are now double yellow lines outside the school gates – please do not stop on these, as parking fines have already been issued to some people.

ASSESSMENT

Our Assessment lead is Miss White (Mr. Dixon in her absence)

We conduct informal quizzes and mini tests often – these are low stakes and offer the children and adults in school an opportunity to understand aspects of learning. As well as this we complete the termly tests in Year 3, 4 and 5. These are used alongside teacher assessments to make a judgement of where the children are in terms of their peers – additionally they also give the children the chance to sample what tests are like in their later school career.

Year 6 complete SATs in May each year – these had been suspended because of the pandemic and for time the children have been out of school – they have been reintroduced for this academic year.

The last results that were shared Nationally are below:

National Results Y6	2017/2018					2018/2019				
	Reading	Writing	SPAG	Maths	Combined	Reading	Writing	SPAG	Maths	Combined
School %	80	80	82	82	73	65	77	90	79	58
National %	75	78	77	75	64	73	79	78	79	65
Difference	+5	+2	+5	+7	+9	-8	-2	+12	0	-7
% of Pupils Attaining Higher Scaled scores	20	16	25	20	8	19	29	21	21	10
% of Pupils Attaining Higher scaled scores (National)	28	20	34	24	10	27	20	36	27	11
Average Scaled Scores	105		106	105		102		105	104	
National Scaled Scores	105		106	104		104		106	105	

ATTENDANCE

Autumn Term 2021 - 95.27%

Spring Term 2022 - 93.81%

Summer Term 2022 - 94.43%

Whole School Academic Year - 94.52%

ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

Autumn Term 2021

Group	Total No of Pupils	Authorised Absences			Unauthorised Absences		
		No of Pupils	% of Pupils	% of Sessions	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	% of Sessions
Year Y3	61	45	73.8	3.1	12	19.7	0.4
Year Y4	41	35	85.4	5.2	8	19.5	0.6
Year Y5	60	45	75.0	4.8	9	15.0	0.4
Year Y6	60	45	75.0	5.3	17	28.3	0.9
Totals	222	170	76.6	4.5	46	20.7	0.5

Spring Term 2022

Group	Total No of Pupils	Authorised Absences			Unauthorised Absences		
		No of Pupils	% of Pupils	% of Sessions	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	% of Sessions
Year Y3	61	34	55.7	3.4	5	8.2	0.2
Year Y4	44	38	86.4	7.6	10	22.7	1.3
Year Y5	60	46	76.7	6.8	6	10.0	0.7
Year Y6	60	48	80.0	6.9	8	13.3	0.7
Totals	225	166	73.8	6.0	29	12.9	0.7

Summer Term 2022

Group	Total No of Pupils	Authorised Absences			Unauthorised Absences		
		No of Pupils	% of Pupils	% of Sessions	No of Pupils	% of Pupils	% of Sessions
Year Y3	61	35	57.4	2.9	13	21.3	1.2
Year Y4	44	31	70.5	5.4	13	29.5	2.1
Year Y5	60	38	63.3	3.8	15	25.0	1.6
Year Y6	60	41	68.3	4.0	13	21.7	0.9
Totals	225	145	64.4	3.9	54	24.0	1.4

