



Hetton School

Respect. Learn. Achieve.

School Newsletter
22nd March 2019

Welcome to our regular newsletter.

Message from the Headteacher

On Thursday 14th March, I attended the launch by Schools Minister Lord Agnew, of the ONE Vision Schools initiative at a meeting of school, education, business, and university leaders. A central part of Opportunity North East, the programme aims to support thirty schools in the North East, improve social mobility and raise aspirations for up to 25,000 young people.

As a school that has demonstrated what one DfE representative described as, 'a rapidly improving trend over the last 18 months', I have managed to ensure that our school will part of the first wave of the programme, starting as early as April. We be partnered with a high-performing institution from outside of the NE region, which has identified characteristics similar to our own (size of school, social deprivation indicators, % of SEN students, ability of students on entry etc.) This school (which we have the final say on) will provide support and share best practice. We will also have access to bespoke support from expert leaders in education nationally, to accelerate the huge progress we have already made in raising standards and helping our students learn the skills and knowledge that will help unlock their potential.

As it stands, young people in the North East are the least likely to apply to higher education of any region in the country. 18 year-olds from London are 50% more likely to apply to university than 18 year-olds from the North East. This pattern also rings true for our community and it is part of our long-term plans to help raise aspiration. Of course, Higher Education is not the goal of many, nor should it be, so as a school we will be working equally hard at creating opportunities for apprenticeship and vocational college routes. The key aspect we want to encourage is that all our young people are ambitious and 'dream big'.

Opportunity North East will invest £24 million across the region, with half of this designated for targeted approaches to improve the transition from primary to secondary school and drive up standards at secondary schools. The remaining £12 million is earmarked for training for new teachers and to help improve the quality of teaching in North East schools. Other aspects of the programme include working with secondary schools and colleges to encourage young people to consider progression routes, such as university and degree apprenticeships, and working with local businesses to improve job prospects for young people across the region.

Whilst we do not have access to the whole £24 million (wouldn't that be useful!), we are very excited to be identified as a flagship school for this important initiative. I am confident that it will assist us in improving progress, developing a growth Mindset in our students and improving the life chances for all young people in our community.



Year 7 & 8 Hetton Honours

Today we have once again been celebrating the success of our students and rewarding them for their outstanding achievements. Mr. Magee led our Hetton Honours assembly that focussed on the challenges that our students face in preparing for life after school. We looked at aspiration and the need for all of our students to aim high in everything that they do. The message to our students was clear – dedication, hard work and learning from your mistakes will take you wherever you want to go.

47 students from Years 7 and 8 were awarded their Bronze Hetton Honours award in an assembly with Mr. Knowles and Mr. Wilkinson, our ever supportive governor. The Hetton Honours scheme encourages our students to take advantage of the many extra-curricular activities that are on offer at Hetton School. They must gather evidence of how they have completed each of the seven sections of the award - Responsibility, Extra-curricular, School support, Peer support, Environmental, Community and School Trip. By achieving this award, our students have shown a wide range of skills and a real determination to succeed. This is a fantastic achievement by these students and shows that they have made every effort to 'stand out from the crowd' during a successful start to their time at secondary school.

The challenge for all of our students is to keep working hard, aim high and make the very most of their ability. We look forward to rewarding even more of our students during the summer term.

Well done to all of the students rewarded in today's assembly.



Statue unveiling

On Saturday 27th April there will be a statue unveiling taking place in Hetton next to Little Peppercorn Tearooms, the purpose of this statue is to welcome a tribute to Hetton's mining past. Ray Lonsdale, an ex-pupil of Hetton School, who is also well known for his statue of 'Tommy' in Seaham is the artist and he has been working closely over recent months with the Hetton local History group to get this statue built.

Hetton School are proud to be the only secondary school that is part of this and prefects, along with our Head boy and Head girl, will be there for the unveiling, carrying out a very special part of the day. The Da said "Men don't cry" statue will show a boy of about 10 being prepared for his first day down the pit with his father. It honours those boys, sometimes as young as 6, who were sent to the mines in the local areas. We would love to see as many people as possible at this unveiling to celebrate Hetton's past.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Year 8 Parents' Evening	28.03.19 3.30pm - 6pm
Break for Easter	05.04.19
Return to school	23.04.19



What does that mean?

OUR TARGET IS

100%
ATTENDANCE

6 DAYS OF ABSENCE / 97% ATTENDANCE
30 LESSONS OF LOST LEARNING
ONLY 78.7% OF STUDENTS ACHIEVE 5+ GRADES OF 9-4

9 DAYS OF ABSENCE / 95% ATTENDANCE
45 LESSONS OF LOST LEARNING
ONLY 52.8% OF STUDENTS ACHIEVE 5+ GRADES OF 9-4

19 DAYS OF ABSENCE / 90% ATTENDANCE
95 LESSONS OF LOST LEARNING
ONLY 35.6% OF STUDENTS ACHIEVE 5+ GRADES OF 9-4

THERE ARE 175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR
This is 48% of the year to spend as you wish e.g. on family time, visits, holidays, appointments, shopping and other household jobs.



Improving Attendance



Year 7	7L2, 7N1
Year 8	8B1, 8B2
Year 9	
Year 10	10B1, 10N1
Year 11	

Well done! Remember, everyday matters!!

