

Gosforth Junior High Academy



Information for Parents and Carers

School Year 2025 – 2026

Regent Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1EE

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Gosforth Junior High Academy.

Our philosophy is to provide high levels of support alongside high expectations and standards in order to develop well-rounded young people who are confident, resilient, emotionally intelligent and independent. We want to prepare our young people for adult life.

As 'Head of School' I will be very visible and present and will be working tirelessly to ensure that the school flourishes and becomes the very best it can be, providing stability, clear direction and an holistic, child centred approach to education. Your children are special and they deserve the very best we can offer.

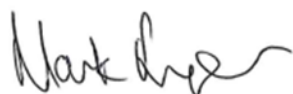
We work in close partnership with parents and carers for the benefit of the children and have established a caring, friendly and supportive atmosphere. With your help, we can do much to ensure that the years spent by your child at Gosforth Junior High Academy are both happy and successful. We want to develop our partnership with you through developing a Parent Partnership Group. If you are interested in this, please contact admin2@ga.newcastle.sch.uk or see me in-person.

In 2023, Ofsted rated Gosforth Junior High Academy as 'Good'. Ofsted said, 'Gosforth Junior High Academy is a welcoming, friendly and inclusive school. Strong relationships between all members of the school community benefit everyone, creating a supportive and aspirational environment. The school has high expectations for what pupils, including pupils with special educational needs and /or disabilities (SEND), can achieve academically. Pupils are polite and courteous and behaviour is exceptionally good.'

We are a proud member of 'The Gosforth Group', led by Dr Alex Thorp. Our Mission is to put the child at the centre of our Trust, creating an environment where they are safe, valued and belong. Using the key principles of equity and inclusion, we provide excellent leadership, teaching and learning, to prepare all children and young people for adulthood. Working in partnership with others, we raise aspirations and broaden mindsets, maximising the opportunities of living and working in the North East.

We look forward to welcoming you into our school community and getting to know you all!

Regards



Mr M Fryer
Head of School

**SENIOR MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF
GOSFORTH JUNIOR HIGH ACADEMY
(September 2025)**

CEO of The Gosforth Group	Dr Alexandra Thorp
Executive Headteacher	Steve Campbell
Head of School	Mark Fryer
Assistant Head of School - Behaviour and Pastoral	TBC
Assistant Head of School - Progress and Achievement	TBC
Key Stage 2 Lead	TBC

Local Governing Committee

If you wish to contact the Local Governing Committee please write to:-

Chair of Local Governing Committee
c/o Gosforth Junior High Academy
Regent Avenue
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 1EE

OUR PLEDGE TO:

Children and Young People

- You will be safe and well cared for
- You will achieve, thrive and belong
- You will be emotionally resilient
- You will develop high aspirations and unlock your potential
- You will enjoy an enriching and engaging curriculum that broadens your horizons
- You will be prepared for your future education and employment in the North East and beyond

Our Parents and Our Community

- We will respect one another and foster effective communication
- We will provide opportunities for you to engage with us through empowered partnerships
- We will meet North East and national employer needs, creating responsible citizens ready for the world of work
- We will grow sustainably, staying grounded in, and serving, our North East communities

GOSFORTH JUNIOR HIGH ACADEMY SUPPORT

Pastoral Care

In our school we get to know your children well. By encouraging the sort of staff-child relationship which allows frank and open dialogue, children form special relationships with some of their teachers and support staff and sometimes small problems are picked up and sorted out quite informally.

The Form Tutors, who are responsible for daily registration of children in their forms, are usually the best first point of contact for parents / carers wishing to discuss issues regarding their children.

Also, for each key stage, we have Lead Form Tutors and Pastoral Leaders.

In addition, we have a large, inclusive Student Support Base, with support staff who play a very important role in supporting both the academic and pastoral needs of the children.

Staff will endeavour to respond to emails / phone calls within two-working days.

Please note that appointments must be made if parents / carers wish to have a meeting with a member of staff, except in emergency situations. This is because we cannot guarantee that a particular staff member can be available, due to wide-ranging commitments within school. Please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment.

ROAD SAFETY

Remember, children are not always aware of the dangers and therefore parents and carers must be!

- Please do not park on or opposite the zig-zag lines at the school gates, on the double yellow lines or on the pavement
- Please encourage your child to use the pedestrian crossings
- If collecting your child from the car park area, **park and leave your car in a designated parking area and personally meet your child outside the school building until they understand how to safeguard themselves around the busy carpark.** Do not park in bays reserved for the disabled unless you have permission. Do not encourage your child to walk unsupervised across the car park
- In the interests of the environment, please switch off engines whilst waiting in the car park

WALKING / CYCLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

As children get older, inevitably, as parents /carers we start to make judgements about developing their independence. One of the ways you may consider is to allow your child to walk or cycle to and from school.

If you intend to allow your child to walk / cycle to and /or from school unaccompanied by an adult, we suggest that you practice the route with your child, so they get accustomed to it and any associated road safety issues. Helmets are required for those who choose to cycle and a lock to safely secure their bike whilst at school.

YOUR CHILD'S FIRST DAY

Year 5 children will start the new academic year at 8.40am on **Tuesday 2 September 2025**. **All other pupils (Years 6, 7 & 8) will start on Wednesday 3 September**. Children should be on the school premises no later than 8.30am. Yards are not supervised until 8.10am so we cannot take responsibility for pupils before this time. We ask that parents of children new to the school do not remain with their child as our staff will greet you on the MUGA (outside main reception) and welcome him / her into school.

Break will take place at 10.40am and students can bring a fruit / vegetable snack.

Please note: ***We are a no nut school.***

Lunchtime is from 11.50am to 12.40pm for Year 5 and 6 and from 12.40pm to 1.30pm for Year 7 and 8. Year 5 are supported in the dining hall for the first few days until they become familiar with the system.

At 3.20pm, school ends and children may be collected from either of our two main gates. If you wish to collect your child by car, please use our car park (off Regent Avenue).

Students will receive a planner, including their timetable on their first day. Please go through this with your child to plan for the week ahead. They will need their PE kit for their first lesson.

On the final day of each term, school closes at 12 noon.

Late Arrivals

Registration takes place at 8.40am and 1.30pm. We appreciate that some children travel longer distances, relying on public transport, over which they have little control. We do not wish to penalise such children for lateness beyond their control, however, we believe that young people should appreciate the importance of punctuality. Each case of lateness will be carefully considered to see if it could have been avoided and appropriate sanctions will be given, if considered necessary. You will be informed if your child has been late to school with a sticker in their planner. From 8.45am, children must report to the school office to sign in. Only then will a registration mark be given.

DAILY ROUTINE - THE SCHOOL DAY FOR YEARS 5 & 6

8.40am – 9.00am	Morning Registration
9.00am – 9.50am	Lesson 1
9.50am – 10.40am	Lesson 2
10.40am – 11.00am	Morning Break
11.00am – 11.50am	Lesson 3
11.50am – 12.40pm	Lunch
12.40pm – 1.30pm	Lesson 4
1.30pm – 1.40pm	Registration
1.40pm – 2.30pm	Lesson 5
2.30pm – 3.20pm	Lesson 6

DAILY ROUTINE - THE SCHOOL DAY FOR YEARS 7 & 8

8.40am – 9.00am	Morning Registration
9.00am – 9.50am	Lesson 1
9.50am – 10.40am	Lesson 2
10.40am – 11.00am	Morning Break
11.00am – 11.50am	Lesson 3
11.50am – 12.40pm	Lesson 4
12.40pm – 1.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm – 1.40pm	Registration
1.40pm – 2.30pm	Lesson 5
2.30pm – 3.20pm	Lesson 6

Lunch Break

Children have two options:

- 1 They may bring a packed lunch which is eaten in the dining hall
- 2 They may purchase a school meal which is eaten in the dining hall

Pupils sit with their form class for lunch, however, they may swap between school meals and packed lunch.

School meals are paid for by using the school's biometric system. This system uses a person's fingerprint to identify him/her. Once a person's fingerprint has been scanned (during the first week), the information is stored in a computer as a 16-digit code. This information cannot be accessed by anyone other than the school and it cannot be released to any other organisation.

Payments for lunches can be made by parents, online, using the iPayimpact system. For the payment of school meals, each student has an account; the parents are then supplied with log in details. This then gives you access to view the current balance, food purchased and upload monies onto the account. Your child will be given account details etc when they have registered for school in September. Please don't send your child into school with cash - new pupils can go into credit initially until the account is set up and topped up.

Children who bring their own packed lunches may also purchase additional items using the biometric system.

Eating a lunch is not optional. We insist that every child eats lunch. If we become aware of your child not doing so, we will contact you to discuss the matter.

Lunch time supervision is provided by Supervisory Assistants and members of the pastoral team are always available.

Children are not allowed to leave the school premises without school's permission.

In wet weather, supervised areas will be available.

PLEASE NOTE: If you require your child to leave school within the school day, you must contact the school office beforehand to seek permission, however, they cannot leave school unaccompanied.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All clothes and personal property must be marked with the child's name. This makes finding lost items so much easier, and surprisingly, most children do tend to lose things at some point in their school lives!

All students will require the following main (day wear) uniform items:

- Navy showerproof rain jacket* (with or without school logo) and/or navy outdoor micro fleece* (with or without school logo); two coats can be worn together
- Navy sweatshirt* with school logo
- Navy polo shirt* with school logo
- Black tailored school trousers
- Black tailored shorts
- School skirt, which should be of a traditional school skirt design and must not be too tight or too short (round about knee length is acceptable)
- Grey or black socks
- Tights may be worn, but they must be black and plain (not patterned)
- Formal black dress shoes, not trainers (or anything that resembles trainers)
- Navy or black, school backpack (with or without school logo) is mandatory for all pupils.

If pupils wish to wear religious head wear, it must be plain black or navy blue.

We ask for your co-operation in not allowing your child to wear denims, jeans, canvas trousers, jeggings, leggings or trainers to school.

- We reserve the right to determine suitability for school. Please ask before you buy if you are in any doubt.

*Items should be purchased from our approved uniform supplier, Michael Sehgal & Sons Ltd.

NB: A school coat is a compulsory item. It should be brought to school every day unless advised otherwise. Your child may not be allowed to attend outdoor educational trips unless wearing full school uniform.

All students will require the following PE/sportswear items:

- Royal blue polo shirt with school logo*
- Any unbranded plain navy or black shorts (must be at least mid-thigh length) or plain navy or black tracksuit bottoms
- Royal blue sweatshirt with school logo*
- Sports socks
- Training shoes with non-marking soles (no boots, plimsolls or black soles will be permitted)

* *These items are available from our uniform supplier, as they carry the school badge, alternatives may not be worn. **We reserve the right to determine suitability for school. Please ask before you buy if you are in any doubt.***

Additional items may be required for some extracurricular activities e.g., football boots or mouth guards. Students and parents / carers will be notified if these are required.

Uniform Supplier:

All starred items above should be purchased from:

Michael Sehgal & Sons

Unit 17, Airport Industrial Estate, Kingston Park, Newcastle NE3 2EF.

Tel: 0191 230 2320 www.michaelsehgal.co.uk

All children must wear a coat and / or fleece to and from school. We will not insist that school coats are brought to school for the summer term, but the decision as to whether or not your child does so is at your discretion.

We have amended our uniform policy this year to try and keep the cost as low as possible, however for anybody experiencing financial difficulties with the purchase of items, please contact the school office. If a child arrives at school not wearing the correct school uniform, he or she may face sanctions. Use your child's planner to communicate any difficulties you are having so we can support you.

We expect students to come to school looking presentable and taking pride in their uniform. The wearing of jewellery, makeup, nail varnish and fake tan is forbidden. Please ensure that any ear piercings are done at least 6 weeks prior to the start of school in September (to allow the piercing to heal and establish), as the wearing of earrings is not permitted in school. Clear plastic retainers can be worn if the piercing is not healed – plasters are not acceptable. Smart watches can be worn but any inappropriate use will result in confiscation.

We reserve the right to decide what is a reasonable style and colour of hair. No stepped haircuts or patterned haircuts are allowed. If your child has hair past shoulder length it should be tied back (plain navy blue / black hair ties). This is a health and safety issue.

It is expected that all children will attend lessons with the basic equipment:

- Blue or black pen
- Green pen
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Other useful equipment:
 - Pencil sharpener
 - Coloured pencils

We supply all children with a school planner which they must bring with them to school every day. We expect every child to come to school with an appropriate school bag (large enough to carry an A4 folder).

HOW IS ACHIEVEMENT REWARDED?

We believe that the children need to have progress and achievements recognised and that they should feel proud of their accomplishments.

We will ensure that individual achievement, both in and out of school, will be acknowledged in a variety of ways.

We use PRAISE stamps to reward students' attitude to learning and good behaviour. Stamp Champs are rewarded to individuals and class efforts are rewarded with Stampeder incentives.

In addition, recognition and rewards are given for many other noteworthy reasons and children can earn certificates, praise post cards, gift vouchers and special treats at a variety of PRAISE events.

LEARNING AND BEHAVIOUR

Our PRAISE code embraces our school values:

Positivity
Resilience

Aspiration
Inclusion

Success
Empathy

We believe that a calm and inclusive atmosphere, where cooperation and respect is valued, is the best way to promote these values.

Good behaviour leads to:

- The creation of a safe and secure environment for all
- The creation of a positive learning environment
- A raised awareness of the importance of self-discipline

Consequences for Inappropriate Behaviour

If children misbehave, there are consequences:

- **C1** – Verbal warning
- **C2** – Second verbal warning
- **C3** – Given if similar behaviour persists or, immediately, if behaviour warrants it. An accumulation of C3s within a school week will lead to detention and /or additional sanctions. Detention for Years 7 & 8 will be after school with lunchtime detention for Years 5 & 6. However, in certain circumstances and at the discretion of a senior member of staff, children in Years 5 & 6 may also be placed on after school detention
- **In School Suspension** – Isolation within school
- **Fixed Period Suspension** – Fixed Period Suspension will be administered if a particular offence or offences are deserving of such disciplinary action
- **Permanent exclusion** – Permanent exclusion will be considered when appropriate

Please note that inappropriate behaviour of children on the journeys to and from school may be dealt with by school, along with incidents when pupils are wearing their school uniform outside of school.

HOME-SCHOOL AGREEMENT

The Home-School Agreement can be found in your child's planner. We would very much appreciate it if you could discuss this with your child and sign it. There is also a 'Student Acceptable Use Policy' for you and your child.

What is the Planner?

All children are expected to have their planner when in school. It is required to be out on the desk in every lesson and made available to staff when requested. It is an important means of communicating with children and parents / carers. It is also designed to help with planning and organisation. Pupils' PRAISE Stamps are recorded here, as well as behaviour points (KS3 only).

Each week, tutors will check planners. We ask that you also complete a weekly check and indicate that you have done so by signing it in the appropriate space. There is also a space for you to write longer comments if you wish.

Should your child's planner be lost or damaged (including defacing the cover), there will be a replacement cost to you.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Child Safeguarding

We are obliged to report any relevant information relating to child safeguarding to the appropriate authorities. The school has a designated person with the responsibility for coordinating child safeguarding issues. The Designated Safeguarding Lead also has responsibility for child protection issues. Please refer to our website for our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Before School Child Care

- From Monday to Friday we run a **Breakfast Club** in school. It begins at 8.00am and finishes at 8.30am
- Morning sports and the library are also available from 8.00am
- These clubs run throughout the school year, on all days that children are in school. There is no charge to attend any of the morning clubs nor do children need to sign-up to attend

After School Clubs

There is a selection of after school clubs available, these are updated and promoted each school term. These clubs – ran by school staff – are all free of charge and run until approximate 4.15pm.

After School Child Care

An alternative is to use the **Junior All Stars After School Club** to look after your child. This is a private company which operates within our premises and looks after children up until 6.00pm, Monday to Friday. If you are interested in this option, please contact juniorallstarsgosforth@gmail.com or telephone Cally on 07517 513771.

We are aware that many of you do not wish to collect your child from school, but allow them to make their own way home. However, in order to ensure adult supervision for those children who are to be collected, we have agreed the following with the Director of the Junior All Stars After School Club:

Children not collected on time

If your child has not been collected by 4.30pm Monday to Friday, he / she will be taken by a member of Gosforth Junior High Academy staff and placed with staff in the **Junior All Stars After School Club**. **Subsequently, you will be sent an invoice by the club.**

Upon arrival to collect your child from the Junior All Stars After School Club, you should telephone 07517 513771. A member of staff will bring your child to the Key Stage 3 entrance / exit (adjacent to the car park) and hand him / her over to you or the appropriate designated person.

If you have not collected your child by 5.45pm, the Junior All Stars After School Club staff may initiate emergency procedures. This could involve the staff contacting Newcastle Social Care. If this is not successful, the staff are instructed to call the police. These procedures are not in place to penalise you, but to ensure that your child is safe at all times.

This arrangement does not apply to those children who are attending organised school clubs and activities. In these circumstances, you will make your own arrangements.

Please note, as school closes at 12 noon on the last Friday of every term, **Junior All Stars After School Club will not operate on these days.**

Inappropriate use of social networking sites

In recent years, social networking sites have grown in popularity and many people use them to communicate with family, friends and others. Unfortunately, there are people who use social networking sites to cyber-bully or harass others.

It is not acceptable to use social networking sites to openly criticise and make unsubstantiated, damaging comments about the school or any members of our staff or children.

Current laws such as the 1988 Malicious Communications Act, 1997 Protection from Harassment Act and 2003 Communications Act can be used to protect individuals from malicious and threatening posts made on the internet. The victims might also choose to bring civil actions for defamation or slander. Gosforth Junior High Academy wish it to be known that all necessary action will be taken to deal with any material posted on such sites that is, in our opinion, distressing, alarming or harassing or in any way breaches the rights of the members of our school community.

We are sorry that it has been necessary to address this matter as we understand that the overwhelming majority of you would never become involved in such activity.

Curriculum

Subject Leaders are responsible for various subject areas of the school curriculum. They guide and advise teams of teachers working within a particular curriculum area throughout the school and maintain subject liaison with appropriate First, Middle and Gosforth / Great Park Academy staff.

In school, children are divided into four-year groups according to age. Usually taught in mixed ability groups, there are some subjects, which are taught in sets of similar academic ability. This does not happen until after the first half term in Year 5 to allow us time to get to know the children properly first. Our website has detailed curriculum pages and we share termly overviews to help you with supporting your child's learning.

School assemblies

We hold assemblies, on a weekly basis in key stage groups and try to use this time to offer a meaningful and thought-provoking experience. Assemblies are designed to reflect the values of the school and to encourage the children to become better informed citizens. We hope that the children are both stimulated and challenged by some of the issues they are invited to consider and that they may, on occasions, be spurred on to take part in the many charitable causes we support. To reflect the diversity of our school community, speakers and materials for assemblies are drawn from a wide range of sources. We also hold KS2 class assemblies which families are invited to.

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

Children with special educational needs range from those who simply require a little extra help or guidance, to those who need one-to-one specialist support. Our aim is to enable all children to participate as fully as possible in all aspects of school life.

Most SEND provision comes from class teachers adapting activities when necessary to ensure that every child is included and making progress. In addition, these teachers are supported by the Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator, Leaders of Teaching and Learning and Learning Support Assistants. Specialist support from other appropriate agencies is also accessed when necessary.

Emotional, behavioural, social and academic needs are addressed within the school system and targets are set for individual children with specific needs.

We regard the development of independence, self-confidence and self-esteem as being central to our support role.

Specialist Support Base (the base)

We have a dedicated Support Base. A 'multi-purpose' base, it provides appropriate support for a wide variety of children's needs and several interventions take place here.

Additionally Resourced Provision for Children with Visual Impairment (VI ARP).

We are proud to host one of the city's provisions for children and young people with visual impairment. Our policy is to integrate all children with a visual impairment into mainstream classes where they work successfully alongside their sighted peers. Along with Gosforth Junior High Academy staff, specialist teachers and support staff from the VI ARP ensure that all children strive to reach their full potential in a fully inclusive setting.

English as an Additional Language

Our school community is fortunate to include children and families from many different countries and cultures. Support is offered to these children when we feel it is appropriate. It is our experience that those with English as an additional language make very good progress and are able to participate fully in all aspects of school life.

Teacher Consultations

Presently, there are two 'formal' opportunities for you to meet your child's teacher to discuss their academic progress, alongside a termly academic report. To support with transition, a tutor phone call will be arranged for the first half term in Year 5 and Year 7. If you require more information about how your child is doing, additional meetings / calls can be arranged if you contact school or communicate this via the planner.

Homework

Homework helps develop important skills and supports you to become more independent in their learning.

We set regular homework for all pupils, its purpose:

- To give opportunity for further study
- To establish good work habits for private study

- To reinforce work done in class for those of all abilities
- To give the opportunity to extend learning

We run homework clubs after school, where ICT facilities are available and a member of staff is there to support the students.

Broad Guidelines

- In Years 5 & 6, homework will be given in maths and English every Wednesday (a maximum of 30 minutes per subject)
- In Years 7 & 8, homework can be expected in most subjects, with weekly English and maths
- **All children should be reading at home every day and getting their reading record signed every week**
- The format of the homework will always be online, using the online platform, Seneca
- Children should record homework in their planner
- Cautions will be given for failure to complete homework

With homework, we rely on family support. You can help by:

- Ensuring that your child has a set area for completing work at home
- Taking an interest in your child's tasks
- Checking that the work has been completed
- Requesting ICT support if your child does not have access to this at home

Personal Property

Children are responsible for their own property. Occasionally things are lost, and while every effort is made to return property to its rightful owner, we are not always successful in doing so. When personal items are marked with the owner's name, this becomes a more straightforward matter. We strongly advise you to consider taking out insurance cover against loss of property and injury to your child. Under the budgetary arrangements of local financial management, the school is not able to budget for ex-gratia payments in respect of loss or damage to children's personal property.

Charging policy

The Local Governing Committee's policy on charging meets the requirements of the Education Act 1988. In essence it means that no charges will be made for any cost of education provided as part of the National Curriculum or as part of a syllabus leading to public examination. No child will be debarred from taking part in any activity other than optional extras because you are unable to make any contribution. In appropriate cases, the Local Governing Committee may decide to undertake the costs of participation from the school's own resources. On residential visits, cost of board and lodging will be passed on in full to you, except where subsidies are requested to be considered. There is no charge for school music activities when an activity is taken by a school member of staff. However, you will be directly charged by NEMCO (North-East Music Cooperative) for any lesson or activity taken by one of their peripatetic instrumental teachers and for any instrument maintained by NEMCO.

The school reserves the right to ask you to pay some or all the cost of avoidable damage or loss caused by your child.

Mobile phones

Mobile phones must be turned off during the school day and not be visible during this time. We appreciate that a child may wish to contact a parent by mobile phone at the end of the school day. We ask that this is done outside of the school building, or in the reception area if a child is waiting inside school to be collected. On these occasions mobile phones must not be used for any other purpose. Infringement of these simple rules will lead to confiscation until the end of the day, or until a designated adult collects the phone. Further infringement could lead to a complete ban. School will not accept liability for the damage and / or loss of such items.

Complaints

Most problems can be settled through discussion at a fairly informal level, but should this fail, there is a procedure that should be followed. You can either email the main office with the subject entitled 'Complaint' or you write a letter addressed to the principal. This will then start a record sheet of the complaint, and the complaints policy will be followed.

Reporting an absence

When you know that your child is to be absent on a given day, please inform the school, preferably by telephoning the school office (telephone 0191 285 1000 – option 1) before 9.30am on the first day of absence. A 24-hour answering service is available on this number. A call must be made for every day of absence.

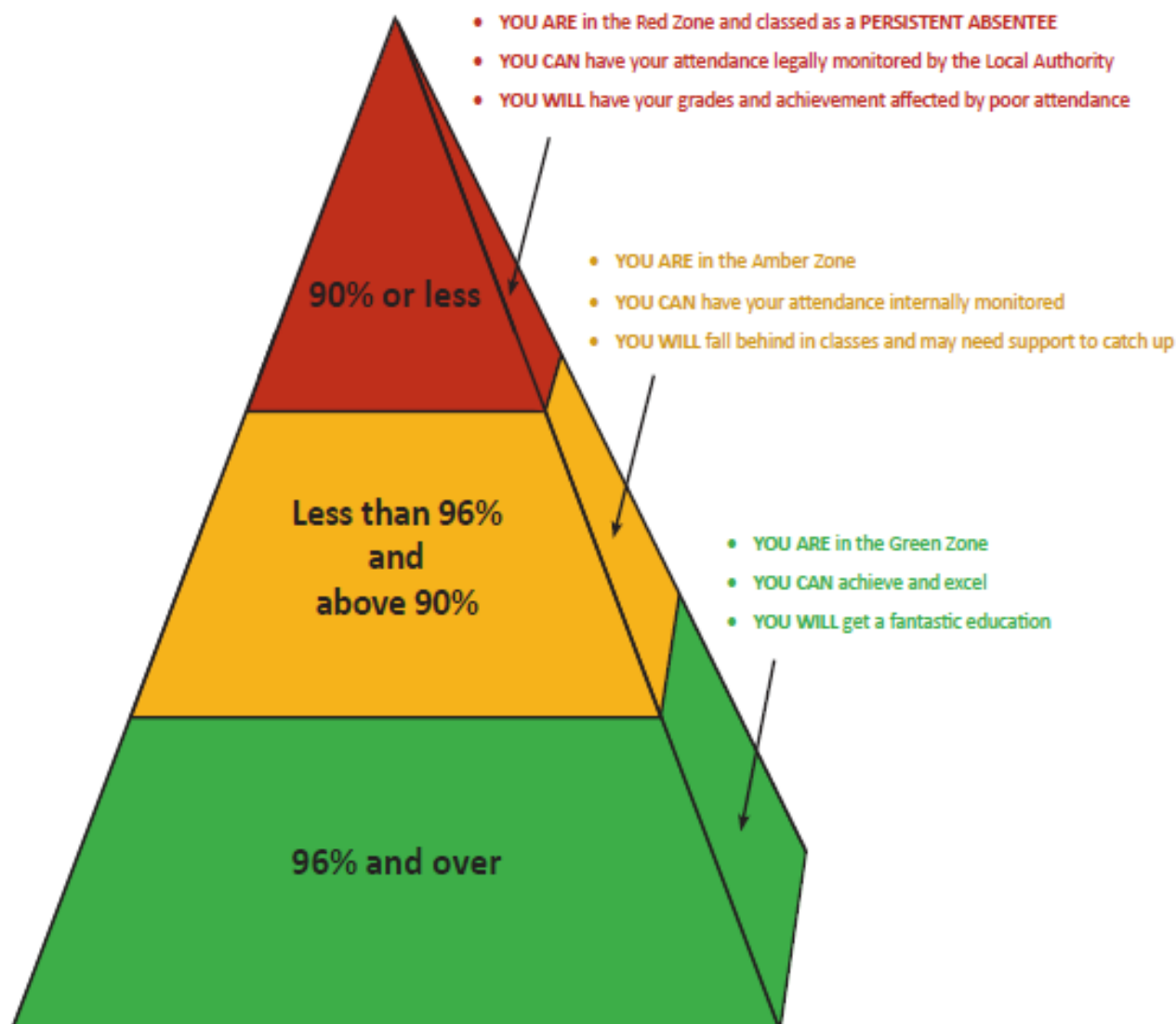
School is no longer able to authorise absence from school for the purpose of taking a holiday. Please note that if you do decide to take your child out of school in school time for this purpose, legal sanctions may be taken against you.

Schools are required to distinguish between authorised and unauthorised absence for all children of compulsory school age. Authorised absence covers absences that are unavoidable, such as sickness, religious observance and dental / medical appointments. A student will be removed from the school roll if his / her absence exceeds the agreed period. Parents must note, that if we are oversubscribed, it may not be possible to readmit a student on his / her return.

School attendance is a legal requirement and recent government instructions make it clear that there are significant penalties should a child be absent from school for unauthorised reasons.

School begins at 8.40am. Late arrival is recorded. Persistent lateness will be dealt with by school and may result in sanctions.

PRAISE CODE - ATTENDANCE PYRAMID



Lateness Each Day = lost learning over a school year

- 5 Minutes Late = 3 days lost!
- 10 Minutes Late = 6.5 days lost!
- 15 Minutes Late = 10 days lost!
- 20 Minutes Late = 13 days lost!
- 30 Minutes Late = 19 days lost!

Attendance Impact on Grades

- Over 94% Attendance = A very good chance of achieving all 9 - 4 Grades
- 90% Attendance = Less than 50% chance of achieving 9 - 4 Grades
- 88% or less = Less than 30% chance of achieving 9 - 4 Grades

Impact on Future Earnings

- 1 - 4 GCSE's can increase your wages by 17%
- 5 or more GCSE's can increase your wages by 41%
- Improve your attendance by 1% and you could see a 5 - 6% improvement in your attainment

Illness at school

If your child becomes ill while at school, first aid is available from designated First Aiders. If they or a senior member of staff feels that your child is too unwell to remain in school, you will be contacted. In more serious cases of illness or accident, you will be informed as soon as possible and, if necessary, the emergency services summoned.

The school should be informed of any health problems from which your child suffers e.g. diabetes, asthma, epilepsy, and of any condition that will affect participation in school activities.

Use of medication in school

The guidelines on the use of medication in school can be found in our Managing Medications policy – please see the summary below. The policy aims to promote the safety of all children whilst protecting their access to education.

It is vital that the school has all updated telephone numbers including emergency numbers.

Please ensure that the school is made aware of your child's medical history - bearing in mind that confidentiality is assured.

As per our policy please be aware: **Non-prescription medication**

Gosforth Junior High Academy will not give out to students any non-prescribed medication such as painkillers, even if their parents give permission.

In effect, this would be prescribing medication and no one is qualified in school to do so. Students may need to go home to be treated if necessary. The only exception to this rule is when students are out of school on a visit, away from medical assistance, and only in an emergency (Section 3 (5) of the Children Act 1989). Here, specific members of staff can administer non-prescription medication to students, if their parents have signed and consented to this on the EV Form. Staff are advised that in such emergency, if possible to contact parents by phone to explain the nature of the emergency and to check again if it is okay to give their child non-prescribed medication in this situation. This may not always be possible.

At Gosforth Junior High Academy, due to the age of the children, we request that parents / carers do not give children non-prescription medication to bring to school.

Prescription Medication

The school is under no obligation to administer prescribed medication to students. If we choose to do this it will be because there is a clear benefit to the student in question. Prescribed medications can be administered within school following the guidance and protocols identified in our Managing Medications Policy (on our website) and on the completion of the 'Medication in School Care Plan.' If parents have difficulty getting their child's prescription into the school they can arrange for the doctor to prescribe a split prescription, one for home and one for school. They can also arrange for a local chemist to make up and deliver the prescription. Most prescription medicine e.g. antibiotics can now be taken outside of school hours. Parents need to arrange an administration schedule to suit this with their GP. Parents will need to complete a 'request for child to carry his/her own medicine form (form 7).

If a parent asks the school to administer prescribed medication to their child, school will refer the parent to the School's Designated First Aider who will discuss with them the circumstances and

ascertain if it is both necessary and appropriate that the school agrees to do this. It may be that school will require parents to complete a Medication in School Care Plan for their child.

DATES OF SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2025 - 2026

The new school year begins for Year 5 children on Tuesday 2 September 2025 at 8.40am.

The new school year begins for Year 6, 7 and 8 on Wednesday 3 September 2025 at 8.40am.

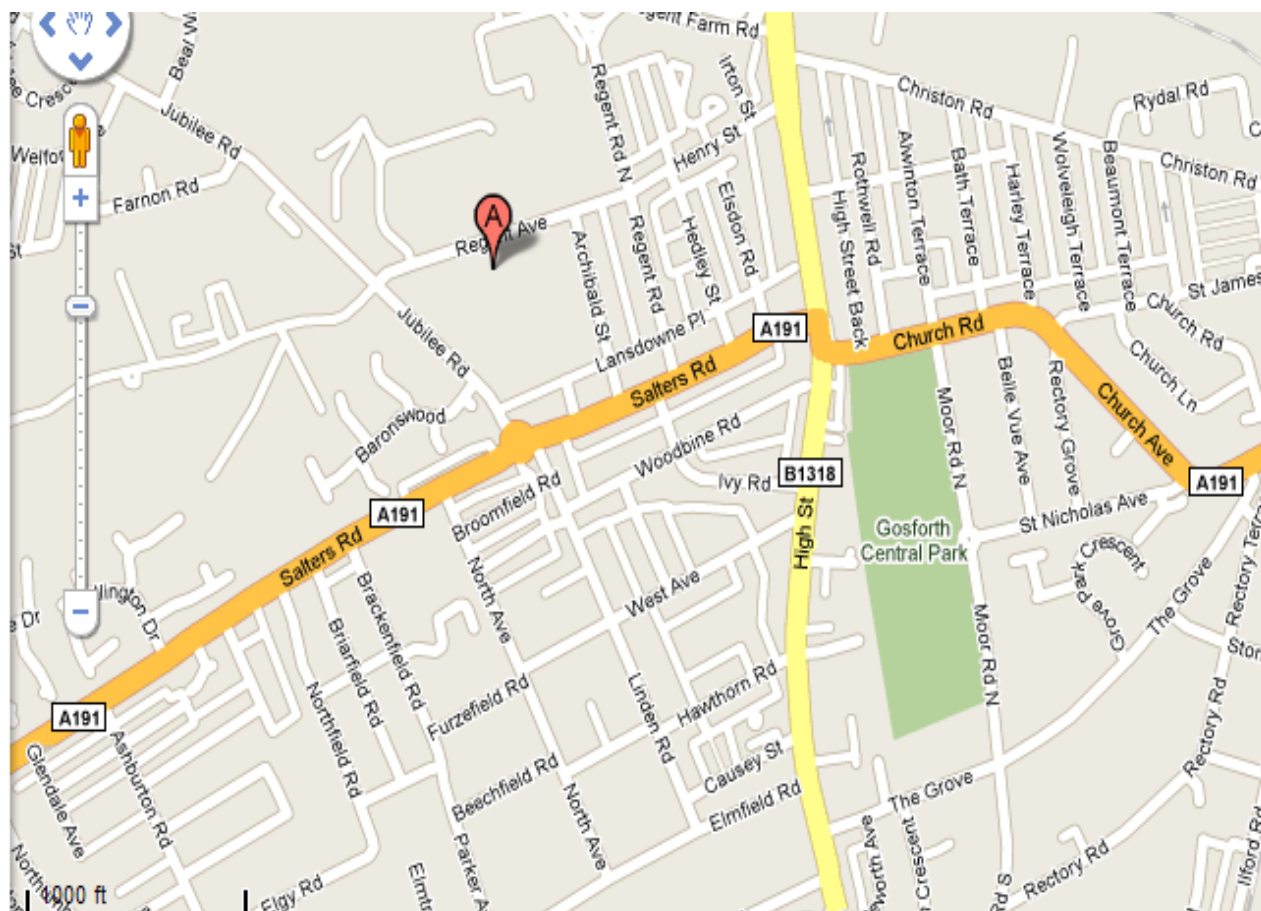
Autumn Term	Tuesday 2 September – Friday 19 December
Half Term	Monday 27 October – Friday 31 October inclusive
Spring Term	Monday 5 January – Thursday 2 April
Half Term	Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February inclusive
Summer Term	Monday 20 April – Friday 17 July
Half Term	Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May inclusive

Please note that school is closed on Bank Holidays.

On the final day of each term, school closes at 12 noon (19 December 2025, 2 April 2026 and 17 July 2026).

The school will be closed on Monday 1 September 2025 as this is a designated staff training day. There will be 2 additional training days on Wednesday 1 October 2025 and Wednesday 24 June 2026.

Location Map



GOSFORTH JUNIOR HIGH ACADEMY

Regent Avenue
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 1EE

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