



# St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form College

*'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world ablaze'*

## Newsletter: 24 October 2025

### Faith

In this Sunday's Gospel (Luke 18:1-8) we are reminded of the value of 'Asking Prayer' and not giving up in our prayer requests.

Prayer at its simplest is spending time with God – talking, listening, being together – telling God about our lives. We can trust that God hears our prayers and will always do what is best for us and those we pray for.

### Excellence

#### Headteacher's Award

This week's worthy winner is **Florence Onogholo 7C2**. Florence has consistently demonstrated kindness, dedication, and a positive attitude in all her endeavors. Her contributions to class discussions, her willingness to help her peers, and her unwavering enthusiasm for learning have set a shining example for others.

#### Tutor Group of the Week

**8C1** are our Tutor Group of the Week. Well done to the entire Tutor Group for living out our core values!

#### House Awards

Columba Student of the Week: **Robert Brown 8C1**  
Columba Highest Credits: **Layla Peacock 7C1**  
Columba Attendance Hero: **Lily-Anne Dowse 8C2**

Hilda Student of the Week: **Isabelle Thirkell 7H1**  
Hilda Highest Credits: **Lacey Cairns 7H1**  
Hilda Attendance Hero: **Raafat Ali 7H1**

Oswald Student of the Week: **Aiden Richardson 10O1**  
Oswald Highest Credits: **James Hogan 7O1**  
Oswald Attendance Hero: **Alexis Morris 8O2**





## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Feeder Primary Visits

This week, a number of our wonderful ambassadors have visited our feeder primary schools to engage with Year 6 students. They shared insights about transitioning to St. Bede's and addressed the students' questions.

Sharing stories about our vibrant community and supportive environment, the ambassadors enjoyed talking to the Year 6 students - helping to ease any anxieties about moving to a new school. The visits fostered a sense of excitement and anticipation, ensuring that the prospective pupils felt welcomed and eager to start their new journey. **The deadline for application for a Year 7 place is October 31 2025.**

Click here to submit an application:

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/secondarieschoolplaces>

Click here to view our admissions policy:

<https://www.st-bedes.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/St-Bedes-Peterlee-Admissions-Policy-2025-26.pdf>





## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Thank you to our students for your hard work this term

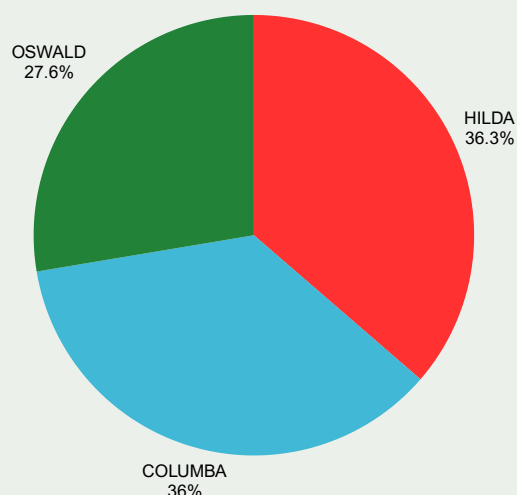
Our students have amassed an impressive number of credits this term, embodying our core values and demonstrating their determination to illuminate the world with their unique gifts and talents. Congratulations to each and every one of you as you keep making us proud!

| Year Group | Credits |
|------------|---------|
| Year 7     | 5,562   |
| Year 8     | 8,250   |
| Year 9     | 7,915   |
| Year 10    | 6,956   |
| Year 11    | 2,548   |

### House Credit Totals

Our Houses are still engaged in a fierce competition to emerge as the overall leader and secure the House trophy by the end of the academic year. The race remains extremely close between Hilda and Columba with Oswald starting to catch up.

Let's keep the spirit of friendly competition alive and strive to make this term unforgettable. May the best House win!



## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Final Maths Legends of Half Term 1 Appointed!

We are delighted to announce the following pupils have been created "Maths Legends" for their exceptional effort, presentation and kindness in lessons - a particularly strong week for girls! So far this year, we have appointed 41 Maths Legends and we are looking forward to announcing even more after the half term break. Keep it up, mathematicians!

- Mr Fowler - **Esther Ejiamatu 9O3**
- Miss Houghton - **Kyla Furlong 7C1**
- Mr Day - **Luke Gash 8C2**
- Mr Marrs - **Molly Frost 11H2**
- Mr Taylor - **Leah Bird 8C1**
- Dr Treanor - **Charlotte Stonehouse 9H3**
- Mr Wyness - **Amanda Ugochukwu 10H2**

### Sports Leaders

A huge congratulations to all our sports leaders who have all excelled this year in the number of voluntary leadership hours they have achieved. Not only have they given up countless hours of their time helping at Easington Sports Partnership events, extra-curricular clubs in school and local clubs in the community they have been excellent role models for St Bede's, and we are extremely proud of their achievements.



| Name       | School | Number of After School Sessions Attended | Has volunteered with the SSP | Dodgeball Leaders | Volunteering Hours Logged | Final Award |
|------------|--------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Aaron M    | SB     | 4                                        | Y                            | Y                 | 39.5                      | SILVER      |
| Julia J    | SB     | 4                                        | Y                            | Y                 | 50                        | GOLD        |
| Grace C    | SB     | 2                                        | Y                            | Y                 | 25                        | SILVER      |
| Joshua O   | SB     | 4                                        | Y                            | Y                 | 215                       | PLATINUM    |
| Ella W     | SB     | 4                                        | Y                            | Y                 | 50                        | GOLD        |
| Benjamin B | SB     | 4                                        | Y                            | Y                 | 155.5                     | PLATINUM    |



A special mention to **Benjamin Brown** who won sports leader of the year. Ben has shown amazing improvement since the start of the programme Ben, and his confidence has grown so much. When leading Ben has displayed high levels of communication skills, motivation and enthusiasm. We are very proud of you Ben and we hope you continue with your leadership role in the future.



Another special mention to **Joshua Oakley** who received the award for the getting most voluntary hours, with a huge 215 hours. Joshua has shown excellent organisation, determination and communication skills throughout the programme. The amount of hours Joshua has achieved shows his determination and commitment to the programme. Well done Joshua, this award is well deserved and we are very proud of you.



## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Ambassadors for Sports!

Heartfelt congratulations to our Year 9 students: **Daniel S, Ruby M, Evie L, William O, Olivia M, Lucy P, Nyla R, and Neave A**, for being selected for the Easington Sports Partnership Leadership Programme.

All students participated in a competitive application process and successfully earned their spots. This is a remarkable achievement, and we eagerly anticipate seeing them develop into outstanding ambassadors for sports.



### East Durham Lions' MVP!

**Isabel Wood 8H2** is part of the new East Durham Lions basketball team. She and the rest of the team won their first game of the season against East Cleveland. Isabel scored 22 points in this game and received MVP (most valuable player).

This impressive performance not only highlights Isabel's talent and dedication but also sets a promising tone for the rest of the season. Well done, Isabel!



### Y7 Halloween Cooking

Year 7 have had another fantastic week in the kitchen; the theme was to develop a pizza for a Halloween party.

There were some excellent pizzas coming out of the oven and the smell around the school was amazing

It was lovely to be joined by some of our Sixth Form students taking part in voluntary work for the Pope John Paul II Award: **Michael Harland** and **Alexander Treanor**





## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### The Music Department

The Music Department is a vibrant and creative part of our school where students can explore their musical talents and develop a lifelong appreciation for music. build confidence, improve focus, and strengthen memory. It also encourages teamwork, creativity, and self-expression. Studying music allows students to discover new ways to communicate and express themselves. It can open doors to exciting opportunities both inside and outside of school, from performing on stage to working behind the scenes in sound or composition. Music is a skill that stays with you for life, and it can be a source of joy, relaxation, and achievement.

### Music Clubs:

#### Keyboard Club

The Keyboard Club gives students the chance to learn, practise, and perform in a friendly and supportive environment. Whether you are a beginner or already confident in your skills, this club is a great way to develop your technique and share your passion for music with others.

- Years 8 & 9: Every Thursday - Lunchtime
- Years 7, 10 & 11: Friday Week A and Tuesday Week B - Lunchtime

#### Bede's Voices

Bede's Voices is our school's singing open to all year groups! The club meets every Monday at lunchtime and welcomes everyone who loves to sing — no experience required!

Members of Bede's Voices work on a range of songs and often have the chance to perform at school events and celebrations. It's a fantastic way to make friends, develop vocal skills, and experience the joy of singing together.  
Get Involved!

The Music Department is an exciting place where everyone is welcome. Whether you want to sing, play, or simply try something new, our music clubs are the perfect opportunity to get involved, learn new skills, and be part of something special.



## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Religious Education Students of the Half Term

Congratulations to the following pupils for consistently demonstrating our school values throughout this half term in RE.

- 7S Thomas Dale
- 7T Lexi Smithers
- 7B Oscar Naylor
- 7E Philip Renish
- 7D Eldon Li
- 8X1 Charlie Davison
- 8X2 Louis Donaldson
- 8X3 Ezekial Fasasi
- 8Y1 Dylan Pitilla
- 8Y2 Luke Gash
- 8Y3 Indie Fox
- 9X1 Nosariemen Izevbigie
- 9X2 Joseph Iweanya
- 9X3 Tianna Taylor
- 9X4 Thomas Price
- 9Y1 Lucas Stokoe
- 9Y2 Amelia Cummings
- 9Y3 Riley Newton Wharf
- 10X1 Corey Lamond
- 10X2 Evan Ellis-Jones
- 10X3 Reenie Johnson
- 10X4 Kenan Al Samak
- 10Y1 Ava Evans
- 10Y2 Poppy Wilkinson
- 10Y3 Iesha-Walker Young
- 11X1 Grace Nguyen
- 11X2 Olivia Ord
- 11X3 Paul Waldron
- 11X4 Sam Darlaston
- 11Y1 Anna Rowntree
- 11Y2 David Wiatr
- 11Y3 Krystal Fusco



### Labcoat Legends

In science we want to award and celebrate the excellent effort put in by our different students. Working hard in science lessons builds problem-solving skills, encourages curiosity, and helps students understand the world around them. It shows determination by often involving analysing complex problems, predicting outcomes and conducting experiments.

- Mrs Hayward - **Alfie Burns 11C1**
- Mr Moss- **Frankie Fox 9C2**
- Mr Griffiths - **Dean Blackburn 8O1**
- Mr Bowyer - **Astin Cooper 9O3**
- Miss Armstrong – **Evie Lunn 9H2**
- Mr Gooch- **Harry Pringle 7C1**
- Mr Day- **Above Okojie 7O1**
- Mr Balls- **Emmeline Collings 12CH2**
- Mrs Lord - **Abraham Laogun 8H1**



### Safeguarding Update: Managing Low-Level Concerns

Low-level concerns - such as inappropriate jokes or boundary-blurring - must be taken seriously. KCSIE 2025 encourages a culture where staff feel confident reporting even minor issues. This isn't about punishment - it's about creating a safe, transparent environment. Addressing concerns early prevents escalation and protects both students and staff. We have a BCCET Low-Level Concerns Policy which reflects this guidance.



## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Faith in Action

#### Year 7 & 12 Welcome Mass

On Thursday 23 October, our community came together in faith and fellowship to celebrate our Welcome Mass for our Year 7 and Year 12 cohort. It was a beautiful opportunity to greet new members, reconnect with familiar faces, and give thanks for the many blessings that unite us as one family in Christ.

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended and helped make this celebration so special. Your presence, prayers, and participation filled our Mass with warmth, joy, and a true sense of belonging. A special thank you to Fr Charles, St Bede's Voices, liturgical ministers, staff, students and parents for the Mass.

Thank you once again for being a part of our community. We look forward to seeing you at future events and sharing in many more moments of faith, friendship, and growth together.



### Harvest Collection

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to this year's Harvest Collection.

Thanks to your generosity, we have sent a lot of much needed provisions to our local food bank helping to ensure that no one in our community goes without a warm meal or a reason to celebrate this season. Every tin, every vegetable, every thoughtful gift speaks to the spirit of kindness and togetherness that defines our community.

As we look ahead to the coming months, we carry this spirit of giving with us—reminded that even the smallest acts of generosity can yield a rich harvest of hope.

Thank you once again for sharing so generously. You've truly made this harvest one to remember.





## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Peterlee Family Hub

The Peterlee Family Hub provides support and advice for families in the area, with services including parenting classes, baby groups, and support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). You can contact them by phone at 0300 026 1111 or visit them at Ellison Road, Peterlee, County Durham SR8 5NE. The hub also offers online resources through its virtual hub and Facebook page.

| Activity/course                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Start date/time                                                                 | Duration |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Durham SEND Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) drop-in</b><br>For mams, dads and carers of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, drop in to ask SENDIASS for impartial information or advice.                 | Monday from 1.00pm to 3.00pm on:<br><br>· 27 October 2025<br>· 24 November 2025 | Drop-in  |
| <b>Educational Psychology drop-in</b><br>Talk to the Educational Psychology team about any concerns you may have about your child such as learning, communication and language, social and emotional-wellbeing, practical skills or being independent. | Wednesday 12.30pm to 2.30pm on:<br><br>· 3 December 2025                        | Drop-in  |
| <b>Safer Choices</b><br>For young people secondary school age to understand risky behaviours, peer pressure, consequences and how to make safer choices.                                                                                               | Monday from 3.45pm to 4.45pm from:<br><br>· 10 November 2025                    | 6 weeks  |
| <b>FEARless</b><br>For mams, dads and carers of children aged 6 to 14 years, to help you understand your child's anxious feelings.                                                                                                                     | Tuesday from 9.30am to 11.30am on:<br><br>· 11 November 2025                    | 6 weeks  |
| <b>Harbour Family and Friends drop-in</b><br>If you've got a loved one who is experiencing domestic abuse and need some support or want to talk to someone                                                                                             | From 10.00am to 12 noon on:<br><br>· 28 October 2025<br>· 23 December 2025      | 2 hours  |

## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Anti-Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day

On Monday 10 November 2025, we'll be kicking off Anti-Bullying Week with a splash of colour and creativity by celebrating Odd Socks Day!

Odd Socks Day is a fun and meaningful way to raise awareness about bullying and promote a culture of respect and acceptance. All you need to do is come to school or work wearing your brightest, boldest, or silliest mismatched socks — the odder, the better!

This special day reminds us that we are all different and that's something to be proud of. It's a chance to express ourselves and to stand together against bullying in all its forms.

There's no pressure to wear anything new — just wear odd socks and celebrate what makes you you. Whether your socks are stripy, spotty, long, short, or completely mismatched, each pair will send a powerful message: It's okay to be different. In fact, our differences are what make us special.

Let's use this day to start important conversations about kindness, inclusion, and standing up for one another. Together, we can make our school/workplace a place where everyone feels safe, respected, and free to be themselves.



### Mock Exam Guidance

Mock exams for Y11 & Y13 begin on Monday 3 November 2025. Please can parents/carers click the link and read the information for candidates from JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications): <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/information-for-candidates-documents/> Students will need black pens, pencils, ruler, rubber.

## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

## Chadwick's Kitchen

Our award-winning in-house catering team Chadwick's Kitchen provides catering services across the Trust.

From preparing healthy and nutritionally balanced meals for our pupils to catering for corporate events. Our wonderful catering team provide us with the fuel we need to tackle the school day. We use fresh ingredients and the majority of our menus are homemade by our chefs in our kitchens. Staff are trained to accommodate medical diets and work in partnership with parents to ensure these needs are met.

As part of the Trust's commitment to sustainability, we regularly review food miles and continue to work to reduce food waste. We have also made the commitment to develop sustainable kitchens where we can grow our own produce in school gardens.

Our cycle of menus are below and on the the following page. When we return on Monday November 3 2025, we will be on menu week 3.



CHADWICK'S

KITCHEN

CHADWICK'S KITCHEN SECONDARY MENU

WEEK 1



|            | Monday                                                                        | Tuesday                                                              | Wednesday                                                                     | Thursday                                                         | Friday                                                           |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Main 1     | Chef's Crispy Chicken Burger served with Wedges, Seasonal Vegetables or Salad | Meatball Pasta Bake Served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Vegetables | Roast Of the Day Yorkshire Pudding Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables     | Pulled Pork Burrito Served with Seasonal Vegetables              | Fish and Chips Served with Beans Peas Curry Sauce/Gravy          |
| Main 2     | Asian Pork served with Rice and Seasonal Vegetables                           | Chicken Hot Wrap Served with Seasonal Vegetables                     | Beef Keema Served with Rice and Seasonal Vegetables                           | Chicken and Chorizo Paella Served with Garlic Bread              | Selection of Paninis                                             |
| Veggie     | Cauliflower and Potato Curry Served with Rice                                 | Halloumi Wrap Served with Seasonal Vegetables or Salad               | Veggie Mince and Dumplings Served with Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables | Vegetable Chow Mein                                              | Selection of Paninis                                             |
| Pasta      | PASTA BAR<br>With a selection of Sauces                                       | PASTA BAR<br>With a selection of Sauces                              | PASTA BAR<br>With a selection of Sauces                                       | PASTA BAR<br>With a selection of Sauces                          | PASTA BAR<br>With a selection of Sauces                          |
| Sandwiches | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                               | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                      | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                               | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                  | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                  |
| Potato     |                                                                               |                                                                      |                                                                               |                                                                  |                                                                  |
| Dessert    | Dessert of the Day Selection of:<br>Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts              | Dessert of the Day Selection of:<br>Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts     | Dessert of the Day Selection of:<br>Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts              | Dessert of the Day Selection of:<br>Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts | Dessert of the Day Selection of:<br>Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts |

MEAL DEAL INCLUDES: MAIN MEAL, SIDES, VEG OR SALAD, DESSERT OF THE DAY

2025/2026

## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT



CHADWICK'S  
KITCHEN

### CHADWICK'S KITCHEN SECONDARY MENU WEEK 2



|            | Monday                                                                   | Tuesday                                                              | Wednesday                                                                 | Thursday                                                               | Friday                                                        |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Main 1     | Northumberland Sausages Served with Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables     | Meatball Flatbread Served with Potato Wedges and Seasonal Vegetables | Roast Of the Day Yorkshire Pudding Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables | Lasagne Served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Vegetables or Salad      | Fish and Chips Served with Beans Peas Curry Sauce/Gravy       |
| Main 2     | Chinese Style Chicken Curry Served with Rice or Wedges                   | Posh Dog in a Bun Served with Potato Wedges and Salad or Vegetables  | BBQ Chicken Served with Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables            | Chicken Shawarma Wrap Served with Vegetables or Salad                  | Pizza and Chips                                               |
| Veggie     | Vegetable Chilli filled Burrito Served with Seasonal Vegetables or Salad | Tomato Pasta Bake Served with Garlic Bread and Vegetables            | Quorn Toad in the Hole Served with Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables | Homemade Vegetable Quiche Served with Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables | Selection of Paninis                                          |
| Pasta      | PASTA BAR With a selection of Sauces                                     | PASTA BAR With a selection of Sauces                                 | PASTA BAR With a selection of Sauces                                      | PASTA BAR With a selection of Sauces                                   | PASTA BAR With a selection of Sauces                          |
| Sandwiches | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                          | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                      | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                           | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                        | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                               |
| Potato     | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                          | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                      | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                           | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                        | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                               |
| Dessert    | Dessert of the Day Selection of: Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts            | Dessert of the Day Selection of: Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts        | Dessert of the Day Selection of: Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts             | Dessert of the Day Selection of: Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts          | Dessert of the Day Selection of: Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts |

2025/2026

MEAL DEAL INCLUDES: MAIN MEAL, SIDES, VEG OR SALAD, DESSERT OF THE DAY



CHADWICK'S  
KITCHEN

### CHADWICK'S KITCHEN SECONDARY MENU WEEK 3



|            | Monday                                                                         | Tuesday                                                                                   | Wednesday                                                                              | Thursday                                                      | Friday                                                        |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Main 1     | Steak and Vegetable Burger in a Bun Served with Wedges and Seasonal Vegetables | Chicken Kofta on a Flatbread with Greek Slaw Served with Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables | Roast Of the Day Yorkshire Pudding Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables              | Katsu Chicken Served with Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables    | Fish and Chips Served with Beans Curry Sauce/Gravy            |
| Main 2     | Thai Green Chicken Curry Served with Rice or Wedges                            | Mince and Dumplings Served with Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables                          | Homemade Jumbo Sausage Roll Served with Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables               | Chef's Cottage Pie Served with Seasonal Vegetables            | Selection of Paninis                                          |
| Veggie     | Vegetable Burger Served with Potato Wedges and Seasonal Vegetables             | Macaroni Cheese Served with a Garlic Slice and Vegetables or Salad                        | Vegetable Pie with a Crispy Topping Served with Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables | Vegetable Korma Served with Rice                              | Quorn Chilli Burrito Served with Chips                        |
| Pasta      | PASTA BAR With a selection of Sauces                                           | PASTA BAR With a selection of Sauces                                                      | PASTA BAR With a selection of Sauces                                                   | PASTA BAR With a selection of Sauces                          | PASTA BAR With a selection of Sauces                          |
| Sandwiches | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                                | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                                           | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                                        | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                               | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                               |
| Potato     | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                                | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                                           | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                                                        | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                               | Jacket Potato Salads Sandwiches                               |
| Dessert    | Dessert of the Day Selection of: Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts                  | Dessert of the Day Selection of: Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts                             | Dessert of the Day Selection of: Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts                          | Dessert of the Day Selection of: Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts | Dessert of the Day Selection of: Tray bakes Cookies/Doughnuts |

2025/2026

MEAL DEAL INCLUDES: MAIN MEAL, SIDES, VEG OR SALAD, DESSERT OF THE DAY



## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Why Every School Day Counts: The Link Between Attendance and Your Child's Future

Did you know that just a few extra days off school each year can have a big impact on your child's future?

Recent research from the UK Department for Education shows a strong connection between school attendance and academic success - especially in secondary school. Pupils in Year 11 with near-perfect attendance (95–100%) are almost twice as likely to achieve a Grade 5 in English and Maths GCSE compared to those attending 90–95% of the time. That means missing just 10 extra days a year could halve the chances of reaching these key grades.

Even small improvements in attendance make a difference. For example: Pupils attending 60–65% of the time (about 4–6 more weeks in school) are twice as likely to achieve expected GCSE outcomes compared to those attending less than 50%.

A 5% increase in attendance can significantly boost academic attainment. But the impact doesn't stop at exam results.

#### Attendance and Future Earnings:

The same research shows that missing school can affect your child's future income. For every day missed between Years 7 and 11, a pupil could lose out on £750 in lifetime earnings. That's £750 less for every single day missed.

#### Here are some key findings:

One extra day of absence in Years 10 and 11 is linked to a 0.8% drop in earnings at age 28. Pupils who are persistently absent (missing more than 10% of school) are 2.7 times more likely to be receiving benefits at age 28.

Those who are severely absent (missing more than 50%) are 4.2 times more likely to be on benefits.

#### What This Means for Families:

These findings highlight how important regular school attendance is—not just for grades, but for long-term success. Every day in school helps build knowledge, confidence, and future opportunities.

If your child is struggling with attendance, please reach out to your school's pastoral or support team. Together, we can make sure every child gets the best chance to succeed.

#### Sources:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/link-between-attendance-and-attainment>
- [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67d2cf8f4702aacd2251cbae/The\\_impact\\_of\\_school\\_absence\\_on\\_lifetime\\_earnings.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67d2cf8f4702aacd2251cbae/The_impact_of_school_absence_on_lifetime_earnings.pdf)

## Sixth Form

# BYRON

SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

### Early Offer Success!

Huge congratulations to our Year 13 students who are already holding impressive university offers. Special mention to **Lucy Marshall 13CH1** who has received not one but two offers in less than a week. Even more impressively, The University of Brighton have offered Lucy an unconditional offer in recognition of her exceptional application.

### Josh considers a physio career

**Joshua Dunning 12Ch2** recently attended Sunderland University's 'Bone and Joint' workshop which focused on the mechanics and rehabilitation of joints especially in the knees. A keen sportsperson, Josh is considering a career in physiotherapy or sports rehabilitation, so this experience was a valuable insight into the inner workings of some of our most important body parts.

### Byron Sixth Form Rewards

As the half term approaches, we are celebrating the numerous talents, achievements and proud moments of our Sixth Formers. There have been so many to consider from personal triumphs, driving test success, academic challenges overcome. Our students who have particularly shone will be invited to spin the Byron Wheel of Fortune for their chance to win a whole range of prizes including gift cards for high street stores.



To view our latest Sixth Form Prospectus [click here.](#)

## Sixth Form

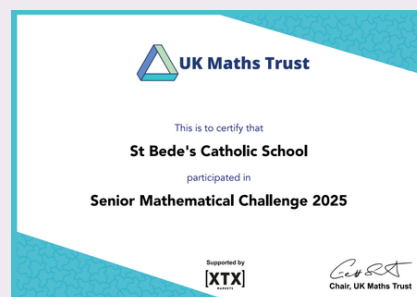
# BYRON

SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

### Byron Students excel in UK Senior Maths Challenge

Our Sixth Form mathematicians recently took part in the United Kingdom Maths Trust Senior Mathematics Challenge and we are absolutely delighted with what they have achieved. Two students achieved a Silver certificate, and three students attained Bronze level in the highest level of mathematics problems. Certificates in UKMT Maths Challenges are highly competitive and recognised by universities and apprenticeships as a signal of the exceptional aptitude of recipients. Each pupil was presented with their certificate in Sixth Form assembly today. Well done all - we're really proud of you!

- **Will Wrightson 13Ch2** (Best in School & Silver)
- **Calum Bell 13Ch2** (Silver)
- **Jessica Milestone 13Ch2** (Bronze)
- **Medhuja Kayan 12Ch1** (Best in Year & Bronze)
- **Julia Gawron 12Ch2** (Bronze)



### Byron Artists Shine

Our Sixth Form art students have had an incredible first half term, creating some truly remarkable pieces of artwork. The art department is extremely proud of each and every one of you!



Jessica M Y13



Abigail B Y12

To view our latest Sixth Form Prospectus [click here.](#)

## Sixth Form

# BYRON

SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

### Geography Fieldwork

Year 13 has had an amazing four days completing their Geography fieldwork for the NEA, which accounts for 20% of their final A Level Geography grade.

- **Monday:** Students spent the day in Seaham, comparing the characteristics of a natural beach with those of a beach that has undergone human management.
- **Tuesday:** The group traveled to Whitby to explore the impact of tourism on the sense of place and the availability of services in the area, gathering insights from both tourists and residents. The day wouldn't have been complete without indulging in some of the renowned and delicious fish and chips.
- **Wednesday:** We ventured to various locations around Durham, investigating different factors that influence infiltration rates. Fortunately, the weather was favorable, and students collaborated excellently in their groups while examining factors affecting the water cycle.
- **Thursday:** Students headed to Newcastle to study the varying standards of living across different wards. They gathered residents' opinions about their local area and the quality of the physical environment.

Throughout their field studies, the students maintained impeccable conduct, demonstrating proactivity, engagement, and curiosity in both human and physical investigations. Well done, Year 13!



To view our latest Sixth Form Prospectus [click here.](#)



## Key Dates

- **Mon 3 November:** Return to school - Week A Timetable
- **Mon 3 November:** Y11 & Y13 Mock Exams begin
- **Mon 3 November:** Mizen Foundation Y10 RE visit
- **Mon 10 - Fri 14 November:** Anti-bullying Week
- **Mon 10 - Fri 14 November:** Inter-faith Week

## Safeguarding

### Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

#### Designated safeguarding leads:



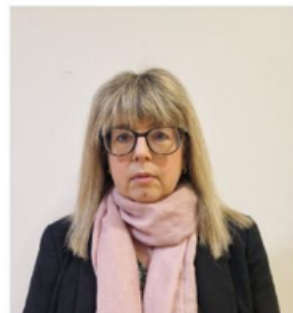
**Mr Logan**  
Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs Cessford**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs Robinson**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs Ord**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead

## Home and School Links

**Address:** St. Bede's Catholic School & Byron Sixth Form  
Westway, Peterlee, Co. Durham, SR8 1DE

**Email:** [enquiries@st-bedes.org](mailto:enquiries@st-bedes.org)

**Phone:** 0191 5876220

**Website:** [www.st-bedes.org](http://www.st-bedes.org)

**Facebook:** [StBedesandByron](https://www.facebook.com/StBedesandByron)

**Our Parish:** Our Lady of the Rosary in Peterlee and Horden

**Our Diocese:** Hexham & Newcastle

