



Lord Lawson of
Beamish School
"Each other and our dreams"

Welcome to Lord Lawson of Beamish School



Welcome from the Headteacher

Ofsted "Outstanding School"

Dear Parent,

I am delighted to introduce to you our prospectus for students wishing to be admitted in September 2011.

Lord Lawson of Beamish Community School is an outstandingly successful school. Among our many achievements in recent years have been:

- Ofsted Inspection graded 'Outstanding School'
- High Performing Specialist School
- Development and Research Hub for Leadership
- Specialist Schools and Academies Trust Awards for:
 - High Achievement (< 70% 5+ A*-C grades)
 - Value Added
 - Most Improved
- DfE Leading Edge School
- Most improved Specialist School
- DOTT 07 Design Award
- Centre of Good Practice for Workforce Development for the National Association of Professional Teaching Assistants
- The Education Business Award
- Centre of Best Practice by The National Assessment Agency
- Healthy School Award
- Artsmark Award

Many of our students have been involved in top-level performances in sport, music, drama and the arts, several of them at a national or even international level. In 2009 we registered our best ever examination results with 86% of students achieving 5 high grades at GCSE and very nearly 100% pass rate at A level.

A Safe and Secure Environment

In addition to these many successes, our highest priority will always be to maintain a safe and secure environment for

students. Students are admitted to a House Block system which has been widely praised for the quality of its care, where younger students can be guided and helped by older students and House staff. We are strongly anti-bullying and use new technology to track students from lesson to lesson so we always know where they are.

A New Building for 21st Century Learning

Our new school opened in September 2007, with external facilities and landscaping completed in September 2008. The school has been completely redesigned and rebuilt with specialist accommodation of the highest quality providing the best possible accommodation for learning in the 21st century.

A Partnership with Parents and Students

A strong partnership between home and school is at the heart of everything we do. We will consult students and parents about all major initiatives and keep regular contact to ensure that students are happy and achieve well. Lord Lawson is one of the few schools in the UK where parents can access information on their children in 'real time' by logging on to our secure website which is updated daily.

Thank you for your interest in Lord Lawson of Beamish School and we look forward to working with you.

Best wishes,



David Grigg



Ethos and Values

“Each other ... and our dreams”

The school motto, the final words from the autobiography of Lord Lawson of Beamish ('A Man's Life') summarises how we wish to work together as a community to help and support each other and to realise the dreams of the 1,500 young people in our care. In practice, this means:

High achievement ensuring that every teacher has high expectations and works to ensure students achieve at the highest levels of which they are capable

Mutual respect where everyone's opinions are valued

A purpose built House system a caring and supportive atmosphere where every student feels safe, secure and happy, and well supported within their House block

An Arts College where the visual and performing arts are highly valued and students are encouraged to express themselves creatively and achieve high standards

A Community School a school at the heart of its community and responsive to its needs

A Leading Edge School a school which has been selected by the government to help transform secondary education, working with partners locally, regionally, nationally and internationally



Primary Liaison

In order to provide curriculum continuity between key stages and to enable year 6 students to feel confident about their move to Lord Lawson of Beamish School, we provide a wide range of liaison activities to achieve seamless transition. We work in collaboration with our linked Primary schools to ensure curriculum continuity using both staff exchanges and transition units in Maths and English.

Year 6 students are also given the opportunity to participate in workshops throughout the year with our Art, English, History, Maths, P.E and Performing Arts departments. Each year 6 student is invited to attend Lord Lawson School for a four day transition experience in July when they will enjoy lessons, be introduced to their Head of House, tutor and meet new friends.

We are always open to new and exciting ideas! Recently, our history department delivered transition workshops linked with a national historical writing competition. Winning entries were awarded a special prize during transition week. Moreover, year 5 and 6 primary students have been invited to Lord Lawson to participate in a series of 3 'Talented Writers Days' where they will work alongside our Year 7 students as well as special guest children's writers.

As a Specialist Arts College we promote visual and Performing Arts within our linked Primaries through a variety of fun projects. Recently, Primary students have been involved in creative dance workshops lead by our Six

Form students as well as art skill based workshops including; creating mixed media, print making and exploring water colours.

Parents are invited to meet the Senior Leadership Team and Heads of House in the Summer term when there will be the opportunity to discuss any concerns about starting at Lord Lawson School, and to buy uniform from the school shop. The Head of the Special Educational Needs Department and the Transition teacher will attend Transition reviews to ensure that appropriate support can be planned. A Summer School takes place during the summer holidays which also supports transition.

In addition, parents are invited to our Transition Information Evening in September when they are provided with details of how Secondary education is different from Primary. Parents meet with tutors and are presented with information about Raising Achievement Days, how to make best use of student planners and handbooks, the importance of attendance and punctuality and target setting arrangements that we make for each student etc;

Every year 6 student has an older student to act as a peer mentor to befriend and support them during their first year. The transition programme ensures that year 7 students are familiar with their new environment, and are confident and eager to begin their Key Stage 3 studies.

Core Values: High Achievement

Caring, Safety and Support

Every Child Matters

At Lord Lawson of Beamish School we are absolutely committed to providing a caring, safe and supportive environment for every individual at the school. This is one of our core values.

The school operates a House system, which means we have four smaller family groups within the school. Each House team is made up of around 300 students from year 7 through to year 11 and we ensure that siblings are placed in the same House as each other to provide the natural family support within school.

Within school each House has its own dedicated social area. Each area has lockers for every student, healthy vending facilities, fresh drinking water and information screens. Most of the House blocks have an external balcony allowing students to enjoy the fresh air whilst still being within their House base. Every House has a Head of House and Deputy Head of House who are responsible for the smooth running of the House Team.

The House base is permanently staffed by Pastoral Assistants. The role of the Pastoral Assistants is to help, support and guide the students in any way that is necessary. The Pastoral Assistants work together with the Head and Deputy Head of House and the Tutor team. It is their joint responsibility to monitor academic progress, attendance, the social, emotional and behavioural aspects of school life for the students.

To further support our students we have a Student Support Base in school where Learning Mentors and Pastoral Assistants work with students and families to provide additional support when needed.

The school has a First Aid Unit which deals with all sickness, accidents and injuries that occur in school and is supported by a large team of qualified First Aiders. There are also direct links and contact with a wide range of other professionals. The excellent work of the First Aid Unit has gained National recognition and it is a service that the school is very proud of.

Role of Tutor

Each student will remain with the same tutor throughout year 7 - 11. The Tutor has a pivotal role in school which includes, taking care of the social and emotional well being of students as well as to support academic progress. Parents are able to contact their son/daughter's tutor at anytime to discuss any concerns.

"Care, guidance and support are excellent. The family ethos that emanates from the house system permeates the work of the whole school".

Ofsted



Key Stage 3 (11-14 yrs)

Curriculum

All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 follow a broad and balanced curriculum comprising of the following subjects:

English, Mathematics, Science (including Biology, Chemistry and Physics) History, Geography, Religious Education, PE, Modern Foreign Languages, Art and Design, Music, Information Technology and Technology. Technology is taught as a carousel of activities including Food, Textiles, Resistant Materials and Graphics.

Year 7 and 8 students are given the opportunity to experience Performing Arts and in year 9 Creative and Media Studies. These include Drama, Media, Dance, Stage and Costume Design.

Religious Education and the Corporate Act of Worship

Parents have the legal right to withdraw pupils from RE and religious assemblies. However, we ask that the matter should first be discussed with the Head of House.

Personal, Social and Health Education

Guidance lessons, which focus on personal and social development, citizenship, health education and careers awareness are time tabled for all students and are taught by a specialist team of teachers. Appropriate levels of sex education are introduced at different stages.

Basic guidance is given in years 7 and 9 during Biology lessons. A more detailed approach including personal relationships is undertaken in Guidance lessons in year 9. Parents have the right to withdraw students from such lessons. We ask that any parent considering such action should consult with the Head of House.

Homework

Homework will be set throughout the school, the amount depending upon the age of the students. It is felt that such work gives some opportunities for students to develop independent habits of study and helps students to prepare themselves for further education when much has to be done without the guidance of teachers.

It is anticipated that parents will want to co-operate by encouraging their children to do their homework thoroughly, checking homework timetables and signing student planners. Not all homework consists of written exercises, but could include reading, researching, designing, drawing or being creative in a number of different ways. After School activities are also available such as Sport, Music, Drama etc.

Daily Routine

8.40 am	Registration with tutor
8.50 am	Lesson 1
9.40 am	Lesson 2
10.30-10.45 am	Break
10.45 am	Lesson 3
11.35 am	Lesson 4
12.25-12.45pm	Houses: A & B - Afternoon registration Tutorial/Main Assembly Houses C & D - Lunch
12.25-1.35pm	Lunchtime
1.15-1.35 pm	Houses: C & D - Afternoon registration Tutorial/Main Assembly Houses A & B - Lunch
1.35 pm	Lesson 6
2.25 pm	Lesson 7
3.15 pm	End of School



Key Stage 4 (14 -16 yrs)

Curriculum

At Key Stage 4, students are given more choice of subjects and qualifications. This enables them to choose courses that offer them the best chance of success. All students may enjoy and experience a combination of academic and vocational courses which prepares them for the demands of adult life.

All students follow a core curriculum of English Language, Mathematics, and Science. In addition some students study a Modern Foreign Language (French or German).

Students participate in a Life skills course which addresses Personal, Social and Health Education, R.E, Citizenship, Business Enterprise, Personal Finance and in some cases ICT. All students have compulsory P.E.

In order to ensure breadth of choice, students may choose up to 4 further courses from the following subjects; History, Geography, Business Studies, Leisure and Tourism, ICT, Art and Design, P.E, Performing Arts, Graphics, Psychology, Music, Drama, French, German, Food, Textiles, R.E, Child Development and Health and Social Care.

During year 9, students are given opportunities to discuss courses suitable for their needs with tutors and senior staff. The courses undertaken at Key Stage 4 can be developed at Key Stage 5. The school's excellent examination results at Key Stage 4 enables an increasing number of students to study Advanced courses from 16-19.

It is important that students progress onto appropriate Advanced courses. During year 11, students are given personal interviews, careers advice and a number of meetings about joining the Sixth Form.

Applied Learning Courses

Lord Lawson of Beamish School is a High Performing Applied Learning Centre, so is committed to offering practical vocational courses to as many students as possible. BTEC courses in Sport, Business, ICT, Art and Design, Performing Arts, Public Services and Engineering are offered to all Key Stage 4 students.

The school has facilities to run work related courses in Hairdressing, Nursery Work, Plumbing and Electrical Work. We are particularly pleased to have our own Hairdressing and Salon. Motor Vehicle Maintenance, Professional Catering and Construction skills and the Young Apprenticeship Engineering are all offered at Level 2 and are worth the equivalent of 4 to 6 A* to C GCSEs. There is also the opportunity to study a 'New' diploma in Creative and Media.

Vocational courses often stimulate learning and encourage students with behaviour, attendance and performance.

Key Stage 5 (16-19 yrs)

Curriculum

Lord Lawson School is proud of the range of courses offered in the Sixth Form. Students are able to study 4 Advanced subjects and General Studies.

The courses offered are a mixture of Advanced vocational subjects and traditional A levels. Most students progress to University on completing their Sixth Form studies.





The last full Ofsted Inspection of the Sixth Form in 2009:

OUTSTANDING
Leadership and Management

OUTSTANDING
Effectiveness of Teaching and Learning

OUTSTANDING
Curriculum Choice

OUTSTANDING
Personal and Social Development of Students

OUTSTANDING
Achievement of Learners

Sixth Form

“The Sixth Form buzz with enthusiasm about their work and their roles within school.”

Ofsted '09

“The Guidance Programme in the Sixth Form is excellent.”

Ofsted '09

General Information

The Sixth Form enjoys an excellent reputation both regionally and nationally. It continues to grow significantly, attracting an increasing number of students each year. Our examination performance at advanced level continues to improve with an average points score of 762.7 in 2008, among the best in the region.

Pastoral Care in the Sixth Form

The School provides an environment in which every student is supported to reach their maximum potential under the guidance of experienced and caring staff. All Sixth Form students are assigned to a Tutor Group, which forms the basis of their personal, academic and social development. Whilst recognising the need for Sixth Formers to be treated as young adults rather than children, a careful balance between study and leisure time is encouraged.

Progression from the Sixth Form

The majority of our Sixth Form students apply to Universities across the country, including Oxford, Cambridge, Durham,

Bristol, Warwick, Newcastle and Edinburgh. Others opt to embark upon careers in a range of areas such as Business, Commerce and Industry. The School works very closely with the Connexions Careers Service and has a dedicated team of tutors, who guide them through the UCAS University application process.

The Sixth Form has a wide range of courses available to students:

Advanced Level Courses (AS/A2/BTEC L3)

Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Critical Thinking, Drama, Economics, Engineering, English Language, English Literature, French, Further Mathematics, General Studies, Geography, German, Government and Politics, Graphics, Health and Social Care, History, ICT, Mathematics, Media Studies, Music, Performing Arts, Photography, P.E., Physics, Psychology, Science for Public Understanding, Textiles, Travel and Tourism.

GCSE

Public Services, English and Mathematics (Resits)

Sixth Form Activities

Community Sports Leader Award, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, Rotary Interviews, Fund Raising for Charity, Paired Reading Scheme, Inter-School Competitions, Careers Guidance, University Visits, Music, Choirs, Orchestra, School Production. Over the past several years, Sixth Form students have also raised thousands of pounds for the following charities: The Lepa Society, Children in Need and Barnardo's.

Core Values: Caring, Safety and Support



Since 1996. This means that students are able to take advantage of the wide variety of curricular and extra curricular opportunities that are offered in the Visual and Performing Arts subjects. The School has received many awards from the DCSF for raising achievement in the school through specialist school initiatives.

Community

As a specialist school, opportunities are created to develop Visual and Performing Arts beyond the boundaries of the school. We have developed strong partnerships with primary, secondary and special schools in our area aimed at enhancing their students' experience of the Creative Arts. We also work closely with higher education institutions to ensure that students with talent for the Arts are able to access the best courses which will enable them to pursue their chosen career. In addition, we create opportunities for lifelong learning through our online courses.

Curriculum/Extra Curricular

A wide range of academic and vocational courses are offered at KS4 and KS5. These include Art and Design, Dance, Drama, Graphics, Music, Media Studies, Performing Arts, Photography and Textiles. Students have the opportunity to take part in many activities out of school time. These include gallery and theatre trips, workshops, life drawing classes, field trips, productions, opportunities to work with professionals, local and national competitions.

category for their community links and successful in-house professional Design Studio. The Education Business Awards recognise excellence in the provision of education services in the UK. Over 45 schools from across the UK were rewarded for their achievements at the first Education Business Awards, held in London. The Awards, presented by Michaela Strachan, recognised successful schools and projects that demonstrate how the dedication of teaching and management staff, coupled with sound investment, have delivered.

Business Links

Lord Lawson School is developing close links with local businesses to create mutually beneficial opportunities for our students and our business partners. Local companies offer our students 'live' briefs to work on as part of their vocational courses, as well as work experience opportunities. We also work with community organisations, using the Arts to promote local initiatives, such as improving the environment, encouraging healthy lifestyles and better learning environments. Since moving to our new building in September 2007. We have installed many pieces of artwork around the site to showcase the work of students from Lord Lawson, our linked Primaries, the local community and professional artists in a range of media. As an Arts College, this is part of our ongoing commitment to visual excellence.

DCSF High Performing School Status - Applied Learning Specialism

DCSF Second Specialist Status

The Applied Learning Specialism supports schools to champion Applied Learning excellence by developing and delivering high quality applied and work-related learning. We were awarded Applied Learning as our second specialism in 2008, to sit alongside our Arts College specialism, and enable us to become a centre of excellence for the Government's 14-19 reforms. Through the specialism we have been able to extend progression routes so that every student has a real, clear choice and an accessible pathway to higher education, further education or employment. This is supported by a comprehensive programme of information, advice and guidance (IAG) to allow every single student to realise their potential.

Curriculum

Sitting alongside the more "traditional" qualifications we currently offer over 40 vocational courses at KS4 and over 20 at KS5. The Applied Learning specialist status has enabled us to be innovative in curriculum design and teaching, offering all students high quality, relevant qualifications such as: BTECs in Engineering, Hairdressing, Performing Arts, Sport, Art and Design, Business Studies, Music, Professional Cookery, Construction and Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Public Services, as well as: Applied A Levels, CACHE, OCR, NVQs and Young Apprenticeships.

World of Work Week

Every year our students take part in World of Work, or "WOW", Week. This week brings the curriculum to life in an applied context across all subjects and the timetable is packed with exciting workshops, guest speakers, activities and presentations to raise awareness of the world of work within a subject context. Our activities this year included a forensic artist workshop, ceramics workshop, Gateshead Thunder rugby coaching, BBC weather reporters showing us how to present a forecast, Evening Chronicle reporter training, Gateshead Heritage, photography and illustration master classes, a behind-the-scenes look at the prison service, town planning with Gateshead Council, Northumbria Water, Traidcraft – to name but a few!

Working in collaboration with local businesses, employers and our Education Business links Service we are able to offer all students new and exciting experiential learning. Working in partnership with others and extending educational opportunity to beyond the four walls of a classroom we support students to experience their learning in a meaningful and purposeful way – all of which contribute to the varied and balanced curriculum we offer students at Lord Lawson School.

Provision & Facilities

Outstanding purpose-built facilities on site such as a working hair salon, an engineering workshop, several ICT suites, dance studio, drama studio and specialist photography dark rooms enable us to successfully deliver courses to a high standard within school. In partnership with Gateshead College, we also make use of the excellent Local Authority facilities off-site where our KS4 students attend the Construction and Motor Vehicle centres on Team Valley and make full use of Baltic Campus' professional kitchens.

The Diploma

As well as the BTEC provision, we also work in partnership with Gateshead Local Authority to develop the teaching and learning of the Diploma - a brand new qualification for 14-19 year olds set to become one of the three main learning choices alongside GCSEs, A Levels and Apprenticeships.

The Diploma offers a mix of theoretical and practical learning, so it appeals to a broad spectrum of students with differing abilities and aspirations who will benefit from a course that enables them to develop a range of hands-on and intellectual skills, in a broad work-related subject context.





Physical Education and Sport

Physical Education and Sport

The Physical Education Department believes in the ethos of hard work and dedication, it believes in offering a variety of opportunities for students of all abilities through its revamped PE Curriculum. The PE department also believes in a sport for all ethos and encourages students of all abilities through its diverse extra curricular activities PE program.

Indoor Sports Facilities

An exciting new era has begun for the PE staff and students at Lord Lawson School, with its exceptional use of space and state of the art equipment it complements the work involved with the students' curriculum.

The indoor facilities consist of a large size Sports Hall, a Gymnasium, a Fitness Suite, changing and showering facilities. The Gymnasium houses 5 Olympic size Trampolines and Gymnastic Apparatus. The fitness suite is top class and includes a variety of Cardio and Resistance machines.

Outdoor Sports Facilities

The outdoor facilities consist of extensive playing fields including 2 Football fields, a Rugby Field, a Floodlit Multi Use Games Area (including 3 Tennis courts and Netball/Basketball courts) and a Floodlit Astro turf pitch. It is hoped that a synthetic Athletics track will be available in the future through a partnership agreement between School and Birtley Athletics Club.

Curriculum

The PE's Core curriculum has a variety of activities including: Trampolining, Dance, Gymnastics, Rugby, Football, Orienteering, Health and Fitness, Hockey, Softball, Rounders, Athletics, Cricket, Badminton, Tennis, Table Tennis, Aerobics, and Sustained Running. The KS4 Curriculum allows students to compete the Junior Sports Leadership Award (level 1), the

Dance Leaders Award (level 1), and the BTEC First Certificates in Sport (equivalent of 2 GCSEs). We also offer examination courses in A Level PE, as well as vocational BTEC Sports courses at KS5. These courses provide students at examination level with the opportunity to develop their leadership skills; this course also helps with a variety of skills by letting our students practice their skills at Local Primary Schools.

A Level and BTEC National students also have the opportunity to complete the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, Community Sports Leadership Award, British Red Cross First Aid Award and the Step into Sport initiative.

Extra Curricular Activities

We offer an extensive range of competitive and recreational sports clubs at the school. We enter teams into a full range of competitive leagues and competitions offered through the School Sport Partnership.

To ensure students receive the best possible achievements out of the amazing new facilities, we offer extra curricular opportunities; these are provided every lunchtime, most evenings and after school. We believe this provides students of all abilities with enrichment opportunities.

Due to the dedication and determination of the staff and the students at Lord Lawson we have had recent success with the Rugby, Football and Athletics teams. Students are also given the opportunity to go on sports tours. The PE Department has also been privileged to take a variety of students on successful trips to South Africa, Barcelona, the South of France and Italy over the last couple of years.

A rugby trip is currently being planned to L.A. in the USA. The PE department also helps with the running of yearly Ski trips to various different locations. We are involved in the 'Dreams and Teams Programme' that aims to provide cross-cultural and leadership links between Lord Lawson students and international students.

Students' Comments

Student Council

Students' views are voiced through House Councils and the School Council. Students are elected to represent their peers in half termly meetings during Student Voice Weeks.

Outdoor Seating

"We have spent almost £2,000 from our Student Council budget on outdoor seating. The picnic benches and seating allows students to eat their lunches outside and to mix with friends at breaks and lunchtimes."

Nicole Nunn

Sport

"The Astroturf and tennis courts allow you to play a variety of sports including Hockey, Football, Tennis, Badminton, Rugby, Basketball and Rounders. The facilities are even available at breaks. Not only do students and staff benefit but also other schools and the wider community, as they are able to participate in a whole host of sporting tournaments."

Jennifer Beattie

School Meals

"The range offered by Carillion means there's choice for everyone. The paninis are great, and tasty too. Fresh fruit options help promote healthy eating. The new style cafeteria is modern and stylish."

Nicola Carter

Transition Week

"I think the transition week is something different and a good opportunity to meet the future year 7 students. It means that when the year 7s come in September, they'll have someone to talk to."

George Duffy

"I love helping the yr 6s, some may be a little nervous when they first start but that sharp changes as they adapt quickly to their new school."

Isobel Thompson



A Creative and Stimulating Environment

Our new school building was completed in September 2007, with all landscaping and outdoor sports facilities completed in 2008.

The new building provides state of the art classrooms, laboratories, workshops and purpose built vocational areas that help us deliver a wide, engaging and personalised curriculum to all our students. Students following courses in dance and drama have purpose built studios in which to host their performances. All students follow a learning pathway to achieve success and prepare them for the next stage in their development.

Our new building is rich in technology. It boasts a state of the art ICT network that delivers a range of services to staff and students alike which can only aid the rate of progress and help the overall efficiency of the organisation. Students and staff are able to access their own virtual space which provides

a communication gateway, an electronic store for work and the internet. Many classes have access to these resources via laptops or notebook computers and a highly efficient wireless network.

Communication throughout the school is significantly improved as information is displayed on a network of plasma screens strategically positioned around the school. Staff keep in touch by IP protocol telephony and email.

The sporting facilities are fantastic with two floodlit games areas, a large sports hall, gymnasium and a fitness suite. These facilities will be available to the wider community, and it is our aim to encourage learners of all ages to use these facilities to maximise their potential through a range of planned activities and courses, not only in sport, but a wide range of other subject areas.



Information Communication Technology (ICT)

Lord Lawson of Beamish School is in a rather unique position in that it now boasts a completely new building and external facilities provided through the Governments Private Finance Initiative (PFI) whilst it has also benefited from Building Schools for the Future (BSF) funding to provide completely new ICT provision. Jointly this provides state of the art learning and social spaces together with the most up to date ICT technology to provide a 21st century education.

The improved facilities support the achievement of all learners. These facilities are for use not just by the students but also by all members of the community outside normal school hours (for more information contact the school).

The Aims of the ICT provision are:

- To enable anytime, anywhere learning – this is possible as the Learning Portal can be accessed from any piece of technology that has internet access such as PCs, Laptops, games stations, PSPs, web phones, etc.
- To facilitate access for all and to support inclusion.
- To support enjoyable learning.

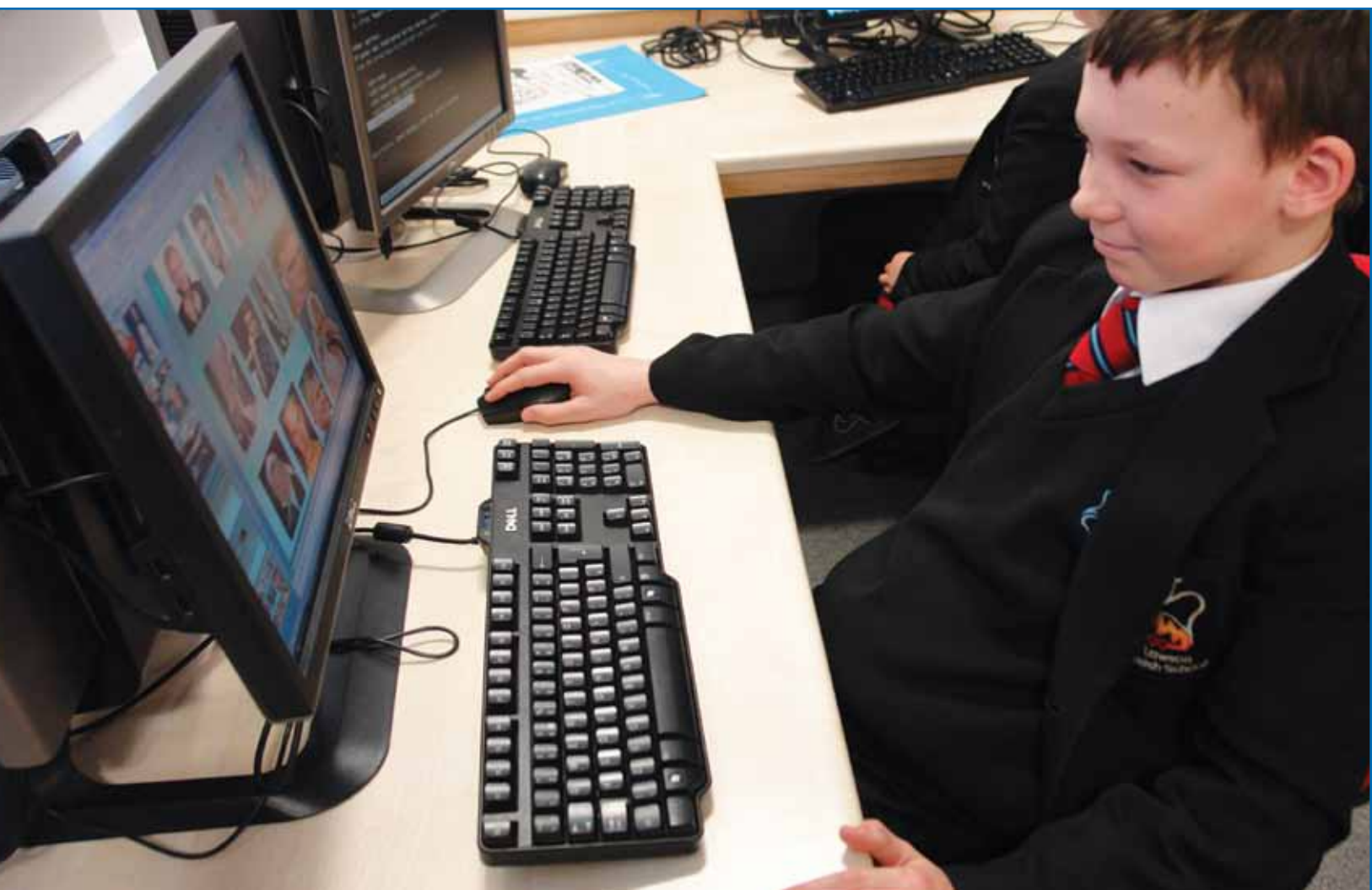
- To provide an efficient means of keeping parents and carers informed about their child's progress and allow parents and carers greater access to support their child's learning.

The system

The school boasts a system that has over 550 PCs, over 230 wireless laptops, printing and audio-visual facilities in every room together with web based wireless access throughout the building and grounds (please note: the introduction and use of the wi-fi network has taken into account the most up-to-date advice from Government Office and the World Health Organisation).

Safety and Security

We have taken great care to ensure that the school is a safe and secure place to be. That is also the case with our ICT systems. We have hardware and software that constantly scan the network for signs of improper activities such as cyber bullying through email, instant messaging, documents, etc, the source is identified, the content logged and a report produced to enable action to be taken. There is an extensive filtering and blocking system in place for external websites and we have both internal and external CCTV systems in place.



Code of Conduct

We believe that the ethos of the school is central to creating an environment which allows all students to develop and maintain high standards of behaviour and academic achievement. The quality of relationships throughout the school are of the utmost importance.

Aims of the Behaviour and Discipline Policy:

- To fulfil all legal requirements
- To provide an orderly, fair, consistent and safe environment for all
- To provide an environment where effective teaching and learning can take place
- To encourage self-discipline in all students, helping them to make positive choices and to recognise consequences
- To develop a whole school approach to behaviour

Behaviour for Learning

The school has a Behaviour for Learning Policy which operates on the principle of students realising there are consequences for poor behaviour in the classroom. The policy has been approved by the Governors Discipline Committee and is the platform for our policy on Behaviour for Learning. All students entering the school will be informed of the policy.

Desired Behaviours and Expectations to Follow

- Follow directions of the staff
- Be polite to adults and each other
- Move around the school in a calm and quiet manner
- Always walk on the left in corridors
- Respect the environment and property of others
- Do your best work and allow others to do the same

School Inclusion Base

The school operates a School Inclusion Base. Students can be placed in the S.I.B. following discussion with parents/guardians if other alternative school disciplinary procedures have failed.

The S.I.B. will be flexible in its approach. Parents/Guardians and Students need to be aware that the S.I.B. will **NOT OPERATE** the same breaks and lunchtimes as the normal school. Lunch will be taken in the S.I.B. under supervision. Students will have the opportunity to shorten their period in the S.I.B. by co-operation, good behaviour and high standards of uniform.

Mobile Phones/iPods

We allow students to bring mobile phones/iPods to school provided that they do not interrupt lessons or are used inappropriately. If in the opinion of a member of staff, school policy has been broken, the item will be confiscated and made available for collection from reception at the end of the school day. Any recurrence of misuse will lead to further action by the school.

Valuables

Large sums of money or other valuables including e.g. expensive items of clothing and footwear should not be brought to school. The school cannot accept responsibility for any items.

Smoking Policy

Smoking is not allowed anywhere on the school site. It is also against the Law to smoke on council property, and discipline procedures will be used against any student or adult who contravene the policy.

Detention Procedures

The school operates a detention system both at lunchtime and after school. If your child is issued with a C4 detention or has to be removed from the classroom by the Duty Teacher C5 detention, an automatic after school detention will be given. Parents will be given:

- 24 hours notice of the detention
- The date, time and duration of the detention
- The reason the detention was necessary

Parents will be responsible for ensuring that their child can get home safely after the detention.

Exclusions

Exclusion guidance is based upon current Gatehead MBC and DCSF guidance and current legislation.

Student Rewards and Incentives

Rewarding students for their achievements and contribution to the life of the school is fundamental to our ethos. Student achievement is recognised regularly in a number of ways: Commendations, House Assemblies, Presentation Evenings, Positive Postcards sent home and student fun night for those with a 100% attendance record. We are committed to regular and consistent praise and encouragement for our students which is the most effective way to ensure they reach their full potential.

General Information

We expect all students to be fully equipped with the following items as a **minimum** requirement:- pen, pencil, ruler, rubber and calculator. All students are expected to wear their uniform to foster a sense of equality and encourage pride in the school. Students must always wear school uniform in school and, where appropriate, on school visits. Shoes should be black in colour with no logos. High heeled shoes, shoes without backs or boots are not allowed. Flimsy canvas shoes or trainers should not be worn.

Boys School Uniform

- Black blazer with school badge (compulsory in year 7-9)
- Black V-neck pullover with school logo (recommended in cold weather)
- White shirt with school tie
- Black trousers

Girls School Uniform

- Black blazer with school badge (compulsory in year 7-9)
- Black V-neck pullover with school logo (recommended in cold weather)
- White blouse with school tie
- Black skirt no shorter than 4 inches above the knee, plain black tights or smart tailored black trousers
- Midriffs or underwear must never be visible

Students in years 10 and 11 may wear the school blazer. The school jumper with logo is compulsory. Denim or leather jackets are not allowed and baseball caps must not be worn for school. During the Summer term students may be given permission to remove blazers and pullovers while in school provided that shirts and blouses are tucked in and ties are worn appropriately.

All uniform is sold in school between 12.30 - 1.35pm to students and between 3.30pm - 6pm Mon - Thurs. Please note the uniform shop is closed during school holidays. If you require financial assistance to purchase any item of uniform please do not hesitate to contact Linda Alder (School Business Manager).

Jewellery, (with the exception of a single pair of studs, in the lower ear), should not be worn in school. Rings should not be worn. Eye brow, nose studs, or any other face piercings are not acceptable for school for health and safety reasons. Students who ignore the rule about jewellery will be asked to remove it. If students are unable to remove items of jewellery they will be taught in isolation until the article can be removed. The jewellery will be kept by the school and parents or guardians will be asked to collect it from reception. Make-up should not be worn. Extreme hairstyles and unnatural colours are not allowed; the Headteacher's decision in matters of hairstyle and colour is final.

At the start of the day outdoor coats must be placed in lockers and should not be worn or carried round school. Ties should be worn so that the knot covers the top button of the shirt or blouse and a minimum six stripes must be visible. If any student comes to school without an item of uniform parents must provide a note of explanation. Otherwise, they will be contacted and asked to bring the missing article to reception.

P.E. Kit Policy

During Physical education you may become hot and dirty, depending on the activity. It is therefore essential that you bring a full change of clothes including footwear. Students are expected to bring the following:

Boys - A reversible Lord Lawson Rugby Shirt, a Maroon Polo shirt (optional), Black Shorts/Black Tracksuit Bottoms, Black Football Socks, a towel is optional

Girls - White Polo Shirt and Black Shorts/Tracksuit Bottoms, a towel is optional.

Footwear - Footwear must be appropriate to the activity. Studded or molded boots must be worn for Rugby and Football. Students are expected to be bare footed in gymnastics lessons and to wear socks for trampolining. Trainers are appropriate for all other lessons unless otherwise instructed.

School Rugby Shirts, School Polo Shirts and Shorts are available from the school shop located in reception.

Students that forget to bring appropriate P.E. kit will be given a C1 and expected to borrow spare kit, including footwear, from the P.E. department. Students that refuse to borrow kit from the P.E. department and therefore refuse to take part in the lessons will automatically be given a C4, which results in an after school detention. If students accumulate three C1's in a half term then they are also given a C4, after school detention.

Lost Property/Valuables

All lost kit and uniform will be handed into reception at the end of each day. To ensure that lost property can be returned to its owner it is recommended that all uniform and kit be clearly labelled. The P.E. department cannot be held responsible for missing articles and is not insured for lost property. Wallets, watches and jewellery can be kept in the valuables box during a P.E. lesson for safe keeping. The Physical Education department accepts no responsibility for valuable items that have been left inside the changing rooms during a lesson including the loss of mobile phones.

Medical Problems

Parents are required to inform staff of any medical problem affecting their child. If students need to be excused from practical P.E. lessons on medical grounds, an explanatory letter must be provided. This will be taken into account regarding National Curriculum assessment. However, students should continue to bring P.E. kit to change into even if they are excused from practical activity. Due to the nature of the National Curriculum, none practical participants are still able to complete some areas of work e.g. umpiring, dance choreography, Officiating, etc. Students must be safely and appropriately dressed in order to complete this work, e.g. training shoes and tracksuit.

Gateshead Community Secondary Schools Admission Policy 2011/12

We allocate places at our Community Secondary schools using our policy below and we co-ordinate the admissions to our schools using a co-ordinated admission scheme.

The admission policy is as follows:

- Secondary schools will normally admit pupils between the ages of 11 and 16, or 11 and 19, depending upon the school.
- We will accept pupils up to the school's agreed planned admission number for the year group unless we feel there are lawful grounds not to do so.

Oversubscription criteria

We will consider applications from parents who have named the school as any ranked preference on their application form this is called the Equal preference system. If there are more applications for the number of places available at the school we will than allocate places by using the following order of priority:

- (1) Children in Public Care (and as deemed under Section 22 of the Children Act 1989)
- (2) Children who live in the school's catchment area.
- (3) Children who will have a brother or sister at the secondary school during the coming academic year.
- (4) Other children who have exceptional medical and social grounds see point 1 below
- (5) All other children.

Point 1

We can consider individual applications in cases involving exceptional medical or social needs. This kind of application must be supported in writing from relevant registered health professionals i.e. a doctor or social worker. The evidence must demonstrate why the chosen school is the most suitable and what difficulties would be caused if the child were to attend another school. We will not consider such applications if the relevant evidence is not provided. If provided the evidence will be assessed by the LA Admission Panel. No assumption should be made that submission of the relevant evidence will, in itself, be sufficient to allocate a place.

Tie breaker

If within any of the above criteria there are more applicants than places available priority will be given to those children based on the distance they live from the school, measured 'as the crow flies' in a straight line from the centre of the home residence to the school's main entrance. Children living nearest to the school will have priority.

Sibling link

For your child to receive priority because of an older brother or sister in the sixth form at the school, the brother or sister must have been at the school at the start of Year 11.

Address

For the purposes of deciding whether a child lives in the catchment area of a school we will use the parent or guardians address or the address of a relevant adult who has parental responsibility, as defined under the 1989 Children Act, for the child.

Waiting list

If places become available we will consider all relevant applications using a waiting list. The waiting list will be maintained by the council from the start of the academic year and be kept for the rest of the academic year. All applicants on the waiting list are placed according to the admission criteria and priorities set out above. However children who are the subject of a direction to admit by the LA or who have been referred for admission and have been allocated a place through the Fair Access Protocol will take precedence over any child on the waiting list.

Important dates

From Friday 10 September 2010 Gateshead Residents can apply on-line at www.Gateshead.gov.uk Applications must be submitted by **Sunday 31 October 2010**.

If your child lives in Gateshead and attends a Gateshead School and is due to transfer to secondary school you will receive information through your child's school on 10 September 2010. If you complete a paper application form you must return it to the Head Teacher of the school your child currently attends in Gateshead by **Sunday 31 October 2010**.

If your child does not attend a Gateshead school but lives in Gateshead, you must write to School Admissions, Regent Street, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE8 1HH to request an application form. Alternatively you can apply on-line. Applications must be submitted by **Sunday 31 October 2010**.

If you live outside of Gateshead and want to apply to a Gateshead school you must obtain an application form from your own Council and return it to them by their closing date. We will honour the closing date of our neighbouring Councils. However you must still write to us at the address above and request an "Admission to Secondary School" booklet so that you know what the admission arrangements are to Gateshead schools. This information is also available on our website at www.gateshead.gov.uk. Your own Council will send us notification of your application and they will let you know the final allocation of a school place for your child.

General information and definitions

For definitions of the terms used in this policy please refer to our "Admission to Secondary school" booklet for 2011 a copy of which should be included with this policy. Alternatively it is available from School Admissions, Civic Centre, Regent Street Gateshead NE8 1HH and on Gateshead Council website at www.gateshead.gov.uk The co-ordinated admission scheme and Catchment areas referred to in this policy can also be viewed at the address and website given above.

Access for children with disabilities

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 gives rights to disabled students - those with a "physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day to day activities". Most blind and partially sighted students are likely to be "disabled" within the meaning of the Act. Lord Lawson of Beamish School is an inclusive school and welcomes those students who are disabled (subject to certain conditions set out in Section 317(4) of the Education Act 1996). As Lord Lawson of Beamish is a newly built school facilities for students with disabilities are fully compliant with the latest Building Regulations, and are therefore first class.

Admission Policy 2011/12

Students with Special Educational Needs

Students with Special Educational Needs are well catered for in the SEN department which is staffed by highly experienced teachers. The school's provision for students with additional needs aims to:

- Create a caring and inclusive ethos where students with additional need thrive.
- Seek to make provision for students to maximize their potential.
- Seek to minimize as far as possible the educational disadvantage that results from the student's special educational need.
- Integrate fully the student into the life of the school.

The Governors of Lord Lawson of Beamish school are fully committed to an inclusive ethos and welcome prospective parents to visit the SEN department to discuss their child's special needs; parents are also invited to view the school's SEN policy. Please contact Mrs. S M Turner, Special Educational Needs Coordinator to arrange a visit.

Community Secondary Schools Sixth Form Admission Policy - September 2011, Applications for Year 12

We the Local Authority (LA) are the admitting authority for the school our policy is as follows:

The school provides courses of study for post 16 (6th form) students. The majority of the 6th form students transfer from year 11, but we generally have places available for external students.

The entry requirements for 6th form are largely dependent on the course of study that a student wishes to access. They are the same for internal and external students.

In general, students wishing to access Advanced Level courses must possess a minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade C. To access Intermediate Level courses, some GCSE passes at grade D/E and/or appropriate Level 1 qualification(s) are required. There are no specific qualifications required for entry to Foundation Level courses.

Details of specific entry requirements and courses available may be obtained from the school. The availability of courses is dependent upon the number of applicants and the financial sustainability of the course and the governing body of the school determines this in consultation with the LA.

In the event of oversubscription priority will be given to:
1. Students who have attended the school in the previous academic year (during Year 11) and who satisfy the school's entry requirements for the course available.

2. All other students of the relevant age who satisfy the school's entry requirements for the course available.

Where there are more applicants than places available in any of the priorities above we will then give priority to children in the following order:

- (a) Children in Public Care (and as deemed under Section 22 of the children act 1989)
- (b) Students who live in the school's catchment area.
- (c) Students who will have a brother or sister at the secondary school during the coming academic year.
- (d) All other students.

Applicants refused admission to a 6th form are entitled to appeal to an independent appeals panel.

Community Secondary schools in Gateshead with 6th forms are as follows:

Heworth Grange Comprehensive School
Hookergate School
Joseph Swan School
Lord Lawson of Beamish Community School
Ryton Comprehensive School
Whickham School

Admission to Secondary School

Do you need help to fill in your secondary school application form? If you live in Gateshead and need help or support to decide which mainstream secondary school you would like to apply to, Gateshead's School Choice Adviser could help you.

Contacting school

Our reception is staffed

Monday - Thursday	8am - 6.30pm
Friday	8am - 4pm

Limited cover during school holidays.

Please note uniform shop is closed during school holidays.



Lord Lawson of
Beamish School
"Each other and our dreams"

Term dates 2011/2012

From	To	Half Term
Autumn Mon 5 Sep 2011	Fri 16 Dec 2011	24-28 Mon-Fri Oct 2011
Spring Tue 3 Jan 2012	Fri 30 Mar 2012	13-17 Mon-Fri Feb 2012
Summer Mon 16 April 2012	Fri 20 Jul 2012	4 - 8 June Mon-Fri 2012 (including 2 bank holidays 4th & 5th)



All dates are inclusive.

In addition to the above dates, schools will be closed to pupils on Monday 2 January 2012 and Monday 7 May 2012 (Bank Holidays). Three days within the above terms are to be used for professional development. These dates are to be determined and agreed by individual school governing bodies. In addition, one occasional day within the Summer Term 2012 is to be utilised for the purpose of closure for possible election purposes, this day to be used near the end of the summer term.

The start of the Autumn Term 2012 is Monday 3rd September 2012.

Please note that the half term holiday in June 2012 (one week) contains 2 public holidays on Mon 4th and Tue 5th June 2012 one of which is an additional holiday to allow the public to celebrate the HRH Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee.

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