

Percy Hedley School's

Family Information and FOPHS News Friday 19th June

It has been a lovely week. Summer term is the busiest with activities, trips out and generally enjoying summer life. We have some great events coming up which should enhance school life for students and classes.

In the next week we will have the summer solstice, the longest day of the year.



What's coming up:

Monday 22 June 9.30-11.00:

Social Coffee morning

Wednesday 24th June 9.30-11.00

Parent Forum Preparation for Adulthood. In person or online

Wednesday 1st July:

Summer MOVE and Sports (Space theme)

Thursday 2nd July:

Summer MOVE and Sports (Space theme)

Friday 3rd July 18-20.00:

Prom KS4 and above.

Wednesday 8th July 9.45-10.45:

FoPHS Meeting

Join the FoPHS 100 Club!



School Calendars

Term dates 2025-26

Term dates 2026-27

Events calendar
2025-26



Social Media.

This week, as the government has announced changes to social media for those under the age of 16, I thought I would look at resources and relevant information.

Online safety is important for everyone, but people with learning difficulties/disabilities are amongst the most vulnerable. We see the effects at school, particularly involving online gaming. For parents it is important to keep up to date with a fast-evolving online world to keep your child/young person safe. You will find invaluable information in our online safety section of the school website.

[Here is the link to our online safety information:](#)

[Here is the link to the government proposals:](#)

They hope to have these in place by the spring of 2027.

There has been, as you would expect a huge response from different groups about the proposed ban, citing reasons why it won't work, doesn't go far enough, restricts young people excessively etc. I am sure we will hear much more in the next few months as they drill down processes and ensure that social media companies behave responsibly and are accountable.

[Amnesty – UK Social Media Ban For Under 16s, right diagnosis wrong prescription](#)

[UK social media ban for under – 16's explained: BBC news:](#)

[When will the UK social media start and which apps will be affected? BBC news:](#)



Druridge Bay Country Park:



I visited last weekend and often when I am out and about, I do a quick assessment of suitability for our families. So, here goes.

There have been a few upgrades since I last visited!

There's plenty of parking; free for an hour, £2.50 for up to 2 hours and £4.50 for the whole day.

Disabled parking is free with a blue badge with no time restrictions, and you can use a non-disabled bay too free of charge.

There is a Changing Place.

There is a play area with 1 wheelchair accessible roundabout. See photo.

There is a fully accessible walk around Ladyburn lake; around 1.6 miles. Part of it is shaded.

The Visitors Centre houses toilets, information boards and a café. Prices are fairly reasonable. [Opening hours can be found here:](#)

There are picnic benches in front of the visitors' centre and at other points around the lake.

There is a water-based activity centre; kayaks, open water swimming and paddle boarding available. [Find out more here](#)

Although there is an accessible pathway to the beach, it would be difficult with a wheelchair.



Peter Rabbit trail:

There is a Peter Rabbit trail with giant sculptures coming to Newcastle this summer.

Peter Rabbit: Tales on the Tyne — Newcastle & North Tyneside, 15 July–14
September 2026

I found this on the Facebook page linked and know that previous sculpture trails
have been popular.



Little SENDsations:

I have shared information previously about this group. Although based in Durham, they accept children from all over the North East.

I've included the poster about membership below along with a flyer about summer events. If you haven't joined and are looking for SEN specific activities over the summer holidays, now is the time to join. Here's what they say:

🌟 Summer Events Are Almost Here! 🌟

We're excited to let you know that some of our Summer Holiday events will be going live on Sunday 21st June! 🎉

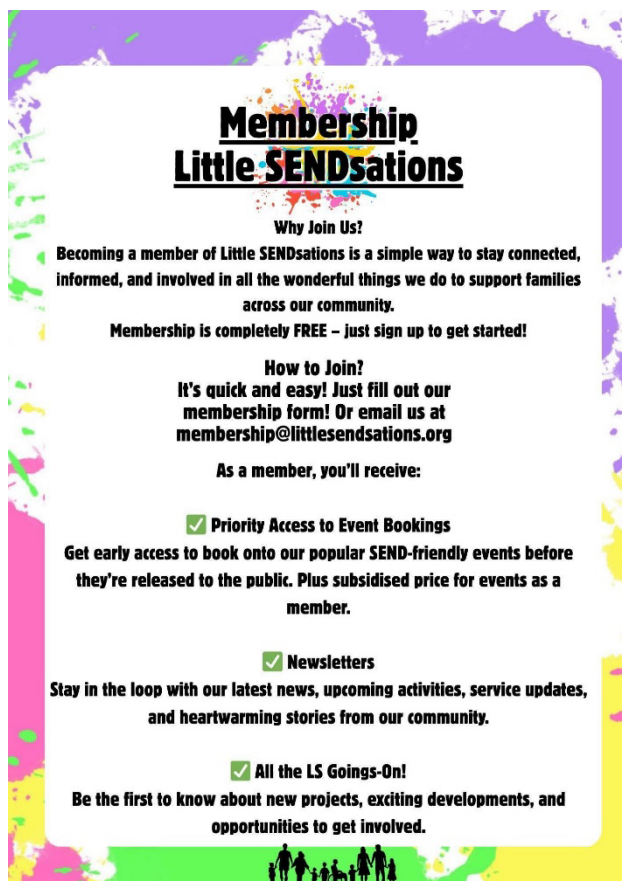
To help make booking as smooth as possible, members will be sent a booking code by email to use on Bookwhen.

📧 Please check that you're receiving emails from us and that they aren't being sent to your junk or spam folder.

If you've recently changed your email address or are unsure whether you're receiving our emails, now is a great time to check.

[Link to their Facebook page:](#)

[Link to their website:](#)




**Membership
Little SENDsations**

Why Join Us?
Becoming a member of Little SENDsations is a simple way to stay connected, informed, and involved in all the wonderful things we do to support families across our community.
Membership is completely FREE – just sign up to get started!

How to Join?
It's quick and easy! Just fill out our membership form! Or email us at membership@littlesendsations.org

As a member, you'll receive:

- ✔ **Priority Access to Event Bookings**
Get early access to book onto our popular SEND-friendly events before they're released to the public. Plus subsidised price for events as a member.
- ✔ **Newsletters**
Stay in the loop with our latest news, upcoming activities, service updates, and heartwarming stories from our community.
- ✔ **All the LS Goings-On!**
Be the first to know about new projects, exciting developments, and opportunities to get involved.





**Summer
Events
will go
Live
21st June**

**LITTLE
SENDsations**
LIVE FOR THE SPECIAL MOMENTS

Summer fun and discounts at Metrocentre:

A summer of fun for LESS starts at Metrocentre 🍌🍌

Family fun, tasty meals and unmissable offers... summer of fun starts here 👁️👁️

Take a look at some of our top offers below 📌

🍌 Early Bird Discount at Peppa Pig: Surprise Party

🍌 35% off Escape Rooms at The Escapologist

🎮 50% off for families at Activate Games

🧗 50% off at Clip 'n Climb

🎬 £1 kids' tickets at ODEON

🍕 All You Can Eat at Frankie & Benny's

🍕 £1 pizza at PizzaExpress

🍕 Free pizza at ASK Italian

🍷 Bottomless Belt at YO!

[Find more offers here:](#)

T&Cs apply - check in venue for more details. Redemption period varies depending on retailer.

Tim Lamb Centre: Membership required.

Family Fun Day Saturday 27th June. See poster for details. Family membership is £20 per family for a year, with £4 per child attending.

[Membership form link:](#)



Reason To – Disability Triathlon



Have you heard of this, or has your child/young person taken part? It is an incredible annual event for children and young people with disabilities (siblings too). It used to be at the David Lloyd Centre in Jesmond but moved a few years ago to the Wentworth Leisure Centre in Hexham. Speaking with one of our parents whose child has taken part in both venues last year, she said the new venue is better for those with physical disabilities. If you have any questions, send them my way.

[Here is a link to their Facebook page:](#)

Here's what they say:

“👉WE'RE BACK! 👈”

We're excited to share the entry link for the 2026 Ability Triathlon!

Firstly, apologies for the radio silence over the last few months — life has been a little crazy lately! 😊

📅 Sunday 20th September 2026 is the date to save in your diaries. We'll be swimming, cycling, and running our way to the finish line before celebrating together with our well-earned medals! 🏊🚴🏃🏆

Whether you're returning for another fantastic year or thinking about taking part for the first time, we'd love to see you there. This event is all about participation, achievement, and having fun together.

👉 Entries are now open:

[Enter the 2026 Ability Triathlon here](#)

Who's excited? We certainly are! ❤️

[#AbilityTriathlon](#) [#SwimBikeRun](#) [#InclusiveSport](#) [#Triathlon](#) [#DisabilitySport](#)
[#EveryoneCanTakePart](#) [#SeeYouAtTheStartLine](#)

Barnability:



If the triathlon is something your young person is interested in and they would like more opportunities to get involved in fitness there is a group called Barnability based at Thorneyford farm, near Kirkley Hall, Ponteland.

“We are a charitable organisation supporting people with learning disabilities, physical disabilities, or ill health. Through inclusive fitness, community connection, & personal development, we build confidence, wellbeing, & lasting opportunities for all”.

[More information here:](#)

**NAPI - North East Action for Children Parents and Inclusion CIO
1161983**

🌞 NAPI SEND Exclusive Summer Activities at Sir Charles Parsons School 🌞

Join us this summer for fun, friendship, and exciting activities designed especially for children and young people with SEND ages 11-18 years!

📅 Tuesdays and Thursday 28 & 30 July | 4 & 6 August | 11 & 13 August

🕒 10:00am – 2:00pm

📍 Sir Charles Parsons School, Newcastle

- ✅ Accessible facilities
- ✅ Low-noise, sensory-aware environment
- ✅ Inclusive activities for all abilities
- ✅ Opportunities to build confidence and make new friends

Places are limited! Register your interest here:

Eligibility Criteria:

- Children and young people with SEND and/or additional needs (diagnosed or undiagnosed).
- Must attend our sessions at Hadrian School or Sir Charles Parsons School in the summer holidays.
 - Parent Carers Must attend any sessions with child or young person
 - Children and young people living in Newcastle City Council or attending a Newcastle City Council School.

✉ admin@napi.org.uk

☎ 0191 265 6158

NAPI HAF
SEND EXCLUSIVE
SUMMER
ACTIVITIES
AT SIR CHARLES PARSONS SCHOOL

DATES

- TUESDAY 28TH JULY
- THURSDAY 30TH JULY
- TUESDAY 4TH AUGUST
- THURSDAY 6TH AUGUST
- TUESDAY 11TH AUGUST
- THURSDAY 13TH AUGUST

ALL 10AM – 2PM

AT SIR CHARLES PARSONS SCHOOL
Sir Charles Parsons,
Westbourne Ave,
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE6 4ED

**FUN, INCLUSIVE
ACTIVITIES, NEW FRIENDS
& CONFIDENCE BUILDING
THIS SUMMER!**

PLEASE COMPLETE FORMS TO ENQUIRE
OR EMAIL admin@napi.org.uk OR CALL 01912656158

Icons: SENSORY, WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE, LARGE GROUPS, LOW NOISE ENVIRONMENT, ACTIVE SESSION, LONG SESSION, CHANGING PLACES, FULLY ACCESSIBLE

NAPI SEND Exclusive HAF
SIR CHARLES PARSONS SCHOOL
SUMMER SWIMMING SESSIONS
Come and join our fun swimming sessions!

Sir Charles Parsons School
Westbourne Avenue, Walker
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE6 4ED

SESSION DATES

- Tuesday 28th July
- Tuesday 4th August
- Thursday 6th August
- Tuesday 11th August
- Thursday 13th August

SESSION TIMES

- 10:15am
- 11:15am
- 12:45pm

IMPORTANT

- ⌚ Please arrive 15 minutes before your session starts

BRING:

- 👙 Swimming costume/trunks
- 👖 Towel
- 🛟 Any required swimming aids

FUN, INCLUSIVE SESSIONS FOR ALL ABILITIES!

ENJOY • HAVE FUN • MAKE FRIENDS **EVERYONE WELCOME!**

☎ 01912656158 | ✉ admin@napi.org.uk

Toby Henderson Trust

Grab your sarnies and a blanket and join the TTHT team for a community picnic and a delightful time for a much-needed wellbeing meet up & chat, with the beauty of the great outdoors! 🍷☀️

This is the school holiday date:

Tuesday 4th August 2026 from 11am-1pm

Please see the poster below for further information.

Anyone can join us, everyone is welcome!

No booking needed just come along 😊

See poster below





Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 8th July from 9.45-10.45**. We would love to have more parents join us. If you are available online, this could be hybrid. Just let me know and I will arrange it.

We will also do the final 6 FoPHS 100 club draws.

In the last week the committee has agreed funding of circa £500 for events at the This is Me festival and £300 for resources for the Summer MOVE event.



Great North Run 2026

[Donate here](#)

Many of you will know that for the last few years my husband Richard and daughter Aisling have taken on the GNR raising funds for FoPHS. This year they have signed

up again and will be joined by Aisling's fiancé. As they say themselves it is our way of acknowledging the difference Percy Hedley made to our family as Niall, now 28, spent 14 years here and 2 at college.

For anyone taking on the run, Niall and I will be volunteering with the fund-raising team at the charity village in South Shields on the day.

We need your help to raise as much as we can. Please look at their page and if you are able to do so, please consider a small sponsorship. Last year we raised £863.

[Donate here](#)

Facebook page:



This is a closed group for family and friends of Percy Hedley School, where you can share news and updates about school life. It is not for external professionals who may be working with families. To join, you need to answer the question stating your link with school.

Please note: this group is for sharing news and updates about school life and is not intended to discuss any issues around individual students, and as such all comments are moderated. If you have a particular issue or concern, please contact school directly on 0191 216 1811.

[Join here](#)



Quote of the Week

Thought for the week; this one seems appropriate...

“You were born to win, but to be a winner, you must plan to win, prepare to win, and expect to win.”

Zig Ziglar



Contact details

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