

Carre's Grammar School

NEWSLETTER

November 2018

www.carres.uk

Useful Dates:

Thursday 8 November 7pm – KSHSDofE Celebration Evening

Monday 12 November 7pm – St Denys' Church, Sleaford

Remembrance Concert

Monday 12 November - Friday 23 November

Years 12 and 13 Formal Assessment Weeks

Thursday 15 November

Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening

Friday 16 November

Year 11 Geography trip to York

Friday 16 November

Children In Need - non uniform day

Wednesday 21 November

Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening

Friday 23 November

School Closed for Staff Training Day

Wednesday 5 December

Year 9 Options Evening

Wednesday 19 December

Senior Prizegiving

Thursday 20 December

Carol Service and End of Term

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Foreword by Mrs Brooks SENCO and Safeguarding Lead

"Life isn't about waiting for the storms to pass, it is about learning to dance in the rain" (attributed to Seneca 4BC – 65AD)

As the above quote suggests facing storms in our lives is nothing new. Some of those storms may rage in our physical bodies but many rage in our mind and spirit. We are more often than not comfortable talking about or getting help for a physical storm but a storm of the mind is still difficult for many to talk about or even understand.

As a school community we are currently working towards achieving the Mental Well-Being Award for Schools. We are grateful for those of you who took time to complete the surveys last year which have given us a valuable insight into how people think we are supporting positive mental well-being for all members of our community. Based on those surveys and our own review of our systems we now have an action plan in place and a Change Team ready to realise the plan.

We don't want students or staff to be facing storms unsupported and just hoping that they will soon pass. We want them to be able to "dance in the rain". But, what does that mean? We are aiming to ensure that everyone is able to recognise the signs that a storm of the mind might be brewing in themselves and others. We want people to know how they can build up their storm defences and become more resilient. We want people to be comfortable talking about their storms, confident that they will be supported with understanding. We want to have in place clear and accessible pathways to help for both students and staff.

We would love some parents to be part of our Change Team by joining a Focus Group. Meetings will take place in the evening and we envisage that between now and February when our portfolio will be assessed that there will be 2 or 3 meetings. If you would like to be part of our Change Team please drop me an email with a brief outline of how you think you can contribute to the plans described above: rosemary.brooks@carres.uk
Expertise in delivering staff training would also be particularly welcome. If you are not able to be part of a Focus Group we will keep you updated via the newsletter so you know how our "dancing classes" are progressing and can get involved in the dance with your young people.

RAF Centenary Parade

By Eddie Briggs Year 8

On Tuesday 11 July I was very fortunate to attend the RAF Centenary Parade and flypast in London. This date was chosen as it marked 100 years and 100 days since the formation of the RAF. We were very proud to go with my dad who has been in the RAF for 20 years. It was so unusual (but great) to see so many RAF uniforms all over London.

The day...When I woke up instead of getting a bus to school I caught an inter-city train to London. We arrived just in time to see the bands of the RAF and Scots Guards marching with the parade. The place was heaving with people and we were a bit squashed for a while!

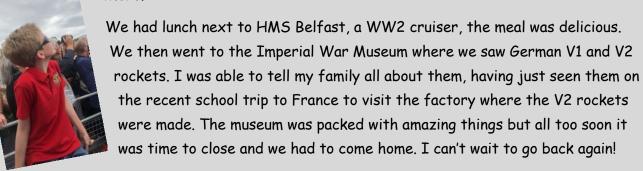
After the parade we moved towards Buckingham Palace to try and get a good spot that gave us a view of the Palace and the Mall as this was the route down which the aircraft would fly.

After the band stopped the crowd was filled with anticipation for the Queen and family to come out on her balcony (unfortunately we couldn't see the presentation of the Colour). Finally, she did and the crowd cheered. Then 100 aircraft flew over the top of us in many different formations, my favourite was the RAF's latest plane, the F-35 Lighting 2. When the planes flew over the crowd clapped them, though the majority really cheered for the



Typhoons in the shape of 100. It finished with the Red Arrows and then we watched the bands march off playing their songs. It's amazing to think we saw so many planes all at once - and

that it might never happen again in my lifetime. I feel very lucky to have been there.





On Wednesday 10 October, a group of Year 12 and 13 students went to watch a production of Dracula at the Theatre Royal in Nottingham. This is a set text for the gothic element of the A-Level English Literature course and so students were very excited

to see how the novel would be transformed for the stage.

They were not disappointed! The play began with a bang when the theatre was dramatically plunged it to darkness and students were then treated to a re-telling of the tale which was full of blood and violence. The special effects used were mesmerizing and it felt as if the audience was really watching Count Dracula wield his evil power. The ending of the story had been slightly altered for the show but a collective sigh of relief was uttered when Dracula was finally destroyed, although in this version poor Doctor Seward also succumbed to vampiric poisoning.

All in all, it was a fun day out, but some students were not able to sleep soundly in their beds that night...

Mrs Carpenter, Teacher of English

Local Democracy Week - Mini Mock Election at KSHS









Exams Summer 2019

The summer 2019 exams may seem like a long way off at the moment, but we wish to share some important information with you to avoid any possible issues next summer.

During the spring term students will be given their individual exam timetables which will highlight when their final exam will take place. The summer written exam period will run from Monday 13 May to Tuesday 25 June 2019.

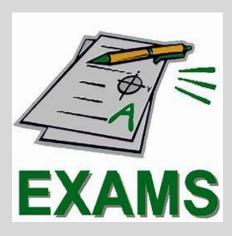
However, for the summer 2019 exam series a "contingency" exam day has been arranged by the examination awarding bodies about which all students need to be aware. This contingency day for GCSE and/or A Level (or equivalent) examinations has been put in place "in the event of widespread, sustained national or local disruption to examinations during the June 2019 examination series."

The decision comes following the tragic events of last summer, namely the Manchester attacks and the Grenfell Tower fire. The Joint Council for Qualifications has decided that they need the option to postpone an exam in the event of an incident and rearrange for a later date to allow all students a fair and equal chance.

The date that has been set aside as the contingency day is Wednesday 26 June 2019. This means that all exam candidates must be available to sit exams from the date of their first exam until Wednesday 26 June 2019. This decision is not a school decision and does apply to **all candidates** in **all schools**.

Please can all students/parents/carers make a note of the new contingency exam date in the event that an awarding body needs to invoke its contingency plan.

Mrs T Williams
Exams Officer



Talented Students and some of their exam Art Work





















Morocco – July 2018 with Outlook Expeditions

Expeditions take young people out of their comfort zone and expand horizons whilst boosting independence, confidence, teamwork and many other qualities that have a lasting impact on the lives (and CVs) of each participant.

Getting ready to leave for Morocco

































YEAR 13 UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE



On Thursday 20 September, Year 13 students Robert Thompson, Daniel Walker, Max Beckett and Travis Cullum represented Carre's Grammar School in the University Challenge National Final, hosted at the University of Lincoln. The event was designed to replicate the structure of the TV show 'University Challenge', with 12 qualifying schools competing against one another for the title of National

Champions. Carre's qualified from the East Midlands heat in July, along with Queen Elizabeth Grammar School (Horncastle), and competed against the qualifying schools from the other four heats (Cambridge, Birmingham, Leeds and London).

The team was in high spirits and had been preparing for the event over the past week. As we waited for the event to begin, the team was questioning each other on historical dates, current affairs and popular culture, hoping that this last minute preparation would serve us well. The team was informed during the briefing that the winning team overall



last year had achieved a total of 240 points from a possible 300; this soon became the target for the team.

The structure of the event replicated the structure of the TV show, with a series of rounds on a range of topics from Zoology to Mathematics and Geography to Architecture. Each round involved three questions, with question one worth 10 points and questions two and three worth a further 5 each.

The event included 15 rounds in two parts, separated by an interval. Each team was required to answer 45 questions, with a total of 300 points available. Each round had three questions. The team felt that they performed relatively well at the conclusion of the event and deliberated over their chances during the break. During the announcement of the result, it emerged that two teams were tied in first place and a tiebreaker would be required to produce a winner. All 12 teams at this point were unaware which teams were in the tiebreaker and were expected to participate in the question. The question was: "in what year did the work on Lincoln Cathedral commence"? We were informed that both teams involved in the tiebreak question had put exactly the same answer, leading to a second tiebreak question: "how high in meters is the tip of the Eiffel Tower"? The teams was told that a winner had now been identified. The quizmaster went through all of the answers to the questions before

the presentation ceremony began. The Carre's team kept a record of their score and, when the 3rd place school and their score was announced, they realised that they were in the top 2 schools. The height of the Eiffel Tower is 324m and we guessed that it was 316m. Despite being just 8m away from the correct answer, Comberton Sixth Form (Cambridge) were slightly closer, enabling them to claim victory.

The Carre's team was understandably initially disappointed, having been so close to being crowned University Challenge national champions, but can be incredibly proud to be national runners-up and the second best school quiz team in England. Carre's is very proud of the outstanding performance and effort demonstrated by Robert, Daniel, Max and Travis and congratulate them on their achievements. Well done.



Sponsored Walk 2018

For the fourth year the annual sponsored walk took place with students from both Carre's Grammar School and Kesteven and Sleaford High School taking part. This took place on Thursday 18 October and the money raised will be divided equally between the school funds of each establishment and several charitable organisations.

Last year we raised approximately £15,000, inclusive of Gift Aid, and supported the following charities:

Year 7 - Macmillan Cancer Support; Year 8 - Cancer Support UK; Year 9 - RSPCA; Year 10 - LIVES; Year 11 - Make a Wish; Sixth Form - Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund.

This year the charities are: Year 7 - CLAPA (Cleft Lip and Palate Association UK);
Year 8 - Macmillan; Year 9 - Help for Heroes; Year 10 - Jon Egging Trust; Year 11 Cancer Research; Sixth Form - Anna Freud Centre (supporting mental health)

Please send in any sponsor money as soon as possible. Thank you



















Congratulations to all the staff and students who took part in the Sponsored Walk

SPANISH EXCHANGE

On Friday 12 October, 20 students and 2 staff travelled to Mataro, 20 minutes north of Barcelona for our visiting section of the Spanish Exchange with the school - GEM. Our journey was good, despite a bumpy landing, and we arrived to meet our partners on a balmy evening in Catelona via Girona airport.

The weekend was spent with our families, although many groups got together. People got to climb local mountains, visit Barcelona including Camp Nou and Park Guell and watched the Spanish counterparts playing various sports. Everyone was very accommodating and we could not have felt more welcome.



Throughout the week our activities were visits to Girona, Port Aventura theme park, Monserrat, the Benedictine Monk retreat, a morning in school and different lessons and a day trip to Barcelona, including a tour around La Sagrada Familia.

It was wonderful to see so many of our students speaking Spanish at every opportunity and not being afraid to get things wrong! Everyone who was involved in the Exchange would thoroughly recommend it to anyone else in the future!

Three Year 13 students also stayed for an extra week on the 'Live and Learn' programme which allowed them to spend a whole week in school and develop their language skills even further.





Duke of Edinburgh Award

All three of Sleaford's schools have been successfully running the Duke of Edinburgh's Award for a number of years, and developing the next generation of committed, confident individuals through a programme of volunteering, physical activity, skill-building and expeditions.

At an event championing the volunteering section of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Lincoln's International Bomber Command Centre presented to a number of schools and organisations from the local area, encouraging young people to get involved in the centre's various sectors from catering and retail, to their new Young Ambassador's scheme and the archiving and research elements of the project.

With the huge numbers of volunteering hours going into the project in mind, representatives from The Robert Carre Trust and St George's Academy were honoured to receive certificates recognising the number of hours the young people of Sleaford have given to their local area. Be it helping a neighbour, working in a charity shop, cleaning up the town's river, or supporting other young people in school, scouting organisations and more, DofE participants have voluntary roles that are varied and extensive.

In total, over the last year, participants from St George's Academy (Sleaford) have logged 1,378 hours of voluntary service; Kesteven and Sleaford High School participants have logged 1,703 hours; participants from Carre's Grammar School 1,365 hours. This combined is 4,446

hours of time given back to the local community – or over £18,600 worth of paid work for under eighteens, and over £32,000 worth of paid work at national living wage for over twenty-fives.

It's worth noting that these hours include only those participants who have completed their volunteering section; therefore others, who are still collating their total hours and getting assessor's reports, have also given time to the local community which is not reflected in these numbers.



Well done to all Bronze, Silver and Gold participants who represent the best of the youth in our area, and thank you to the adults who support them to do so!

LRC News October 2018

The new term has been extremely busy for the LRC. All the new Year 7 students were excited to be able to choose a free book from the 'Book Buzz Scheme'. This was a fabulous opportunity for all our new students to develop their reading habits and add to their reading collections! The boys were able to choose from a selection of 12 brilliant titles - the most popular being 'Car-Jacked' by Ali Sparkes. Hopefully all the boys will enjoy reading their chosen books.





Over the summer holidays, the Year 7s were also extremely busy taking part in the LRC reading challenge. Lots of boys read many fabulous books and wrote some fantastic comments about them. Those who took part received house points for their efforts, so well done to them. However, three boys in particular stood out in that they read 20 books each. They will receive a prize - congratulations go to Anthony Watson, Lewis Hough and Daniel

Napier. The boys were also asked to take pictures of themselves reading books in crazy places - one of the best that we received was from Alfie in 7W who is pictured here reading on top of a combine harvester!

We have launched the annual Year 7 LRC Halloween story writing competition, and so far have had some fabulous entries! Hopefully by the next newsletter we will be able to announce the winners.

I am currently looking at buying lots of new stock for the LRC, and as always I welcome ideas and suggestions from students about particular books that they would like to see on the

shelves. Please let me know if there is anything that you would like me to buy.

We are open every day at break and lunchtime, and we have Homework Club every day after school - Monday - Thursday until 4.30pm and Fridays until 4.00pm. All students are welcome to join us to complete their homework in a quiet environment with lots of excellent resources!

Film club is on every Friday lunchtime. We are currently continuing with our odyssey through the Star Wars films. Entrance is by ticket only so make sure that your name is on the list should you wish to watch the movies!





A week that celebrates the freedom that we have to read books that we want to read without fear of censorship. There are many books that we take for granted that have been banned somewhere in the world at one time or another.



Winnie the Pooh by AA Milne

This may be a staunch favourite amongst many young children but it has been banned many times around the world. One such time was in Poland where the book was banned as Winnie doesn't wear any underpants! He was seen as a bad example to children.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by Frank L Baum

This children's classic about Dorothy and her friends has been banned many times in the USA. Amongst the reasons given were...

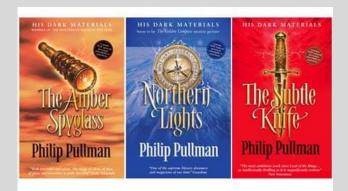
in the South because witches were referred to as 'good', and during the leadership of President McCarthy in the 1950s for its perceived socialist values.

If you would like to read this book, there is a copy on our Ebook platform.

'His Dark Materials' trilogy by Philip Pullman. Several schools across America faced

requests from parents to remove the book. One challenge at a school in Winchester, Kentucky was made on the grounds that the book's main character drinks wine and eats poppy with her meals. Another school in Oshkosh, Wisconsin banned the trilogy because of its "anti-Christian message".

If you would like to have the freedom to read this trilogy of books we have them all in the LRC.



Lord of the Flies by William Golding

This 1954 novel is the eighth-most frequently banned and challenged book in the USA.

Parents, school administrators and other critics have criticised the language and violence in the novel. Bullying is rampant throughout the book and many people also think that the book promotes a pro-slavery ideology, which they note is the wrong message to teach children. That saying, it is a classic book that explores the interactions of boys who find themselves marooned on an island after a plane crash.

We do have a copy in the LRC if you would like to find out what the fuss was all about.



Happy reading!



The final banned book is one that has been banned in the UK and throughout Europe. It is 'The Complete Fairy Tales' by the Brothers Grimm.

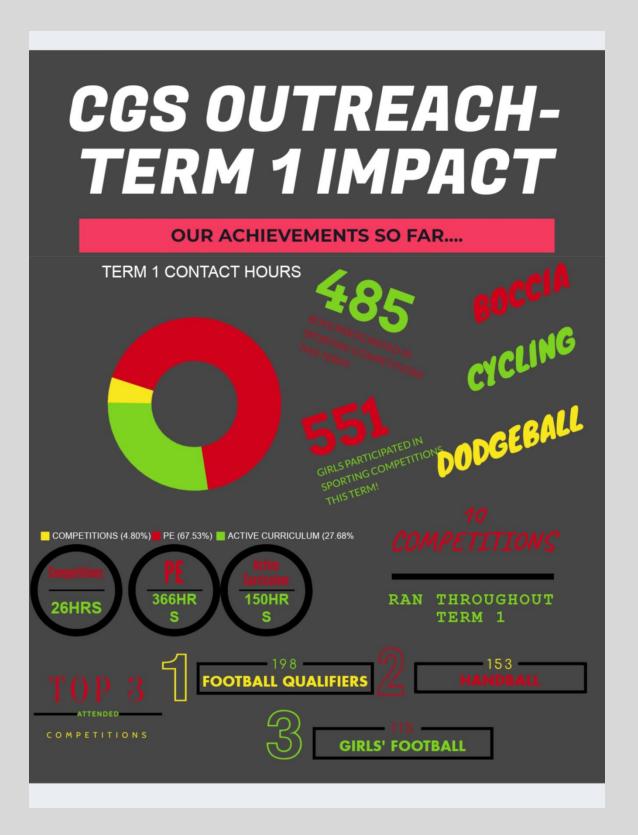
Although the Brothers Grimm were the collectors rather than the inventors of the fairy tales they published, they were still banned in Germany after the fall of the Nazis. The collection was banned by the Allies who claimed the roots of Nazism could be found in the

stories; particularly citing the way the Nazis used Little Red Riding Hood as a symbol of the German people being saved from the Jewish wolf.

Unfortunately we don't have a copy in the LRC but maybe you have a copy at home from your childhood?

Angela Morrissey LRC Manager

Carre's Outreach Team



Basketball England Volunteer Awards (September 2018)

On Saturday 1 September, Basketball England held their annual Conference Awards Dinner at the University of Manchester to celebrate the success of the sport at all levels over the past 12 months. The conference included presentation of the Basketball England Volunteer Awards, recognising the vital contribution of the sport's countless volunteers across the country. The weekend also included presentation clinics for coaches and officials and a breakdown of the preparation behind the recent success of the England women's basketball team (silver medal at the Commonwealth Games) and the Great British men's wheelchair basketball team (gold medal at the World Championships) in 2018.

Categories for the volunteer awards included Volunteer of the Year, Community Club of the Year, Referee of the Year and Teacher of the Year. Carre's PE teacher, Russell Smith, received the award of East Midlands Teacher of the Year in May and was shortlisted for the Basketball England Teacher of the Year award at the volunteer awards dinner. Basketball England's nomination was as a result of Russell acting as a basketball ambassador within Carre's Grammar School and the local community, both in school and in his own time. Russell runs the basketball teams at Carre's, organises the county cup competitions for schools at all age groups, has supported teachers in other local schools to raise their expertise and coaches the under-13, 15 and 17 Lincolnshire teams. Being nominated for a national award, particularly when so few of Carre's students play outside of school, is a fantastic accomplishment and provides kudos to the developing basketball programme in school.



This nomination is deserved recognition for the hard work that has gone into developing basketball in the school and efforts to encourage more young people to play the sport competitively. The national award was eventually won by Fionnuala Duhaney-Keown who is the senior head coach at Clapton Girls' Academy and is employed to coach basketball to their students six days per week. Supported by players regularly playing in local clubs, Clapton Academy reached three national finals last year.

Mr Russell Smith Teacher of PE

Netball

Carre's hosted the U19 District Netball tournament last term. Teams from St George's, Priory Ruskin, Will Rob, KGGS and Stamford High School attended. There was a lot of good netball on display with Stamford winning the event, beating Carre's in the final. Both teams qualified for the next stage which is the County Round at Stamford on 7 November. The girls have been training hard and competing well, just losing 1 game so far this season. Victories have come against KGGS, Bourne Grammar and Lincoln College.

Rugby this term

Our Rugby teams have been busy so far this year.

The first XV have beaten Ratcliffe College, Priory Ruskin and Spalding Grammar, losing a hard-fought game with King's in the National Cup. Oliver Chessum and James Harding are currently involved with NLD U18s.

Year 11s beat Spalding Grammar in a friendly but lost to King's having been leading comfortably at half-time. We welcome Spalding in November in the County Cup and hope to put in a good performance and retain the title from last season.

A similar fate fell on the Year 10s who were 7-5 up to King's at half-time, only to lose heavily in the National Cup. They have had some notable performances, beating Stamford School B team and Spalding Grammar. They need to work on not losing by large margins, however, when going a couple of scores down.

Year 9 had a huge victory over Wisbech Grammar School and are showing real promise, the only loss of the season coming at King's. Three Year 9s have represented the year above in the National Cup and are involved in the Leicester Tigers DPP programme.

Year 8

Year 8s have a solid core of players who work hard every Friday after school under the tutelage of Mr Law. They had a good result over local rivals St George's and drew away at Stamford School.

Year 7

We have had 28 new students to the school represent us on the Rugby field. There has been even playing time and some promising performances from inexperienced players. Look out for the Rugby Tour launch coming early next year!

U16 Football

The Year 11s have started strongly this season, beating Bourne Academy 7-2 and Priory Ruskin4-1 in the 2 National Cup competitions that we are in. We have fixtures coming up against Northampton School for Boys Bourne Grammar and North Kesteven School. 5 of our players have represented Lincolnshire U16s so far this year.

Mr Offer, Head of Sport

Cake Sale for Macmillan



A total of £156 was raised selling cakes in the staff room over a period of 3 days for Macmillan Cancer Support. A big thank you to everyone who donated, bought and ate

cake. A special thank you to Mrs Clapham who made and decorated a Macmillan coffee morning themed

'guess the weight of the cake'. The cake was won by Mel in the main office with a guess of 2.7kg - which was the nearest guess.





Halloween Themed Cake Sale for MND





All baking donations are welcomed every Wednesday and the more that are sold and money raised for the Motor Neurone Disease Association, the more reward badges the students earn in recognition of their help, generosity and support. On the last Wednesday of every month, students have the chance to show off their creative and baking skills and win prizes for their showstoppers!

This month we have awarded yet another blue thumbs up badge and the total raised for October was a fantastic £440! (A huge chunk of that was raised during the sponsored walk so thanks for buying and donating as you passed us that day).

Your efforts really do make a difference to those living with Motor Neurone Disease so thank you very much and please keep supporting!

PS – the total raised in school since Easter now currently stands at... £2,622

Ms Angus, Head of Art

Free School Meals

Lincolnshire County Council has a new process to apply for Free School Meals which went 'live' for parents to use on Tuesday 4 September via the following parent portal link:

https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/parentportal.

LCC will process eligibility checks for Free School Meals.

Is my child eligible?

Your child may be eligible if you are in receipt of one or more of the following qualifying benefits:

- <u>Universal Credit</u> (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state Pension Credit
- <u>Child Tax Credit</u> (provided you're not also entitled to <u>Working Tax Credit</u> and have an annual gross income of no more £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

How to apply

Parents, guardians and carers can apply for free school meals online:

https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/parentportal.

For more information, please call the Lincolnshire County Council Customer Service Centre on 01522 782030 or email -Free_School_Meals@lincolnshire.gov.uk

School Notices

PE Kit and School Property

Please label all PE kit and school clothing/property, including pencil cases, gum shields and glasses cases, PE/school bags, coats etc. We have a never ending supply of lost property in the office that has been abandoned/left around the site that if not named or claimed after the lost property amnesty, will be donated to charity or thrown away. Thank you.

Sixth Form Dress Code

The dress code for all Sixth Form students is based on smart business wear. Sixth Form students are very important role models for our younger students and it is an expectation that all students are smartly dressed. If a student's appearance is not acceptable following advice from the tutor or Head of Year, he/she will be required to go home to change if they have not conformed the following day.

For girls:

- A tailored jacket with a choice of trousers, skirt or dress. The fabric should not include tight/stretchy material, denim, corduroy or leather.
- Skirt/dress length should be appropriate for professional wear.
- A smart shirt or top of any colour.
- No strappy tops or those that show midriff or cleavage.
- Appropriate smart shoes. (Shoes with excessively high heels, trainers, canvas shoes, flip flops, beach sandals, Doc Marten boots or Ugg-style boots are not appropriate and should not be worn).
- In colder weather a smart cardigan or jumper worn under the jacket is optional.
- No hoodies, either under or over suit jackets.
- Subtle make-up and a small amount of jewellery will be permitted. Tattoos should not be visible. Hair should show no extremes of style/fashion; if dyed, it should reflect a natural colour.

For boys:

- A suit i.e. a tailored jacket with trousers. The fabric and colour of both items should be the same, and not include leather, denim, corduroy or tight / stretchy material.
- A smart shirt of any colour.
- Sixth Form tie available from Carre's main office.
- Smart shoes (no trainers, sandals, canvas shoes, flip flops, Doc Marten boots).
- In colder weather a smart cardigan, jumper or waistcoat worn under the jacket is optional.
- No hoodies, either over or under jackets
- Jewellery should be discreet and hair should show no extremes of styles/fashions; if dyed, it should reflect a natural colour. No facial piercings or tattoos should be visible.

The Headteacher reserves the right to make a decision about the suitability of a student's dress. Students may be sent home if their dress is considered unsuitable.

Appointments

Please let the school office know if your son/daughter is attending an appointment e.g. Drs, dentist, hospital etc during school hours. This will help us keep track of attendance and ensure we don't need to phone home etc

Eating Around the School Site

We have designated areas within the school where students are able to consume food and drinks, these being The Chill, outside under the canopy and for Sixth Formers, the conservatory. In order to maintain standards and keep litter to a minimum, please can students ensure they are aware of the areas where they can eat food.

Emergency School Closure

As we are entering the winter season we would to remind parents of the arrangements for emergency school closure.

As a matter of policy the school will make every effort to remain open. However, severe weather can sometimes lead to transport problems which make it impossible for the school to function normally. In the unlikely event that the school will be closed, a notice will be posted on the front page of our website at www.carres.uk by 7.30 am. Information will also be posted on the Lincolnshire County Council website and the information will be broadcast on BBC Radio Lincs and Lincs FM.

The school has the facility to send text messages to inform parents of the school's closure. We will endeavour to notify all parents by text as soon as a decision has been made to close the school.

Please follow the link to the updated Mobile Phone Policy on the school website.

www.carres.uk - Home - Students - Mobile Phone Policy

Poppies for sale in the school office





Friday 16 November – Non-uniform day for Children in Need for a donation of £1.

Assistance with Universal Credit - North Kesteven District Council

My name is Rob Kay and I lead two teams that provide support to those that are applying/receiving Universal Credit. We are employed by both City of Lincoln Council and North Kesteven District Council.

Our primary roles are split into:

- Digital Support making and maintain a claim for Universal Credit
- Personal Budgeting Support managing income and expenditure

The reason we offer this service is from our background of Housing Benefit, we know that for some residents it is not as straight forward as making a claim and paying bills and are aware some parents may have financial troubles and are unaware of their entitlements to the benefits system.

So, what I am offering is really just a local contact for anyone who has made/needs to make a claim for Universal Credit and needs support or advice.

Please find below a more in depth breakdown (but not everything) of what it is we do and my contact details:

Providing Assisted Digital Support (ADS) for anyone wishing to make a claim by:

- Supporting the customers to transact with Universal Credit using a personal computer or their own specific device
- Ensuring the customer keep log-in credentials safe
- Setting up a personal email address if they don't already have one
- Ensuring that the customers are able to access their email account to retrieve the email code
- Ensuring that the customers are aware of the details needed to have to hand to safely complete their identity verification and claim Universal Credit
- Ensuring that the customers understand how to access the 'partner code' and the requirement for their partner to complete their online claim using the partner code
- Applying for Council Tax Support

Helping anyone maintain their Universal Credit claim by providing assistance in:

- Managing their claim via the online Universal Credit account on whatever device they have access to
- Managing their own email account on whatever device they have access to
- Navigating the platform and clearing their personal 'To do' list
- *Making journal entries*
- Recovering passwords
- Uploading documents including CV'S, income proof and medical certificates
- *Notifying a change of circumstances*
- Making enquiries
- Printing documents

Provide Personal Budgeting Support (PBS) to anyone by:

- Supporting the customers to manage their monthly payments and prioritise essential bills such as rent
- Applying for Discretionary Housing Payments
- Applying for Advance payments
- Negotiating with Landlords and other 3rd parties
- Accompanying to interviews and UC appointments
- *Income and Expenditure calculations*

Supporting customers, if they require personal budgeting assistance to manage their Universal Credit. The support to be offered includes:

- Identifying the appropriate channel and provider to deliver personal budgeting support and referring customers to the right place immediately
- Providing, or arranging, telephone or face to face personal budgeting support and follow up action as appropriate
- Referring and applying for an alternative payment arrangement to Jobcentre Plus
- Referring to Homelessness Teams
- Referring customers to Welfare Advice for other support services such as in depth debt advice

Resulting in customers being able to:

- Understand their Universal Credit award and what they can claim as well as entitlement to other benefits or grants
- Work out monthly income and outgoings
- Recognise priority bills, such as rent
- Identify and cut back on non-essentials
- Complete and maintain a budgeting plan
- Convert from a Post Office card accounts/Simple payments to more appropriate banking products, including a transactional bank account
- Set up or re-organise direct debits for prioritised payments.

Rob Kay, Welfare Reform and Project Lead, City of Lincoln Council

Email - ucsupport@lincoln.gov.uk Telephone: 01522 873592

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North Kesteven District Council is currently refreshing its Corporate Plan - the NK Plan, which sets out the vision and priorities for the Council over the next three years.

Residents, businesses, schools and partner organisations across the District are being invited to participate in the consultation process, with this survey forming a key element.

We always appreciate and value people's time in responding. To thank people for their time in completing this survey, there is a prize draw that people can opt into for a chance to win one of twenty £20 vouchers.

All the responses given will be strictly confidential and will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. However, if you have any questions, please contact the Corporate Information Team on 01529 308016.

The online survey should not take more than 10 minutes to complete and is accessible through the link below:

n-kesteven.gov.uk/NKPlan

The consultation closes on 11.59pm on Sunday 25 November 2018