



Rushden Academy Newsletter

Aspire, Explore, Succeed

10/11/2023

Message From the Principal



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Team Rushden - United we stand, divided we fall

Dear Parent / Carer

It has been a chilly yet action packed week with lots of great things happening in and around the school.

It was my turn to lead assemblies which focused on the theme of resilience and encouraged students to reflect on what resilience means to them. I shared stories of Sir Rannulph Feinnes' achievements in the world of exploration; Aron Ralston's courageous story which was subsequently made into the film 127 hours; and also asked them to compare their journey to school with that of the children from the Tibetan hills who have to travel over 100km on perilous frozen rivers just to get to school. Despite all of those inspirational stories, I shared the reality that the greatest acts of resilience I have ever witnessed, have been from children who have had to overcome more challenging circumstances than most adults see in a lifetime. Finally I shared the criteria for the Rushden STARR resilience badges and set all students the challenge of achieving their bronze, silver or gold badge before the Easter break.

Year 11 students spent the week undertaking final revision lessons ahead of their mock examinations next week which will be an important opportunity to see where they are in relation to their individual target grades. I would also like to mention that the government released a message stating that these mock examinations would be used to award final grades in the event of any incident that meant students were unable to sit their examinations in the Summer. With this in mind, it is imperative that all Year 11 students treat these examinations as they would treat the terminal exams in the Summer.

On Wednesday night we held our TENC open evening where we were delighted to welcome many of our Year 11 students and parents to share everything we can offer at Key Stage 5. Students were able to see the full breadth of the qualifications we offer and had the opportunity to discuss the demands of each course with the teachers that will be delivering them next year. Sixth Form is a big step up from GCSE and opting to study in a Sixth Form at the school they attended previously means that they benefit from the teacher knowing them and being able to support them effectively and I hope to see many of our Year 11s submitting applications to join TENC.

Continues on the next page...

Message From the Principal Continued...

Finally, on Friday we held our annual remembrance service and had the privilege of many retired war veterans joining us to pay our respects to those who fought to protect all that we hold dear. Many of our students also took great pride in wearing their own uniforms whether that be for any of the cadets, Boys Brigade or equivalents which was fantastic to see.

In terms of advanced notices, on Thursday 7th December, we are holding a coffee morning for parents of Year 7 and 8 students where we will be sharing lots of information and resources on the theme of online safety. Further information will be shared closer to the date.

I hope you all have a long and restful weekend,

Yours sincerely,

Mr B Baines
Principal



Odd Socks Day - 13th November 2023

We're excited to announce that Odd Socks Day is just around the corner, and we invite all our students to participate in this special event on Monday, October 13th. Odd Socks Day is a fantastic way for our school community to come together, raise awareness, and celebrate individuality and diversity.

What is Odd Socks Day?

Odd Socks Day is a simple yet powerful way to show our support for anti-bullying and promote a culture of respect, kindness, and understanding among our students. On this day, students are encouraged to wear mismatched socks, expressing themselves and celebrating their unique qualities.

How to Participate:

On Monday, October 13th, your child is welcome to wear odd socks to school if they choose. These can be as creative and colourful as they like, as long as they are appropriate for school. It's a fun and easy way for them to express themselves and show their commitment to a more inclusive and understanding school environment.

How You Can Get Involved:

We would love to see your support and participation too! Feel free to wear your odd socks on this day and join the movement. Share your photos with us on social media using the hashtag #OddSocksDay and #TeamRushden and tag our school's social media accounts. Let's stand together against bullying and create a more inclusive school community!



6th Form UCAS Update

This is the term when Year 13 students are beginning to plan their post 18 pathways and applying to university.

Each week we will give you an update on who has completed their application alongside any offers or interviews they have received.

Name	Date sent	First Choice	Course	Offer/interview?
Lucy	25.09.23	Imperial College, London	Medicine	
Cody	3.10.23	University of Lincoln	Law for Business	conditional offers
Jay	9.10.23	Nottingham Trent University	Primary Education	conditional offers
Ruby	12.10.23	Sheffield Hallam University	Fine Art	conditional offers
Andreea	16.10.23	De Montfort University, Leicester	Pharmacy	interview
Jakub	19.10.13	University of Bath	Maths & Physics	conditional offers
Laura	2.11.23	De Montfort University	Psychology	Conditional offer
Sam	6.11.23	University of Southampton	Biomedical engineering with integrated masters	
Tilly	8.11.23	De Montfort University,	Forensic science	

Safeguarding at Rushden Academy

We now have a dedicated mobile phone contact number for Safeguarding. The Safeguarding phone has two purposes:

1. It is for calling for Safeguarding advice, particularly outside of school hours.
2. It is for students to be able to text report bullying or concerns.

The mobile contact number is: **07428 441286**

You can also contact our safeguarding team on safeguarding@rushden-academy.net or by using the **anonymous reporting button** on the main page of our website.

PE Update

Cross Country Event

On Wednesday 8th November, we took 14 students to a district cross country event at Croyland park, Wellingborough. Our Year 7 students ran 3KM with Year 8 and 9 running 4km.

A huge congratulations to all that took part, who demonstrated the true Team Rushden values whilst competing and cheering on others.

A special well done to Ethan B Year 8 and Taylor J Year 8 for finishing inside the top 15 runners and therefore qualifying for county stage of the competition which takes place in January. Good luck boys!

Basketball

On Tues this week, we took the Year 9 Basketball team over to Manor to play in the district tournament. We got there early and warmed up and were well prepared.

Our first game was against Ferrers and they were a very good side. It was end to end but they just got the win 7-12. We were proud with our performance but also determined to get a result in our next game!

Next up we played Manor and we knew it would be tight! We stepped up and grew in confidence and managed to win 6-3.

Our final game was against Huxlow and we won a convincing 12-0! Finley and Emmanuel scoring two 3 pointers to rack up the points!

There were some outstanding performances in the team in general with Emmanuelle as top points scorer and Paolo playing up a year group and still performing so well against the older opponents.

Well done to all the boys!



Hope For Families Parent Forum

Hope For Families would love to see you at their next online Parent Forum on **Wednesday 29th November from 7:30-8:30pm.**

If you have attended one of our courses or events and would like to give us feedback, or you have great ideas about fundraising or future plans for the charity, we would love for you to join us! Your input is vital as we grow the work of Hope for Families. Please sign up using the link below and the Zoom link will be sent to you.

All attendees will receive a credit for one FREE course place. This can be redeemed against any of our courses, is valid for one year, and can be claimed by yourself or gifted to someone else.

10 free places are available, so don't miss out!

[Register here](#)





Diwali

The Festival Of Lights

In honour of Diwali,
Rushden Academy
Canteen is having a
Punjab day. Come
try our curries &
sides!

Thursday 16th
November 2023



We're Supporting BBC Children in Need

Join us by wearing a spotty
accessory to school on Friday
17th November



Stay Connected Newsletter

Have a look at the Stay Connected Newsletter for North Northamptonshire from Northamptonshire Children's Trust

<https://sway.office.com/EZxl6KdU6wBYJNx3?ref=email>

Lost Property

Please remind your child to check in reception if they have lost anything. We have a selection of items that need to be claimed.

We also have some cake tins left over from the MacMillan Bake Off.

Any items left unclaimed for 6 weeks are donated to our internal uniform stores or local charity shops.



UNIFORM DONATIONS

GOT ANY SCHOOL UNIFORM OR PE KIT THAT DOESN'T FIT ANYMORE?

DONATE TO THE PASTORAL HUB

AND GET PART OF YOUR STARR AWARD TICKED OFF





WE WILL TAKE GOOD QUALITY

- Shirts
- Blazers
- Trousers
- Shoes
- Ties
- Skirts



Building Trust in Science



10 November
2023 **World
Science
Day** for Peace
and Development



This Week in Food Technology

Year 8 and year 9 have been trying their hand at pizza making this week. We used bread for the base and toasted it under the grill. We will progress to dough at a later stage.

This gave us the opportunity to have lunch in class as most of the pizza was devoured. In fact, if any made it home, I would be surprised!



Key Stage 4 'Cook My Dinner Club'

Key Stage 4 'Cook My Dinner Club' was more of a 'Cook my Dessert Club' this week with Chocolate Fudge Brownies.

Apparently if you cut it up, the calories fall out?

Mr Brainwood



Scholastic Book Fair

Rushden Academy Library will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair between Wednesday 22nd - Monday 27th November.

There will be a variety of teenage books for students to purchase at a range of prices. If you would like to have a sneak peak at the books which should be here, please follow this link. You will be able to see the cover, blurb and cost of the book. We've had a look and there are some fabulous titles on there, which I'm sure will be popular with our students.

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases/tt>

Your child can pay for anything they want to buy in a few ways. You can use the QR code below. When you scan it and follow the link you will be able to put an amount of money on the account, which we will be able to see. Your child can then come into the book fair and we can check their name and see how much they are allowed to spend.

You can also buy gift vouchers from the website, for set amounts, which you can send your child in with.

Alternatively, you can send your child in with cash as payment and we will accept this too.

It will be great to see a good up-take of students at the fair, enjoying and looking through the books, so please do promote it to your child.

Thank you,

Ms N Raven
Librarian



Scan the QR code to pay for your books online
or visit bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay

Carer Peer Support Opportunities in Children's Services in Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (NHFT)

Here is some more information about how to apply and become a volunteer with Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. If you have any questions, please contact the volunteer team at: Email: Volunteering@nhft.nhs.uk



Please note, we ask all volunteers to commit to regular volunteering of at least three hours a week, due to the amount of training and setup required. If possible, we ask volunteers to commit to at least six months of volunteering with us. We do not take volunteers for short-term placements unless there is a specific short-term role.

1. You fill out a volunteer application form

This can be found on our website <https://www.nhft.nhs.uk/volunteer> or directly at <https://forms.office.com/r/6TCH8kxkyk>.

2. You give us the contact details of people we can contact for a reference

3. You meet us for an informal chat

We will try and identify a suitable role in this meeting. However, we may have some options which we will talk through and then we will send you information on the possible volunteer roles for you to decide what you want to do. We will then try to set this up for you.

4. You fill out a health questionnaire

5. You complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check

6. You do any training needed for the volunteer role

As part of the recruitment process to become a volunteer with us, you need to complete some mandatory training. This is the Health Education England Volunteering Learning Programme which is national training for NHS volunteers. Please see the webpage below for further information. <https://volunteers.e-lfh.org.uk/>

7. You sign a volunteer agreement that explains what NHFT expects of you and what you can expect from us.

Volunteer drivers

Volunteer drivers must have fully comprehensive car insurance and notify their insurer they are using the vehicle for Volunteering purposes (this is usually free). Volunteer drivers claim expenses for mileage.

Weekly Star of MFL

Each week the MFL department chooses one of its Stars of the Week to showcase.

This may be for producing a particularly impressive piece of work, making excellent progress, having great attitude to learning or otherwise representing one of the Team Rushden values.

This week's
star is...

Holly K

For showing great resilience in the face of difficulty and always pushing herself to be better.

Mrs Charlton



Performing Arts Update

Drama:

Year 7 have been doing some excellent devising work in lessons this week. This term the students have been creating drama based on the stimulus of Mr Fox and they have been looking at the explorative strategy of hot seating. All the year 7s have been taking part in asking questions to students who are in character to find out some more information about the mysterious Mr Fox.

Well done year 7, your devising skills are improving week by week.

Dance:

Year 9 dance students have a challenging term exploring what it takes to be a professional dancer. Each week students will focus on elements of a professional dancer's lifestyle including diet, skills, career options and partake in a realistic audition and the processes.

Music:

Our year 10's are working consistently hard on their component 1 this term and the finish line is very close now!

Year 8 have been exploring scenes from films such as Star Wars, Jurassic Park, Harry Potter and Mission Impossible to create backing tracks for key scenes.

Our year 7's have been using their Djembe skills to develop their own rhythms individually this week.

We Will Rock You

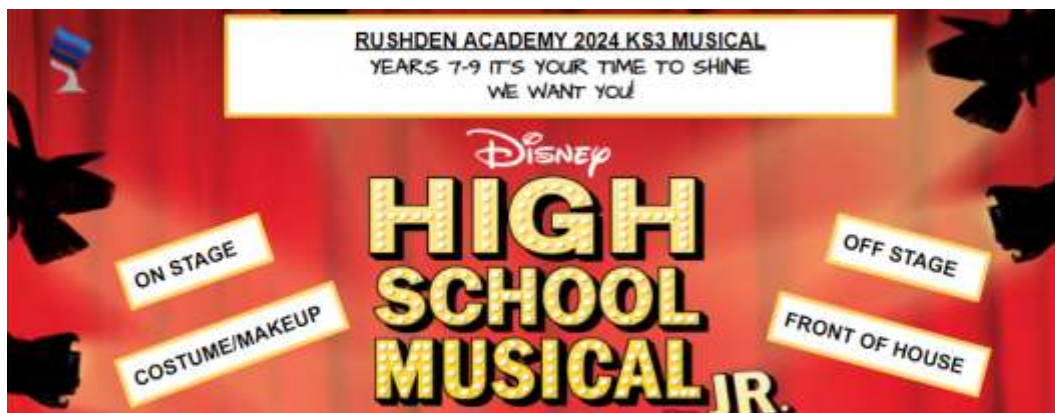
This week there was a focus on singing and the choreography for Killer Queen. All of the students worked with Mr Forman on their vocal skills and their singing techniques. Then, our Galileo and the Teen Queens had their turn at singing whilst the rest of the cast focussed on the ensemble dancing in Killer Queen. The moves are coming along nicely and everyone is really putting in the effort to perfect the choreography.

The department is looking forward to seeing how this one will turn out.

For any students that are interested in taking up instrument lessons this term - please get in touch with Mrs Ede! We currently offer string, piano, guitar, drum and singing lessons but if you are interested in other instrument please let us know and we will try and source the provision!

j.ede@rushden-academy.net

Performing Arts Update



After School Clubs Timetable



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Netball (Year Groups will Train Separately)	Basketball (Year Groups will Play Separately)	Fitness Suite	Football (Year Groups will Train Separately)
<i>Please note, clubs are for boys and girls of all ages, everyone is welcome! Clubs are free and all you need to do is go to the changing rooms after school, get changed and get involved!</i>			

Library Extra-Curricular Activities

Monday

Lunch-time	After-School
	
Board & Card Games	Student Library Assistants Meeting

Tuesday

Lunch-time	After-School
	
Chess	Chess



Wednesday

Lunch-time	After-School
	
Jigsaws	Rushden Academy Newspaper

Thursday

Lunch-Time	After-School
	
Tranquil Thursday - reading, homework, quiet voices	Role-Playing Games

Friday

Lunch-time	After-School
	
Fill-it-in Friday - crosswords, word searches, colouring, sticky note art etc.	Closes at 3.15pm

NB: For any after-school activities you'll need to get a parental consent letter from the Library.

Rushden Academy

Library



Numeracy Problem of the Week

Use seven of the digits from 1 to 9 to fill in each unshaded square, so that no digit is repeated, and the totals of the entries in the rows and columns are as shown.

			Total
			12
			7
	*		13
Total	4	16	12

What number goes in the starred square?

Last Week's Solution: Monday

Join the Google Classroom code **h2fcjll** to submit your answer

Literacy Challenge

This term we are focusing on prefixes that mean not, no or opposite. NON- is a very common prefix that gives this meaning.

Affix the prefix “non-” to the words in the first table and then match them to the relevant definition in the second table.

- Stop
- Fiction
- Restrictive
- Smoker
- Sense
- Threatening

- Prose writing which is informative or factual rather than imaginative
- Unlikely to cause fear or worry
- A person who does not use tobacco
- Continuing without pause
- Not involving limitations
- Spoken or written words that have no meaning

Good to know: An affix is morpheme that is attached to a word stem to change the meaning of the word e.g. the affix un + happy = not happy.

Literacy SUPER Challenge

Give definitions for the words in their original form which demonstrates how the affixation of “non-” creates the opposite meaning.

Stop

Sense

Smoker

Restrictive

Fiction

Threatening

Year 11 Mock Timetable - November 2023

If you do not have an exam you will be in your normal lessons.

P1 + P2			P3 + P4		Reg + P5	
MON 13th NOV	BUSINESS (SH) 1hr 45 mins	56	MATHS Paper 1 (SH) 1hr 30mins (non-calculator)		155	Normal lessons
TUES 14th NOV	ENGLISH LANG Paper 2 (SH) 1hr 55mins	155	FRENCH WRITING (SH) H 1hr 20mins F 1hr 10mins GERMAN WRITING (SH) H 1hr 20mins F 1hr 10mins		23 18	Normal lessons
WED 15th NOV	COMBINED SCIENCE Physics (SH) 1hr 15mins TRIPLE SCIENCE Physics (SH) 1hr 45mins	133 22	MATHS Paper 2 (SH) 1hr 30mins (calculator)		155	Normal lessons
THURS 16th NOV	COMBINED SCIENCE Biology (SH) 1hr 15mins TRIPLE SCIENCE Biology (SH) 1hr 45mins	133 22	GEOGRAPHY (SH) 1hr 30mins		41	Normal lessons
FRI 17th NOV	MATHS Paper 3 (SH) 1hr 30mins (calculator)	155	HISTORY (SH) 1hr 45mins		49	Normal lessons
MON 20th NOV	ART (CA4) 2hrs (JC +SAN) DANCE (HALL) 2hrs (CP) DRAMA (STUDIO) 2hrs (JED) GRAPHICS (CA6) 2hrs (LH)	26 16 26 15	ART (CA4) 2hrs (JC +SAN) DANCE (HALL) 2hrs (CP) DRAMA (STUDIO) 2hrs (JED) GRAPHICS (CA6) 2hrs (LH)	26 16 26 15	26 16 26 15	ART (CA4) 1hr (JC +SAN) DANCE (HALL) 1hr (CP) DRAMA (STUDIO) 1hr (JED) GRAPHICS (CA6) 1hr (LH)
TUES 21st NOV	ENGLISH LIT Paper 2 (SH) 2hrs 15mins	155	FRENCH READING (SH) H 1hr F 45mins GERMAN READING (SH) H 1hr F 45mins	23 18		Normal lessons
WED 22nd NOV	COMBINED SCIENCE Chemistry (SH) 1hr 15mins TRIPLE SCIENCE Chemistry (SH) 1hr 45mins	133 22	SOCIOLOGY (SH) 1hr 45mins	74		Normal lessons
THURS 23rd NOV	DRAMA 11C (STUDIO) 2hrs (AG) PHOTOGRAPHY 11D (CA6) 2hrs (PS)	26 17	DRAMA 11C (STUDIO) 2hrs (AG) PHOTOGRAPHY 11D (CA6) 2hrs (PS)	26 17	26 17	DRAMA 11C (STUDIO) 1hr (AG) PHOTOGRAPHY 11D (CA6) 1hr (PS)
FRI 24th NOV	PHOTOGRAPHY 11B (CA6) 2hrs (LH) +MJ	27	PHOTOGRAPHY 11B (CA6) 2hrs (LH) +MJ	27	27	PHOTOGRAPHY 11B (CA6) 1hr (LH) +MJ

Students taking maths, science, business and geography exams will need a calculator

January TENC BTEC Exam Timetable

Date	Subject	Unit	Groups	Length	Venue	Start Time
Tuesday 9th January	Yr 13 Applied Science Chemistry	Unit 1C	resits	40 mins	Homeschool	9.00 am
Tuesday 9th January	Yr 13 Applied Science Physics	Unit 1P	resits	40 mins	Homeschool	1.30 pm
Wednesday 10th January	Yr 13 PA	Unit 1	all	3 hours	Homeschool	9.00 am
Wednesday 10th January	Yr 13 Health & Social Care	Unit 4	dbl/trp	3 hours	Homeschool	9.00 am
Wednesday 10th January	Yr 13 Sport	Unit 2	all	2.5 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Wednesday 10th January	Yr 13 Applied Science Biology	Unit 1B	resits	40 mins	Homeschool	1.30 pm
Wednesday 10th January	Yr 13 Business	Unit 2A	all	2 hours	Ferrers	1.30 pm
Thursday 11th January	Yr 13 Business	Unit 2B	all	3 hours	Ferrers	9.00 am
Thursday 11th January	Yr 12 CPLD	Unit 1	all	1.75 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Friday 12th January	Yr 12 Sport	Unit 1	all	1.5 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Friday 12th January	Yr 13 ICT	Unit 1	resits	2hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Friday 12th January	Yr 12 Health & Social Care	Unit 1	all	1.5 hrs	Homeschool	1.30 pm
Monday 15th January	Yr 13 Health & Social Care	Unit 2	all	1.5 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Monday 15th January	Yr 13 Business	Unit 3	resits	2hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Monday 15th January	Yr 12 & 13 Sport	Unit 22	dbl/trp	3 hours	Homeschool	9.00 am
Tuesday 16th January	Year 13 ICT	Unit 2	all	3 hours	Ferrers	1.30 pm
Tuesday 16th January	Year 12 ICT	Unit 2	all	3 hours	Huxlow	1.30 pm
Thursday 18th January	Yr 13 Sport	Unit 19	trp	2.5 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Friday 19th January	Yr 13 Applied Science	Unit 3	all	2.25 hrs	Homeschool	9.00 am
Monday 22nd January	Yr 13 Applied Science Chemistry	Unit 5C	dbl	50 mins	Homeschool	1.30 pm
Tuesday 23rd January	Yr 13 Applied Science Physics	Unit 5P	dbl	50 mins	Homeschool	9.00 am
Tuesday 23rd January	Yr 13 Applied Science Biology	Unit 5B	dbl	50 mins	Homeschool	1.30 pm

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following students for achieving star of the week.



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Stars of the Week

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How to Access Go4Schools

Go4Schools is the online system that Rushden Academy uses to track student attendance, student progress and student behaviour.

Students and parents can access this at home to keep up to date, by checking timetables and behaviour events. Student progress reports will be published through Go4Schools 3 times a year.

Please follow the instructions below to access Go4Schools.

Student access to Go4Schools

- ♦ Go to the Go4Schools student access page (on the top right of the Go4Schools home page)
- ♦ Type in your school email address in the first time user box (your computer login in followed by @Rushden-academy.net)

First-time User?

If you haven't logged on to GO 4 Students before, type your email address and click the "please send me a password" button.

Email address:

Please note, if you are having problems with your password please contact your school. For Data Protection reasons we are unable to divulge or set passwords for students ourselves.

Please send me a password

- ♦ This will send you an email link with your password
- ♦ Login with your new password

Parental access to Go4Schools

- ♦ Go to the Go4Schools parent access page
- ♦ Enter your email address (the one Rushden Academy contacts you on) in the first time user box
- ♦ This will send you an email link with your password
- ♦ Login with your new password

If you haven't received an email in 5 minutes, please double check you have your email typed in correctly and ask them to send the password again. If you have any problems accessing Go4Schools do not hesitate to contact the academy.

You also have access to the Go4Schools app that can be downloaded from the Apple Store or Google Play.

Mr P Bocking
Assistant Principal

Are you looking for a career change? Are you interested in training to teach?

Rushden Academy has a proven track record in successfully supporting trainee teachers on programmes leading to QTS. Many of our staff, past and present, have been trained at the school and an even larger number have completed main placements and second placements here before securing teaching jobs elsewhere.



As a school with a strong and successful record for training new teachers to the profession, Rushden Academy works closely with School Centered Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) providers to provide fully supported and mentored school placements on a variety of routes.

If you are interested in a new career or are looking for more information about routes into teaching, then please contact Gail Brainwood, Assistant Principal on 01933 350391 or by email: g.brainwood@Rushden-academy.net

Are You Eligible for Free School Meals?

If you are in receipt of any of the following, your child may be eligible for free school meals.

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, with no element of Working Tax Credit, and a household income below £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs)
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit - income dependant

You can check your eligibility and apply for free school meals through Northampton County Council by clicking [here](#).

