



Whitley News



13th September 2024

THE WHITLEY



Class	Percentage
Reception	95%
Year 1	95.5%
Year 2	95%
Year 3	93.5%
Year 4	95.7%
Year 5	92%
Year 6	91.7%
Overall	93.6%

This week has been another successful week at The Whitley. The children are all settling into routines and time tabled lessons. We are seeing so much of our core value 'resilience' taking place among the children and they are trying everything even if it is slightly difficult.

Well done to all the children and staff who ran the Mini, Junior and Great North Run at the weekend, we are so proud of you and the resilience you have shown.

We were fortunate enough to have M&M Productions in performing, 'The Secret Garden' this week. It was an absolute hit with the children and such a wonderful opportunity to introduce theatre to them.

Have a lovely weekend!
The Whitley Staff



The ASDA cash pot for schools has had so many new members and our total is currently £185. It is not too late to sign up and support the school. <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>

Thank you so much to Doris and Mike from Bedlington Christian Fellowship Church for a wonderful donation of £200 to Whitley Memorial. We are truly thankful for this!



Macmillan Coffee Morning is being held in school on Friday 27th September. Cake donations (with an ingredients list and NO NUTS) are very welcome! The children will be coming in to sing during this event.



Come and join Messy Church – Heritage Week at St Cuthbert's Church.

Sunday 15th September

3pm – 4:30pm

Children must be accompanied by an adult.





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UPCOMING EVENTS

Please remember all dates are subject to change and events may be added as the term goes on.

Date	Event
16/09/24	Meet the Team Y2-6 9:00 – 9:30
22/09/24 – 25/09/24	Ford Castle Year 6
25/9/24	Reception Phonics Workshop 2:30pm and 5:30pm
27/09/24	Macmillan Coffee Morning Parents School Hall 9am
30/09/24	Road Safety Worship Y1-Y6
02/10/24	School Photo Day
03/10/24	Pizza/Sausage and Chip Special Lunch Day!
7/10/24 and 9/10/24	Parents' Evening
10/10/24	Wear Yellow for Mental Health Day
25/10/24	Harvest Festival Parents and EYFS – Y6

PE Days

Reception – Wednesday

Year 1 and 2 – Monday

Year 3 and 4 – Thursday

Year 5 and 6 – Tuesday

Morpeth Swimming – Friday





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Class MPs



Well done to our newly appointed Class Members of Parliament!

We are so excited to witness the difference they will make this year!

Shine

This week's SHINE AWARD Stars!



Whitley Memorial's Worship Leaders.
These children will lead KS1 and KS2 worship every week!





Online Safety

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO MANAGE CONFLICT EFFECTIVELY

Disagreement is a natural part of human interaction. This can seem particularly true when dealing with the sensitive issues that arise for secondary-aged pupils. This guide brings you 10 top tips which can help prevent conflicts arising or mitigate their impacts when they do.

1 INSPIRE RESPONSIBILITY

The best approaches to conflict resolution are restorative. This means that rather than adults imposing their own solutions on children who have had a disagreement, they should work with them. Allowing them to handle it can feel empowering to young people and will hopefully teach them to manage their own disputes as they move towards adult life.

2 ACTIVELY LISTEN

Remember to give every child the opportunity to voice their opinion, regardless of their age, stage of development, special educational needs, or other individual requirements. This can be done using a variety of different communication methods. For example, some children find it easier to express how they're feeling using pictures and drawings, while some prefer to write their ideas down.

3 BE CURIOUS

Demonstrating how to approach conflicts with a mature and empathetic mindset can set a good example to children, which can prove a useful skill for them later in life. Model this by asking inquisitive-yet-respectful questions about the issue at hand. Really try to understand where all parties are coming from, and share information between them when and where appropriate. This should encourage young people to mirror your behaviour, teaching them to be curious about the other sides of a conflict, and thus being more willing to hear them out.

4 PROMOTE DIFFERENCES

Children and young people may come from a range of different backgrounds and cultures or have protected characteristics which may cause them to see things from various angles. Having a school and community culture which celebrates and embraces diversity in all things - including diversity of opinion - means people are more likely to feel heard and understood.

5 BE SUPPORTIVE

Discussions may be sensitive or, in some cases, even trigger negative emotions. Pupils may have mixed feelings about the issue at hand. They could be nervous or anxious before even coming to the table to talk about it. Try and create a space where all parties feel safe, welcome and comfortable. Allow breaks and time-outs if the conversation gets heated, to prevent anyone from saying something they might later regret.

6 MENTALLY PREPARE

Think of how you can approach the conflict in a calm and regulated manner. Consider taking some extra time to prepare beforehand and finding somewhere quiet to relax. Even if you're not directly involved with the conflict, mediating can be a stressful experience in its own right. Make sure you're hydrated, fed and comfortable, and do the same for the young people involved. These may seem like insignificant factors, but it's important to remember that physical discomfort can trigger dysregulation, which can make it much harder to have a calm, productive conversation.

7 GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT

Make sure you have all the facts, figures and timelines of the situation prior to the discussion. This should be done as objectively as possible with the aim of resolving the ongoing issue. You may want to risk assess any problems that may arise and look for possible solutions during your preparation time.

8 STICK TO THE POINT

Make the reason for, and purpose of, any meetings or communications clear prior to setting them up. Provide an agenda. Act as a neutral chairperson who can keep all parties on track. Make sure everyone has a chance to air their concerns about the issue being discussed and try to avoid talking about unrelated incidents. Close off with some action points, detailing what everyone can do to resolve the conflict.

9 BE SOLUTION FOCUSED

It's often said that the art of diplomacy is about giving others ladders to climb down. This means the main aim of any meeting or correspondence should be finding mutually acceptable and amicable solutions. Parents, carers, teachers and pupils should be aware there may need to be a compromise for the common good - and, most importantly, the good of the children you're supporting.

10 DON'T IGNORE OR AVOID CONFLICT

No one benefits from allowing concerns and grievances to fester, as this can lead to further division and mistrust, and ultimately doesn't help the children involved. Use our tips to open meaningful lines of communication. These should help you find a suitable resolution and minimise the number of conflicts you're faced with mediating overall.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and advisory teacher. She founded her company, Neuroteachers, to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She works with nurseries, schools, colleges and businesses providing consultancy, training and mentoring to create belonging and understanding for people with the full range of neurotypes.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-manage-conflict-effectively>