

Extra-curricular guidance

Hexham Middle School offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities for the children. The philosophy of the extra-curricular provision relates to the three key ethos values of **Respect, Engage and Aspire.**

We intend to:

- increase a pupil's range of experiences
- develop a pupil's full potential in all areas of their personal development
- enable pupils to have fun
- increase social awareness, social skills, group responsibility and empathy
- foster individual talents and interests.

The benefits of extracurricular activities

As a school, we realise the many benefits of providing extracurricular activities:

- Children from different age groups share ideas, skills and experiences. They meet other children who are not necessarily in their peer group, and so widen their social horizons. Children build relationships with staff (teaching and nonteaching), whom they may not normally meet during the school day.
- Adults (teaching and non-teaching) have an opportunity to meet, and work with, children from several age groups.
- Staff and children can expand their interests, expertise and experiences by sharing these with others. At the same time, other members of the school community discover new interests and try out unfamiliar skills and experiences.
- There are opportunities for all members of the school community to be together. Some clubs involve children, teaching and non-teaching staff, parents, and other adult helpers and children.
- Children are offered a wider, richer range of experiences than is possible in the normal school day. School provides a range of activities that vary across the year. As far as is practicable, clubs cater for a broad age range. Clubs might change from term to term and year to year, depending on availability of adults, expertise and commitments. Once the programme is finalised, a letter is sent home with the children outlining the clubs that are available.

Behaviour

During all extra-curricular and other out-of-hours activities, pupils are expected to follow the school's behaviour policy: behaving well at all times. Pupils are able to receive P points on Class Charts

Hexham Middle School

Whetstone Bridge Road, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 3JB

T: 01434 610300 E: admin@hexhammiddle.org.uk

www.hexhammiddleschool.co.uk

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Head of School: **Liam Watters**

supporting the school's positive approach to behaviour. 5 points can also be issued for pupils that do not adhere to the school behaviour code.

Out-of-hours extra-curricular clubs

For out-of-hours extracurricular clubs, parents return an online form to school that states their child's intention to attend a club. Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis, and may be limited depending on venue capacity. Additional names will be placed on a waiting list and parents will be informed in writing if their child has been secured a place.

Families may be asked to contribute to the cost of an extra-curricular activity, to cover the costs of coaches, resources and travel etc. This information will be made explicit on club information.

Attendance

Parents are asked to collect their children on time. All pupils must be collected at the entrance of Fellside Building, Hexham Middle School. Staff members supervising clubs will dismiss pupils in accordance with information outlined on completed and returned consent forms. Staff will have correct information to ensure effective safeguarding arrangements.

Parents can specify for their child to be dismissed from the school site to travel home by foot or public transport.

Staff Absence

If a member of staff is absent and there is no available cover, the school will attempt to make contact with the named parent on the extra-curricular consent form to notify the cancellation of an out-of-hours club. Parents/carers should provide accurate emergency contact details.

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