

September 2025

Dear Year 6 Parent / Carer,

Choosing a high school is a big decision for both parents and children. At George Stephenson High School, we believe we offer the best education possible for all of our young people, as well as a warm and friendly atmosphere. We work very closely with all of our local Primary Schools to ensure the transition to George Stephenson High School is as smooth as possible and there will be several opportunities for your child to visit the school during the course of Year 6.

We are also delighted to share some recent successes with you. The school has just received an excellent Ofsted report, which praised the high quality of teaching, the strong relationships between staff and students, and the ambitious culture across the school. In addition, this summer our students achieved their best ever set of exam results. These outcomes are a testament to the hard work of our students, the commitment of our staff, and the support of our families, and we are very proud of these achievements.

Please find a link to our <u>prospectus</u> for 2025-2026 and our <u>vision document</u>. Further information can be found on the home page of our website <u>www.gshs.org.uk</u> I hope this gives you a taste of what the school can offer as you consider your choice of secondary school for your child. More detailed information and guidance will be included in a booklet for parents of incoming students in the summer term. I hope you will take the opportunity to decide to join our school as it continues to go from strength to strength.

Open Evening

I would like to invite you and your child to our Open Evening on **Thursday 25th September**. The evening will run from **5.00 p.m. until 7.00 p.m**. The Headteacher's presentation will be given in the main hall at 5pm and again at 5.40pm. You will be able to visit classrooms in each department and talk to teachers about how their subject is delivered at high school. Members of our guidance team will also be on hand to answer any questions you may have.

If you are unable to attend this event but would still like to find out more about what our school has to offer, please contact us on enquiries@gshs.org.uk.

We will also be running Open Mornings for parents to have a tour of the school and meet some of the students (each tour will begin at 9.00am and will last approximately 90 minutes). The dates for these mornings are:

- Monday 29th September 9.00am
- Wednesday 1st October 9.00am
- Friday 10th October 9.00am

If you wish to attend one of the Open Mornings, please book a place here.

It is important that you read the 'Essential Guide to North Tyneside Schools' booklet before completing your application form. The easiest way to apply is online at https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/129/school-admissions. Alternatively, you may complete a paper application. **Either way, you must apply by Friday 31 October 2025**. If you have any queries please contact the Access Team on (0191) 643 8724.

George Stephenson High School is a Trust School and as such we are our own admission authority with our own admissions policy. However, like all other Trust schools in North Tyneside, we have formally adopted the North Tyneside Admissions Policy and the coordinated Admissions Scheme. We all operate an equal preference system. This means that an individual school will consider first, second and third preferences equally and apply their admission criteria to everyone who applied on time. If your child can be offered a place at more than one school a place will be allocated at the highest ranked school. Therefore, if your first choice of school is here, you should of course put us down first to ensure that this is place you are offered. If you live in your Primary School catchment area you also live in the George Stephenson High School catchment area. For further details and a catchment area map, please visit https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/129/school-admissions.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Yours sincerely

PETER DOUTHWAITE

Headteacher

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Deputy Headteacher: Kathryn Williams BA (Hons)
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