

NASUWT North Tyneside

Newsletter JUNE 2020

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Want to write for our newsletter or suggest an article? Get in touch.



**You think it's bad now?
In 20 years our country
will be run by people
home schooled by day
drinkers....**

Unprecedented

ʌn'presɪdɪntɪd *adjective* **never done or known before.**

Aren't you sick of this word? People are trying to use other adjectives to describe this particular time in our lives but I suppose it is the best one that fits.

'Bubble' is another word that is doing my head in but then with the amount of risk assessments I have read it is not surprising. The vocabulary of the day is changing and evolving and so is our profession. We have stepped up to the mark and shown we are flexible, ever adapting and ever learning (I have certainly been learning new skills every day). I am proud to be part of this profession which educates the next generation in whatever way we can. I am proud to be part of this union which has been fighting hard for all of its members, standing up for their rights, safety and wellbeing in this unprecedented time.

Risk Assessments

The proof is in the pudding as the saying goes. So the proof of a risk assessment is in its application. It is all well and good to write the perfect risk assessment but if the school does not action it correctly and to the letter then everyone's health is being put at risk.

The officer team at North Tyneside NASUWT have been working hard to make sure each school has provided a risk assessment for the wider reopening to reception, yr1, yr6, yr10 and yr12 as well as the continued provision for Key worker and vulnerable students. Schools across the borough are taking different approaches to the wider reopening and we, as a union, are trying to keep track of each of the 78 schools. As staff members and union members we would like you to raise any issues or concerns with us about your own risk assessment and how it is being implemented as you know your school best.



@NorthTynesideNASUWT



Nasuwt North Tyneside



<http://northtyneside.nasuwt-ne.org.uk/>

Keep in touch! The best way to stay connected with all the latest news is via social media and the website.

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**KEEP
CALM
AND
STAY IN
TOUCH**

Your queries and questions

Workload: In the recent survey, 62% said they were expected to both deliver lessons/sessions to pupils face to face and via distance learning. Workload continues to be an issue, in and out of lockdown. The risk assessment should make provision for when you are asked to be in school and what happens with home learning.

PPA: You should still be getting your statutory PPA time

Breaks: Some teachers are not getting breaks as they are required to stay in their bubbles. You are still entitled to breaks and these should be written into the school day.

Childcare: This should be assessed for each teacher that may be having difficulties.

Cleaning: teachers are not cleaners and should not be asked to clean.

Equipment: PE/music/technology – these subjects and others will have issues with sharing and cleaning of equipment. This will have to be assessed carefully and all tasks written in the risk assessment.

Summer holidays: Schools didn't close, you are contracted for 195 days, you don't work over the summer.

Teachers are not cleaners!

In a recent survey by the NASUWT, 74% of teachers were expected to clean down their rooms and equipment on a regular basis. This should not be the case.

Cleaning should be done by the trained professional cleaning staff.

Contact us if you feel your school is not completing appropriate cleaning or it is not clear in the risk assessment who is responsible.

What is happening in September?

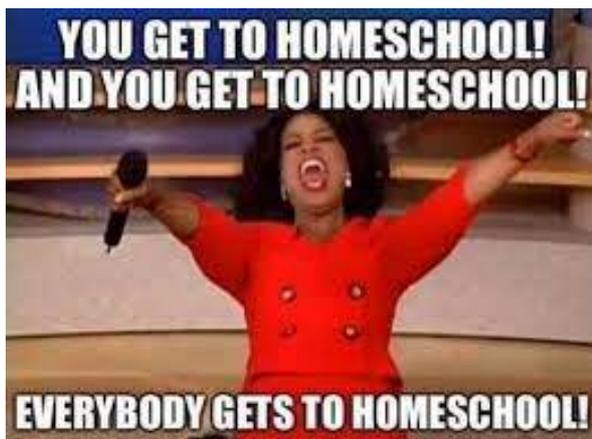
Who knows yet? Is the basic answer.

The local authority with head teachers are starting to model what September may look like. The NASUWT will be involved with this process.

If you have any views, ideas or concerns about this please don't hesitate to contact us.

Would you like to be a work place contact, Rep or Health and Safety Rep?

We need to have contact in as many schools as possible and would like to have at least one named person in each school so that we are able to distribute information as efficiently as possible. It is really important that all members are clear on their rights during this time and know who to contact. We would not ask anything of you at this time as a volunteer except to be a conduit for information.

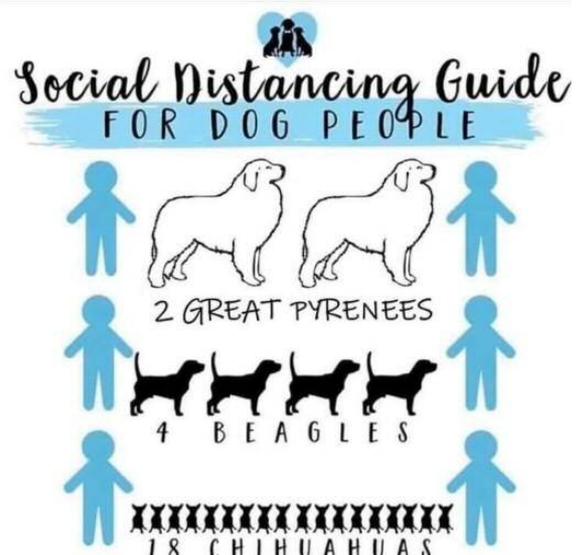


NASUWT help and advice

The NASUWT has a plethora of information on the queries and questions that have been sent in by teachers. There is the FAQ section on COVID-19 which covers topics such as the wider reopening of schools; checklists for teachers and risk assessments; supply teachers; BAME teachers; pregnant teachers; childcare etc.

If you have a particular question the best place to start is the [website FAQs](#) but your North Tyneside officers are always there to help.

See the contact list on the front page.



Secret Teacher of North Tyneside

2020

I thought 2016 was sh**. A lot of great people died that year, David Bowie, Prince, George Michael, Terry Wogan, Mohammed Ali, Alan Rickman, Carrie Fisher to name but a few. People I had grown up with and shaped my life, my thoughts, my music tastes. 2020 has put a whole new spin on what life can look like. Living through a pandemic is changing the face of our society, changing how we think about work, education, travel, socialising and has highlighted the inequalities of our society and the inequities of our economy. We have been shown who actually keeps the country running as opposed to those who believe they run the country.

There are so many swear words I could use about the leaders of not only our country but so many others on the inadequacies of their ability to govern; their complete failure in providing positive direction in a time when the public is in desperate need of a well thought out strategy; and their negative and frankly stupid rhetoric. Although swearing makes me feel better and is a sign of intelligence according to experts, I am not going to do it here. I am sure that you may be able to read between the lines to determine what words I might insert before some leaders names and their decision making processes.

Our leader, he of the blond mop, has consistently failed to give positive direction (or any direction) to our profession. He has praised teachers (and other key workers) whilst at the same time undermined them, not consulted them and confused them. I would not want to be a senior leader in a school in this present sh**show (sorry it just came out). To have to work under the conditions of the confusing messages that are being sent from on high, and manage a stressed and anxious team of teachers knowing that no one in the profession has been truly consulted would make me want to throw my hands up and quit. I know that teachers, from top to bottom, and all staff in school are suffering with an immense amount of anxiety.

Not only are we dealing with a public health crisis, but, prompted by the death of George Floyd in America, we are facing up to the racial inequalities and the not so pleasant history of our country. There is so much more to write here but I couldn't give it the attention that it needs in this short piece.

As a school we are all in this together. We do need to work with each other. It is what we do anyway. Teachers are a team to be reckoned with. We educate. We also advise, counsel, (list continues on the picture below I got from Pinterest). We will have to do more of all of that with our students as and when they return to our schools. However we also need to be kept safe and our wellbeing to be looked after.

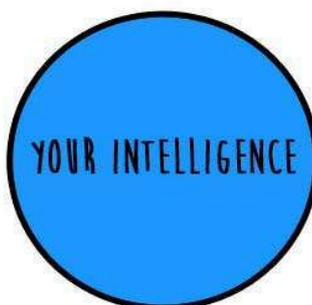
This is a time for us to rethink, re-examine and review. We need strong direction and a new direction. We have an opportunity to reassess what a school is and what we should be getting out of our education. I do hope we don't squander this time and work together to produce something good out of all this.

WHAT DO TEACHERS DO?

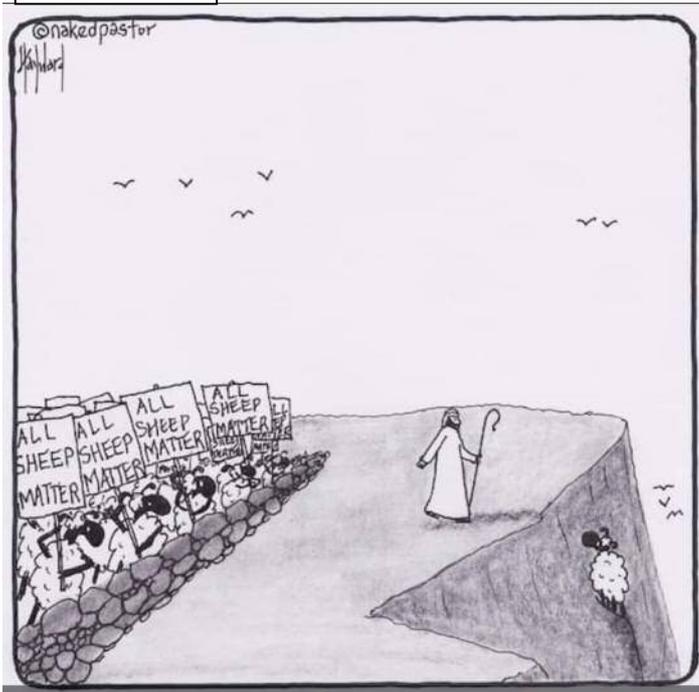


Inspire, persist,
celebrate, love, plan,
organise, heal, listen,
lead, model,
differentiate, forgive,
program, question,
professional development,
meet, learn, write, read,
care, cry, laugh... teach

THINGS THAT HAVE ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH EACH OTHER



RE



HISTORY



FOOD TECH



ICT

Zoom meeting,
audio only

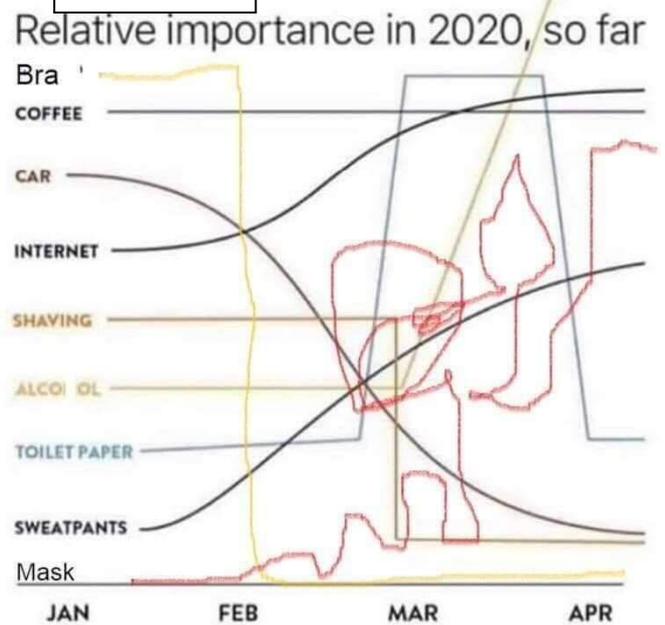
Zoom meeting
with video



ART



MATHS



The most accurate
graph I've seen so far
during this pandemic



MUSIC

