



Dear Parent/Carer

This is a really exciting letter to write, because it's about all of the enrichment activities that we've got lined up for students this term.

### Quick read

- On **20th September**, the NHS's [Melissa Bus](#) will be coming into school to offer careers guidance to students considering a career in the NHS.
- On **4th October**, [BBC Bitesize](#) will deliver whole year-group sessions to students in Y7, 9, 10 and 11 in which real TV presenters will quiz local employers in a panel-style interview.
- On **10th October**, [Gangline](#) will deliver whole year group assemblies to students in Y8-11.
- On **16th October**, Y8 students will learn CPR as part of national [Restart a Heart Day](#).

### Longer read

We're sure that - like us - some of your most memorable experiences from school came from *beyond* the classroom, and that these occasions might well have helped to shape your future. Here at Stokesley we passionately believe that the opportunities that students get outside of the classroom are just as important as those that they get inside the classroom, and have worked hard to line up some great enrichment opportunities for them this year.

#### Melissa Bus

We have been lucky enough to secure a visit from the NHS's MELISSA Bus (complete with inflatable brain!) on **Wednesday 20th September**. MELISSA is a double decker bus that has been designed to deliver healthcare education and training across the North East and North Cumbria. On-board MELISSA, our students will find everything from the latest simulation equipment, a clinical suite and control room, as well as comfortable seating areas and a range of educational tools. This will be available to students in Y11 and the Sixth Form and we are currently exploring options for making this available for students interested in healthcare careers in other year groups - we want our students to be aware of the huge range of healthcare jobs and opportunities that are available to them.

#### BBC Bitesize

We are also incredibly excited to be able to say that we have secured a visit from BBC Bitesize on Tour for Wednesday 4th October. All students in Y7, 9, 10 and 11 have been offered the

STOKESLEY SCHOOL, STATION ROAD, STOKESLEY,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE TS9 5AL

[www.stokesleyschool.org](http://www.stokesleyschool.org)

01642 710050





amazing opportunity to be an audience member during one of the sessions throughout the school day. The day will be led by an experienced BBC presenter who speaks to three professionals in a 'panel-style' set up. The panel members will be local professionals and bring to life the opportunities available within different industries. They will be sharing personal stories of success and failure from their experiences of making their way into the world of work. The panellists will cover a variety of topics, such as; relevant qualifications, personal anecdotes, advice on work experience and key soft skills for the workplace. There will also be an opportunity for students to ask questions during the interactive part of the event. The Bitesize Schools Tour will focus on careers in a variety of sectors and hopefully help inspire all Stokesley School students about opportunities that exist on our doorstep. The aim of the Bitesize Schools Tour is to raise awareness of career aspirations to secondary pupils across the UK and give them practical advice on how they can pursue a career in a variety of settings.

### Gangline

On **Tuesday 10th October**, students in Y8, 9, 10 and 11 will attend an hour-long session in the hall, delivered by Gangline, whose assemblies are designed to help raise awareness and build resilience against the negative influences of street gang culture, and address a number of topics poignant to today's young people. This hard-hitting presentation aims to teach young people about local gangs, the make up of a gang member, female sexual exploitation, grooming and initiation into gangs and the dangers of drugs. Some of the areas covered are:

- the dangers of street gangs and serious youth violence and how it affects young people and their families;
- grooming - the ways in which gang members can attract young people using different mediums and language and how to recognise it;
- child and female sexual exploitation – the ways in which gang related manipulation of young people both boys and girls occurs for criminal purposes. For example carrying drugs, carrying weapons etc;
- myths surrounding gangs and street culture – exploring the misconceptions about the glamour and appeal of gang life and highlighting the starkly different reality.

This won't be the first time that Gangline have visited the school and spoken to students (in fact, we're featured on their website!). We still have staff and students in our sixth form who remember these presentations as a powerful warning to students, and who are pleased that they're coming back into school this year.

Financing events such as these in school is becoming increasingly challenging and we are incredibly proud to be able to say that the visit from Gangline is being paid for by our wonderful PTFA, who work tirelessly to support the school and secure funds for events, materials and activities that benefit our students.





## Restart a Heart

On **Monday 16th October**, all students in Y8 will be learning CPR as part of World Restart a Heart Day. CPR stands for cardiopulmonary resuscitation which is used to try to revive a person after a sudden cardiac arrest. CPR is now part of the health education curriculum for secondary school pupils aged 12 and over in England. The lesson will be taught sensitively by staff and volunteers from Yorkshire Ambulance Service which has provided the life-saving training to more than 150,000 young people since it started its Restart a Heart campaign in 2014.

The lesson will include how to identify whether someone is in cardiac arrest (has collapsed and stopped breathing normally) and how to perform hands-only chest compressions to give the person their best chance of survival before the arrival of an ambulance. As 80% of out-of-hospital cardiac arrests happen in the home, you can be reassured that they will be learning skills that may one day help someone close to them.

We trust that you'll see the value and importance of these events, but understand that sometimes as a parent/carer there are questions that you want to ask. Should this be the case, please don't hesitate to contact me either by phone or email and I will be happy to speak to you about these events.

Kind regards



Mrs Lizzi Fox  
Lead Practitioner, Personal Development  
[efox@stk.aretelr.uk](mailto:efox@stk.aretelr.uk)