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| Cartoon, Welcome, Hello, Pleasure, Laugh | **Hello!** Welcome to Gateshead’s SEND Network Newsletter.  **For more information about the SEND services available to you, go to** [**www.gateshead-localoffer.org**](http://www.gateshead-localoffer.org)**, follow the Gateshead SEND Local Offer** [**Facebook page**](https://www.facebook.com/Gateshead-Local-Offer-248410268973880/) **or visit the** [**Gateshead Local Offer YouTube**](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUsO4CIKxa5QdLQVa-RnEs3W_XAmrBRtX) **channel.** |
|  | **Eslington School Council**  Students at Eslington Primary School have raised over £100 for Newcastle Dog and Cat shelter. The money was raised through various one-off fundraising efforts including cake sales and non-uniform days which were organised by the school’s Student Council.  “We wanted to help animals in need,” said Harvey, a representative of the school council. “Some people can’t afford to keep their pets and the animals need help. We’re definitely proud of ourselves.”  “The group have put in so much hard work and I’m so proud of them,” says Miss Richter, the teacher who facilitates school council meetings. “The school council is pupil-led and they’ve worked really well as a team. They’ve been amazing.”    **Eslington Primary School is a special school for children between 5-11 years of age with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs. For more information visit** [**https://eslingtonschool.uk/eslington/**](https://eslingtonschool.uk/eslington/) **or email** [**eslingtonprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk**](mailto:eslingtonprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk)  **Gateshead SEND Strategy 2023-26**  Gateshead Council and NHS North East North Cumbria Integrated Care Board have launched its SEND Strategy 2023-26.  The aim of the strategy is to improve outcomes for families and help raise the achievement of children and young people with SEND.  “We're ambitious for our young people with SEND to reach their full potential,” says Councillor Gary Haley, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People at Gateshead Council. "We want our children and young people to develop their independence and to become confident adults leading productive lives.”  **To view Gateshead’s SEND Strategy 2023-26 click** [**Gateshead SEND Strategy 2023-26**](https://gateshead-localoffer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Final-SEND-Strategy-26-April-23.pdf). **For an easy read version click** [**SEND-Strategy-Easy-Read**](https://gateshead-localoffer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/SEND-Strategy-Easy-Read.pdf). **For a symbol version click** [**SEND-Strategy-Symbol-Version**](https://gateshead-localoffer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/SEND-Strategy-Symbol-Version.pdf).  **The Little Book of Useful Stuff**  Teenage and early adult years can be a confusing time for us all. The NHS in Gateshead has published The Little Book of Useful Stuff to help young people aged 13+ to keep safe, stay healthy and make informed decisions in their lives.  The Little Book of Useful Stuff is overseen by health professionals and guided by young people in Gateshead who helped to choose the subject matter, design themes and even the title to keep it relevant to readers.  **You can pick up The Little Book of Useful Stuff from schools, GP practices and other local organisations in Gateshead – or view the contents online at**[**www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk**](http://www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk/)**. If you have any comments or would like a physical copy, please contact NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board at**[**nencicb-ng.cypfgh@nhs.net**](mailto:nencicb-ng.cypfgh@nhs.net)  **Independent Travel Training**  Hi, my name is Gemma Curran, and I am one of the Independent Travel Trainers within the Travel Care Team. Independent travel training is a very important skill for life. It has positive effects on the lives of the young people trained, as well as those around them.  Successful travel training can help families to do more things together and provide more time for separate activities. Being able to travel with less support allows young people to do more social and educational activities. this helps them maintain better relationships with their peers. Independent travel skills also help to open employment opportunities and independent living opportunities.  **If you would like more information regarding independent travel training, please don’t hesitate to contact me at** [**gemmacurran@gateshead.gov.uk**](mailto:gemmacurran@gateshead.gov.uk)  **Summer Holiday Ideas**  **Family Activities and Food**  Gateshead Council are again providing free activities for children and families during the summer holidays, thanks to the Department for Education's Holiday Activities and Food Programme. **For more information visit** [**https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/16120/Summer-holiday-activities-and-food-2020**](https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/16120/Summer-holiday-activities-and-food-2020) **or email** [**brightentheday@gateshead.gov.uk**](mailto:brightentheday@gateshead.gov.uk)  **Gateshead Family Hubs**  Gateshead's Family Hubs provide a welcoming space for families to get the help they need on a wide range of issues. The Hubs are for families with children aged 0-19 years and up to age 25 for young people with SEND. **For more details visit** [**https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/22551/Gateshead-Family-Hubs**](https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/22551/Gateshead-Family-Hubs) **or watch** [**Introducing Family Hubs - YouTube**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oTCR9eNF6gk)**. We also offer a**[**virtual Start for Life and Family Hub**](https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/22832/Your-virtual-Family-Hub)**if you are unable to attend one of our physical locations.**  **Seven Stories** – The National Centre for Children’s Books in Newcastle – is open every day except Wednesdays in term time, and seven days a week in the school holidays. It is a free entry venue and no booking is required**. To see what’s on go to** [**https://www.sevenstories.org.uk/**](https://www.sevenstories.org.uk/)  **The Gateshead SEND Local Offer website** has details of a range of SEND-specific leisure activities in Gateshead and the local area**:** [**https://gateshead-localoffer.org/family-information-service-and-directory/**](https://gateshead-localoffer.org/family-information-service-and-directory/)The[**Events section**](https://gateshead-localoffer.org/events/)also has details of a broader range of activities for children, Young People, families and professionals.  Mail, Message, Email, Send Message  **Contact us**  Special Educational Needs and Disability Team Gateshead Council [**senteam@gateshead.gov.uk**](mailto:senteam@gateshead.gov.uk)  Computer, Laptop, Notebook, Simple  **0191 4333626**  Facebook [**Follow us on Facebook**](https://www.facebook.com/Gateshead-Local-Offer-248410268973880/) |