



LIGHThouse

Enabling everyone in our communities to let their light

December 2019

NCEA Trust



Bishop's School is TOP of the class!

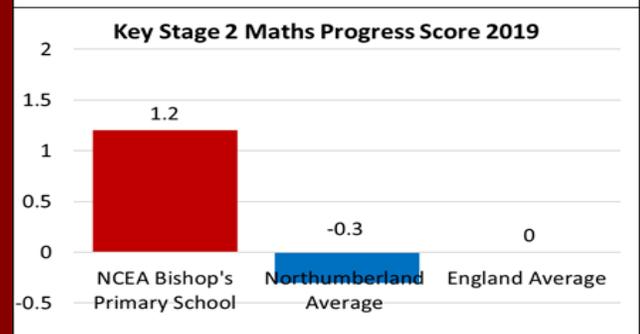
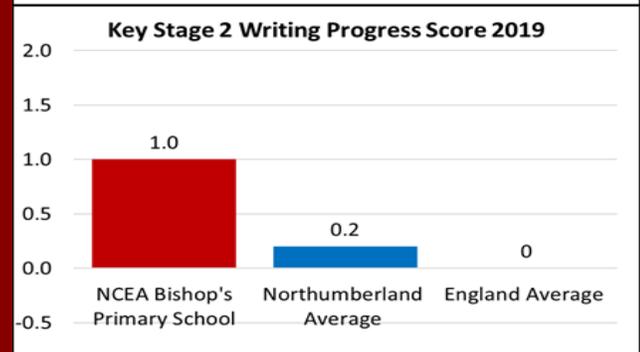
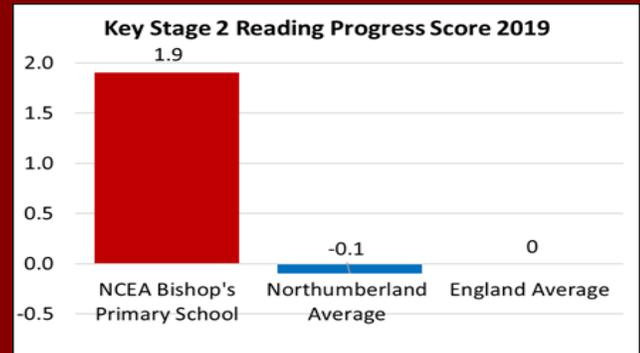
Bishop's School is top of the class again in SATs results

In the national primary school performance tables published this week, Bishop's school was once again one of the highest performing schools, not only in Northumberland but in the country.

The progress figures for Bishop's meant that the 2019 SAT results were in the top 20% nationally for Reading, Writing and Maths. A huge congratulations to the pupils and staff for achieving such excellent results!



Festive cheer for pupils of Bishop's Primary School



New funding supports significant improvements at Duke's School

The Department of Education recently awarded Duke's School almost £250,000 of extra funding to improve GCSE results over the next two years, as part of its 'One Vision programme'.

As a result, two extra teachers are already providing small group and one to one support in English and Maths.

The funding is a huge vote of confidence from the Department of Education in the improvements being made at Duke's.

Funding will help the school in developing key priorities, such as supporting students to develop techniques to recall the knowledge they need for their exams and the new Learning strategy which will be introduced in January.

NCEA saves Newbiggin nursery

Early Years provision is expanding at Bishop's Primary with the opening of Grace Darling Early Years Centre, which is located in the Newbiggin Sure Start building.

We were disappointed to hear of the closure of RASCALS Childcare in July 2019 with whom we had worked in partnership to meet the childcare needs in Newbiggin. In order to support the community, we will be offering 15 hours of funded provision for 2 year olds, as well as the 30 hour extended entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds from the Sure Start building.

Christmas Message

I have been incredibly impressed by the amazing fundraising for charities in our three schools, supported by pupils, staff and parents.

Christmas is a wonderful time of year for many, but for others it's a stark reminder of their isolation or difficult circumstances, so I am proud of how our pupils have led the way in supporting some of those in need at Christmas.

As our Chaplain Sally commented, it's heart-breaking to see how much that food banks need donations, but heart-warming to see the generosity of spirit of our community in the amount of donations. Our NCEAT pupils have 'let their lights shine' through their support for charities and have fulfilled one of our 'Light' values, showing "concern for justice and for the vulnerable, especially those in need."

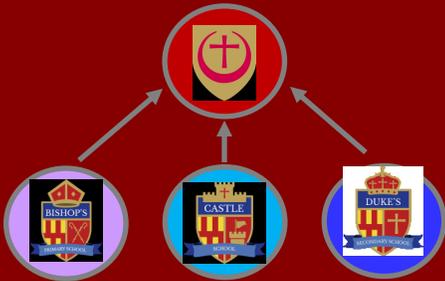
Thank you to all the pupils and staff for their hard work and to our parents and carers for your support. I wish everyone in our community a blessed and peaceful Christmas and a very happy 2020.

Alan Hardie, CEO



In September, Trustees agreed that each school should have its own local governing board

The boards will remain accountable to the Trustees



What does this mean for you?

- Governors will be able to better support your school with their local knowledge.
- Governors will be more visible.
- Each board will have a mix of representatives from parents, staff, local parish, business and people from the local community.
- Every board is individual to the needs of the school

Recruiting new governors

We've been working hard to recruit people with the right skills who will be able to take governance of the schools forward into the next decade.

If you have any comments about this newsletter, please send them to Alan Hardie, CEO, NCEA Trust, Josephine Butler Campus, Academy Road, Ashington NE63 9FZ. Alternatively, you can email ceo@ncea.org.uk.

Interested in finding out more about being a governor or trustee? please email Lesley Dalby, governor@ncea.org.uk

Celebrating our very own 'Apprentices'

Enterprise in Castle School

Our Enterprise Team in Sixth Form have had a busy time selling goods that they've made at both our Primary and Secondary Christmas Events. During the previous week, they also had a stall at an event held by Azure in Cramlington. Alyson Ramsden, HLTA, who supports the team said the students demonstrated fantastic selling skills, welcoming customers and showing them what was available.



Our Key Stage 4 students have also been very busy. Norham class had a range of Christmas goods for sale alongside the Sixth Form Enterprise Team and set up a stall within Dukes School. They sold many items including to our CEO, Alan Hardie. They are now back in school working out what their next venture will be.

