



**NORTHUMBRIA
POLICE**

NORTHUMBRIA POLICE
Boldon and East Shields Neighbourhood
Policing Team
Horsley Hill Police Office
South Tyneside
NE34 7HE

Hello to all of the Whitburn C of E Academy Community,

Firstly I would like to apologise that this introduction is not more personal but unfortunately current restrictions leave us relying on emails for now! I have had the pleasure of meeting some of you already but for those of you that I haven't I am the new neighbourhood police officer for Whitburn, Cleadon and Boldon.

These last 12 months have presented unprecedented challenges for everyone; I think that arguably young people have suffered the most from the necessary restrictions put in place to limit the spread of coronavirus. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all both personally and on behalf of Northumbria Police for the sacrifices you have made by abiding by these restrictions. I have no doubt that your efforts have contributed to saving lives in Whitburn, Cleadon and Boldon. Whilst the vast majority of our community have followed the rules we are starting to notice of late that compliance is wavering. I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the rules which I understand can be confusing (correct as of 28/01/21):

You must not leave, or be outside of your home except where necessary. You may leave the home to:

- shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person
- exercise with your household or **one other person (in which case you should stay 2m apart)**. Exercise should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.
- meet your support bubble or childcare bubble where necessary, but only if you are legally permitted to form one
- seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse)
- attend education or childcare - for those eligible

We have lived under such restrictions for over 10 months now and the expectation is that people understand these. Whilst we take no pleasure in issuing fines for these breaches it is something that we are prepared to do. When a person under the age of 18 is issued with a fine for breaching Covid legislation it falls to their parent/guardian to pay. I sincerely hope that these restrictions are lifted in the near future but for now we must continue to follow the rules.

During my short time in Whitburn, Cleadon and Boldon it has become apparent that for local residents Anti-Social behaviour is a major concern. I do sympathise with the young people in our area; I personally do not feel like there is enough for young people to do in our villages. This is something that we are working on changing however despite our sympathies anti-social behaviour is not something that we can tolerate. Whitburn Cemetery and Whitburn Library are areas of particular concern. Anybody caught acting in an anti-social manner in these areas will be dealt with appropriately.



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Finally I would just like to say how much I have enjoyed my interactions so far with Whitburn Academy. I find the whole school community very welcoming and I sincerely look forward to working with you all in the future. I particularly look forward to engaging more with young people; asking them how the police can better serve them?

In the meantime if there is anything that you wish to discuss with me, or if there is an issue you feel I can assist with please do not hesitate to contact me via email:

3651@northumbria.pnn.police.uk.

PC Tom Scott 3651
Constable Neighbourhood Policing

PC ~~Tom Scott~~

