



Whitby school
Ad finem terrae

newsletter

ISSUE 21





HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



In our fast-paced world, being on time can be the deciding factor between success and failure. Bram Stoker, who found inspiration in Whitby, encapsulates the essence of punctuality when he wrote:

"Time is everything; five minutes make the difference between victory and defeat."

At Whitby School we are committed to fostering an environment where every child can thrive and achieve their full potential. One of the fundamental aspects of this commitment is ensuring that our pupils and students understand the importance of punctuality. Punctuality is not just about being on time; it is a

reflection of our core values: ambition, character, endeavour, and courage.

Ambition drives us to set high standards and strive for excellence. When pupils and students arrive on time, they demonstrate their ambition to succeed academically and personally. Research shows that punctuality is closely linked to academic achievement. According to a recent report by Ofsted, consistent attendance and punctuality are critical factors in improving educational outcomes. Pupils and students who are punctual are more likely to engage fully in





their lessons, participate in class activities, and absorb the material being taught.

Character is built through habits and routines. Punctuality is a habit that instils discipline and responsibility. It teaches pupils and students to manage their time effectively and respect the schedules of others. By being punctual, pupils and students show respect for their peers and teachers, contributing to a positive and productive learning environment.

Endeavour is about putting in the effort and persevering through challenges. Arriving on time requires planning and effort, especially when faced with obstacles such as transportation issues or personal difficulties. Encouraging punctuality helps pupils and students develop resilience and a strong work ethic.

Courage is needed to face the day ahead, no matter what challenges may come. It takes courage to commit to being punctual, especially when it requires overcoming personal or external barriers. By prioritising punctuality, pupils and students build the courage to take ownership of their education and future.

As a North Yorkshire School, we will be following the local authority's policy on lateness. Children who are half an hour late will be marked as absent for the morning session. Additionally, if pupils are not in school by 9.25am and we have not heard from you to say your child will be absent, we will make a series of calls home to check they are okay. This is part of our commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our pupils. We are so happy when your child is here and we can welcome them with a smile at the gates.

At Whitby School, we are dedicated to supporting our pupils and students in developing these values. We believe that punctuality is a cornerstone of academic and personal success. We encourage all parents and guardians to reinforce the importance of punctuality at home and help their children establish routines that promote timely arrival at school. By valuing punctuality, we set the foundation for a brighter future for our pupils and students and our community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes, Mr Davies





IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YEAR 11

Trial Exams

We sent you the final monitoring for your child before the Easter break. This included their target grade, attitude to learning and a predicted grade. Please note that, even as May is upon us, every child has a chance to make a difference to their predictions or at least maintain them.

It is worth remembering that the English department gave their pupils the more difficult of the papers that they will have to do in the summer and some of the grades reflect this.

Real Exams

Pupils have now been given their exam timetable detailing examination times and rooms.

As the exam season is now upon us, we wanted to take an opportunity to remind you of a few things you could support us with to help your child to navigate the next few weeks.

Attendance is Important

At this stage, every lesson will be a chance to recap work with an expert, the teacher. We want all pupils in all their lessons, taking every opportunity to revise with people who know the syllabus well and respecting other pupils' right to learn too. Please encourage your child to be in for all sessions and to participate and engage in these.

Contingency Date for Examinations

Wednesday 25 June is the official contingency date for which all pupils must be available in case there has to be any rescheduling of the examinations. This is not school policy or the school's decision, and it does not mean pupils can miss an examination and take it on this date instead.

Pupils **MUST** be in their correct school uniform for all exams

At the beginning of each exam, we need to check that nobody is wearing anything that is not allowed in an exam room. If everyone is in uniform, we can do this quickly and easily. This has been explained to all pupils in assemblies. We have spare uniform for those who are not wearing the correct items. Please help us to help your child start their examinations in the best way by sending them to school correctly dressed.

Timetable from after Easter until Half Term

We will operate a normal timetable as much as possible. However, we will be putting our English and maths interventions into lessons where an examination has already taken place. This means your child will not be wasting any time during the school day and can make the most of their time in school. We will also be putting on some extra workshops during the school day before some key exams.



Timetable after Half Term and Subject Specific Workshops

Exam leave starts on Friday 13 June. Between half term and then, we will give each pupil a bespoke timetable showing them when there are subject specific revision sessions taking place and when there are general ones. If your child would be better suited to revising from home for the **general sessions** then please fill in and return the reply slip, alternatively please confirm by sending an email or message through the app.

To clarify:

- all pupils need to be in school after the half term holiday for any sessions which are subject specific. These are run by their specialist teachers who will have analysed exam papers and have a really good idea of what to revise
- a quiet, supervised space has been allocated for pupils to revise in school for any general (non-subject specific) sessions
- if you would prefer your child to work from home for the general sessions, please return the slip sent to you (we will not be providing passes for pupils who use school transport, as they can be accommodated safely in school. Should they wish to work from home for general sessions, you will need to provide your own means of transport, if you consent to them leaving the school site, and you will be responsible for these arrangements)
- if we do not get the reply slip back, we will assume that your child will be in school full time after the half term holiday
- the school office is not able to take phone calls on the day from parents, asking for pupils to be released after an exam. We will only be able to do



this with the completion, in advance, of the reply slip sent to you

- should your child have an unavoidable appointment during any of the revision sessions, please provide evidence (screen shot/text message/letter) so that we can authorise this.

Prom

Thursday 26 June is the date for the very first Whitby School Year 11 prom. Tickets will be on sale from school after the Easter holidays from the school office. The cost this year is £20. The Prom Committee, along with some key members of staff, have been working hard to raise money to reduce the cost of tickets.

Working Together for Success

Our pupils have worked for these exams for five years. They have been through home-learning which was really difficult. You have supported them through this time and helped us to support them. They deserve to do well and we will continue to do all we can to help them, including wishing them the best of luck. Please remember that it is never too late to make a difference. Our pupils have access to a wealth of revision resources via their Google Classrooms. Please let us know if access to this is a problem for you or if you have any questions.

Ms Boyd, Deputy Headteacher



SIXTH FORM SUBJECT FOCUS: SPORT

What will I study?

Are you fascinated by how the human body works? Have you ever wondered why some people can run faster, jump further or develop muscles easier than others or how the mind can influence sports performance? If you have a passion and genuine interest for sport and exercise we can set you on a path to a career in the ever expanding sport, exercise or leisure industry. Or you can study Sport as a Diploma and take 14 units in total which is the equivalent of two courses.

What do students do afterwards?

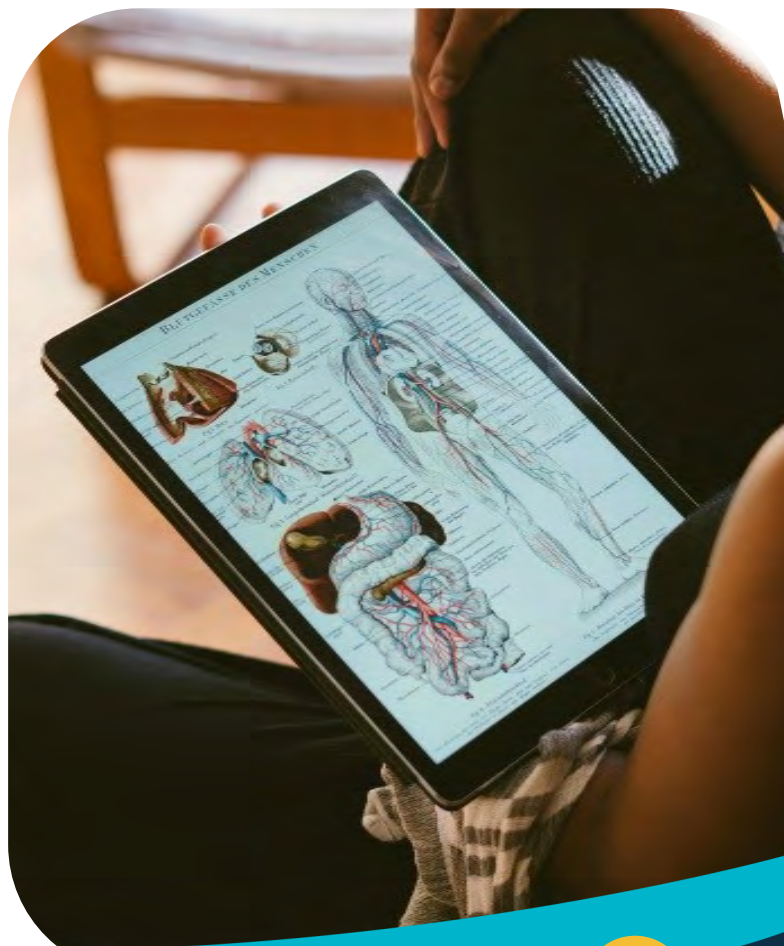
Supports progression to higher education and employment when combined with other level 3 qualifications. Students have taken the opportunity to continue their studies in sports science, PE teaching, leisure, sport psychology and physiotherapy. Students wishing to pursue a career in the Armed Services, Police, Sports Coaching or the leisure industry will find the qualification really useful.

How will I be assessed?

Nine Units to complete: six are assessed internally through assignment-based work; three are set and marked externally.

What can I do to prepare?

Take a keen interest in a range of sports and exercise matters; follow related news and apps to keep abreast of what's happening the world of sport, exercise and leisure. Play sport on a regular basis and keep fit. Try to understand why things happen eg, the purpose of tactics or the benefits/adaptations to the body from exercise.





Are You Struggling with GCSE Stress and Anxiety?

Feeling overwhelmed by the thought of exams? Butterflies in your tummy? Dread in the pit of your stomach? Suffering from headaches? Or maybe you're struggling to digest food, switch off, or sleep? All these are signs of stress in your body.

Not helpful if you are trying to concentrate and retain important information! Achieving your full potential when you are overwhelmed is tricky!

There is help available:

- a supportive group for students
- tips and techniques for managing stress
- relaxation activities and strategies

- understanding stress and anxiety, how it impacts our body and brain
- how our brain stores stress and ways to manage it
- immediate and daily stress reduction techniques
- EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) for in-the-moment calming
- the benefits of guided meditation
- meditation audios to take away for calmness
- hypnosis audios to instil confidence.

When and Where?

Thursday May, 12.40-1.30pm at Whitby School

Who Can Join? Any pupil preparing for their GCSEs who wants to go away feeling calmer about the exams ahead.

Please note there are only twelve places available!

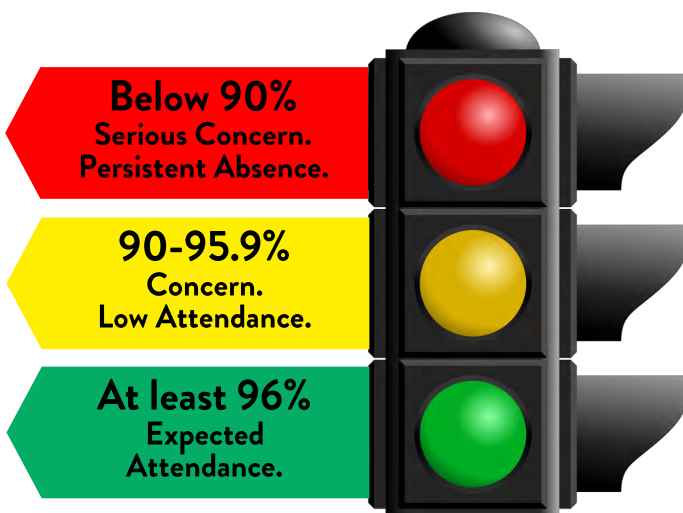
Speak to Ms Boyd if you are interested.

ATTENDANCE FOCUS EVERY DAY COUNTS!

If your child is unwell and unfit to learn, please can you ensure that the reason for absence is reported by 9.00am on each day of absence. Ideally this should be done via the My Child at School app or by calling school and choosing option 1 to leave a voicemail.

As you will be aware schools are not permitted to authorise holidays in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. If it is necessary for a holiday in term time to be taken, please complete a leave of absence request form (can be collected from reception at both sites), stating your reasons/ exceptional circumstances, so that these can be considered. Schools are not able to authorise a leave of absence retrospectively, so it is important that a request is made in advance.

Please can you notify school if your child will be late due to a medical appointment. If we do not receive notification, your child's arrival will be marked as late



Expected attendance means having no more than seven days off this school year!

in line with school's policy and may result in sanctions being issued.

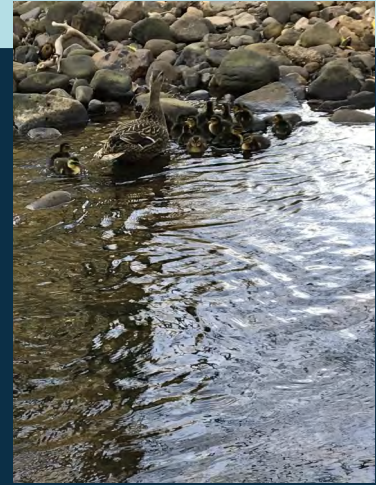
Thank you for your continued support.



NOTICES

Duck Update

Jemima's babies still hadn't appeared by the last day of term so Miss Chivers, a caretaker at Airy Hill site, sent Ms Hugill daily updates. They hatched during Thursday night and on Friday afternoon when the ducklings were dry and Jemima was looking like she was ready to move them, mum and babies were gathered up and put into a carrier and Ms Hugill and Miss Chivers took them to the stream in Sleights where mum and all 15 ducklings were safely released.



Instrumental and Singing Lessons

There are places available now that our Year 11 GCSE musicians have finished their instrumental and singing lessons for all instruments, particularly for Year 7 and 8 pupils.

We offer lessons for voice, drumkit, guitar, strings, woodwind, keyboard/piano and brass.

More information can be found [HERE](#).



YEAR 11 REVISION CLASSROOMS

	CLASS CODES	REVISION WEBSITES
ART	Y11 Art Resources and Revision 7qwexhc Resources are in this general Y11 Classroom, they will need to join. This is different to their individual Class, Classrooms.	
BTEC SPORT	755ojr6	https://theeverlearner.com/
DRAMA	3x3tthi and rlohda j - this is a general classroom but all revision will be made available on here in a specific section.	EDUQAS BITESIZE
D&T PRODUCT DESIGN	kiilgj3 - This is the revision classroom for both classes.	Revision will be on Classroom.
ENGINEERING	11D WJEC - zvri4eh 11A WJEC - zaheclo 11C OCR - yuljgv3	Revision will be on Classroom.
HOSPITALITY AND CATERING	11A/Ca1 - tcb2mfy 11C/Ca1 - 6kbcrdf	Revision will be on Classroom.
ENGLISH	zqejqr3	Loads of revision resources on Classroom.
FRENCH	11C nafebzl 11D vy3aqjf	All links are on the Google Classroom.
GEOGRAPHY	zmlwvlb - GCSE Past Papers and Mark Scheme jsekvhj - Topic Revision Resources	Geography Google Site (intranet) LINK .
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE	11A ywycbor 11C tqio4me 11D dchewny	Revision will be on Classroom.
HISTORY	There is a separate code for each class and all pupils are enrolled.	Pupils are being directed towards Seneca Learning for Home Learning Revision. We are also selling revision guides through the department.
MATHS	All pupils have been added to the Classroom already.	Loads of revision materials on the Classroom on maths is a good resource for self marking
MUSIC	All pupils are on the Google Classroom.	Eduqas Digital Educational Resources
RS	yvbygqn	
GCSE PE AQA	yezxlqz	planetpe via YouTube senecalearning.co.uk
SPORTS STUDIES	fcpdrh6	https://theeverlearner.com/
BUSINESS	hgztm5m	
SCIENCE	All pupils added to the Classroom d5j65f3	Lots of revision resources on the Classroom.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

MONDAY

- Rehearsals for all members of the chorus We Will Rock You at Prospect Hill Site (Drama Studio)
- Airy Hill Site Band, Lunchtime

TUESDAY

- Rehearsals for all members of the chorus We Will Rock You at Prospect Hill Site (Drama Studio)
- Sixth Form Maths, 3.30-4.30pm (M2)
- Gym Club, 3.30-4.30pm. All years welcome. (Prospect Hill site Fitness Suite)
- GCSE Music coursework help, 3.30-4.30pm

WEDNESDAY

- Choir, Lunchtime (Airy Hill Site)
- Rehearsals for all members of the chorus We Will Rock You at Airy Hill Site (R17)
- Year 11 Maths, 3.30-4.30pm (Higher in room H7; Foundation in room S2)
- Wednesdays and Thursdays after school (alternating days) After school Drama Club for Airy Hill Site - Main Hall; after school rehearsals for main cast WWRY

THURSDAY

- Funk Band, lunchtimes (Prospect Hill Site)
- Music Theory, before school (Prospect Hill Site)
- Gym Club, 3.30-4.30pm. All years welcome. (Prospect Hill Site Fitness Suite)
- Year 11 German Help, 3.30-4.30pm (plus other nights if needed)
- GCSE Music coursework help, 3.30-4.30pm

FRIDAY

- Year 9 Drama Club, Lunchtime (Drama Studio)
- Writers' Club, Lunchtime (H6)
- English Revision, Lunchtime (H6)



PE EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE 2024-25

LOWER	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime 12.45-1.15				Year 7 & 8 Basketball Gym	Year 7 & 8 Basketball Gym
After School 3.30-4.30	Whitby Jets Basketball	Year 7 & 8 Football Field	Year 7 & 8 Netball Courts/Gym Dance Club Gym	Year 7 and 8 Table Tennis Airy Hill Gym	

UPPER	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before 8.30-8.50			Fitness Suite		
Lunchtime 12.45-1.15	Year 9, 10, 11 Basketball Sports Hall	Year 10 Football Sports Hall Year 11 GCSE Intervention	Year 11 Football Sports Hall Yoga/ Mindfulness Dance Studio	KS4 & Sixth Form Badminton Sports Hall	BTEC Intervention H9 Year 10 GCSE PE Intervention S4
After School 3.30-4.30	Achieve Sports Club Sports Hall	Year 9 Football Field	Fitness Suite	Netball Club all years	Fitness Suite

Where fixtures are arranged, Clubs may need to be postponed. Fixtures can be found on the PE noticeboard

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO RETURN TO ROUTINE

Most of us look forward to the school holidays as an opportunity to slow down and relax, stay up later, sleep in and generally approach life in a more leisurely fashion. However, this does mean that returning to normal school-day routines can feel like an uphill battle. Here are some practical tips to ease that transition, reduce stress and set children up for success.

1 START SMALL AND EARLY

Begin reintroducing elements of the school routine a week before term starts. Gradually adjust bedtime, wake-up times and mealtimes to be more in line with school-day rhythms. Small changes can make a big difference in avoiding last-minute panic and helping children to readjust smoothly.

2 REVISIT THE SCHEDULE

Involve your child in mapping out their daily routine so they understand what's going to change. Visual tools like charts or calendars can help keeping to that schedule feel more engaging. When children understand and anticipate their personal timetable, they feel more secure and in control.

3 CREATE A SLEEP PLAN

Sleep can present one of the biggest challenges, as children can sometimes become night owls, prone to staying up late during the holidays. Limit screen time before bed and encourage winding-down activities like reading or listening to calming music. A restful night's sleep improves focus, mood and overall wellbeing, making mornings much smoother.

4 ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIPS

Help your child to reconnect with school friends by organising playdates, catch-ups or arranging to go to after-school clubs. Re-establishing social bonds can make the return to school more exciting and less intimidating, allowing youngsters to focus on the positive aspects of the new term.

5 GRANT RESPONSIBILITY

Give children control over some aspects of the morning routine. Maybe they could be in charge of waking everyone up, serving breakfast or choosing the radio station that everyone listens to while getting ready. Something that gives them a sense of ownership over their morning schedule can help them view the task as one they've chosen to do, rather than being told to do it.

6 FOCUS ON NUTRITION

Make sure children are receiving balanced meals (with regular healthy snacks to boost energy and concentration), putting them in the best possible state to return to education. A nutritious breakfast is particularly crucial for a positive start to the day. Involve children in meal planning to make it enjoyable and collaborative.

7 COMMUNICATE OPENLY

Talk with your child about how they're feeling about returning to school: whether they're excited, anxious or a mix of both. Validating their emotions helps them feel supported and understood. Try asking them about the things they're looking forward to at school, such as seeing their friends again. Focusing on the positives can be useful for children struggling with change.

8 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING

Ease children back into a learning mindset by incorporating fun, educational activities into their home life. Reading a favourite book, playing games that involve maths or discussing an interesting topic can gently reawaken their focus and prime their minds to learn, which can have helpful impacts on their academic performance.

9 PREP TOGETHER

Turn preparation into a shared activity, to shoulder the responsibility together and provide support where needed. Pack school bags, lay out uniforms and plan lunch the night before. This not only reduces early morning stress but also gives children a sense of ownership over being ready for school.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

Transitions take time, and every child adjusts differently: so, it's important to stay calm and supportive, especially if they're reacting adversely to the change in their daily life. Be ready to tweak routines as needed, and work with the child to make the return to education easier possible for them. Patience can go a long way to setting a positive tone for the new school year.

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an education expert with a focus on mental health and wellbeing. Passionate about empowering adults who spend time with and care for young people, Becky specialises in creating practical strategies that promote wellbeing and resilience in children during life's transitions.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at:

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music @wake.up.weds

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To find out more about upcoming events and visits, please view the Whitby School Calendar.

KEY DATES

Tuesday 29 April	Year 8 Parents' Evening, 4.00-6.00pm (Airy Hill site)
Wednesday 30 April	Year 10 York St John University Campus Visit
Monday 5 May	Bank Holiday
Monday 5 May	GCSE and A-level Exams begin
Wednesday 7 May	Young Carer Hub, Prospect Hill site
Wednesday 21 May	Year 9 'Making Waves' with York St John University
Half Term	26-30 May
Wednesday 4 June	Young Carer Hub, Prospect Hill site
w/c 9 June	Year 12 Trial Exams
Tuesday 10 June	Year 9-Year 13 Apprenticeship Evening for pupils and parents
Wednesday 18 June	Year 12 to Hull University experience day
Thursday 19 June	Year 12 to Leeds Beckett University UCAS Fair
Thursday 26 June	Year 11 Prom, 6.00-10.00pm (Sneaton Castle)
Wednesday 2 July	Young Carer Hub, Prospect Hill site
w/c Monday 7 July	Year 6 Transition (Airy Hill site)
8-10 July	We Will Rock You (Prospect Hill site)
Monday 21 July	Training Day
Tuesday 22 July	Training Day
Thursday 14 August	A-Level Results Day
Thursday 21 August	GCSE Results Day

Staff training days for September 2025 to August 2026 when pupils will not be in school:

1 and 2 September

5 January

20 July



MEET THE STAFF

Senior Leadership Team

Mr G Davies – Headteacher

Ms S Boyd – Deputy Headteacher

Miss J Caddell – Deputy Headteacher

Mrs J Bradley – Assistant Headteacher (Prospect Hill site)

Mrs K Mallender – Assistant Headteacher (Airy Hill site)

Mr A Whelan – Assistant Headteacher (Sixth Form)

SENDCo

Mrs H Kirk – SENDCo

Safeguarding

Miss J Caddell – Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs J Bradley – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Heads of Year

Mrs A Harrison – Year 7

Ms D Reddy – Year 7

Mr A Raw – Year 8

Mrs J Cassell-Osowski – Year 9

Mrs A Scales – Year 10

Ms A Ruberry – Year 11

Care & Achievement Coordinators

Miss A Clarkson – Year 7

Miss E Hutton – Year 8

Miss K Wilson – Year 8

Mr D Jackson – Year 9

Mrs H Ross – Year 10

Mr D Taylor – Year 11

Mr J Daley – Year 12 & 13

SAFEGUARDING



**Designated
Safeguarding Lead**
Miss J Caddell



**Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead**
Mrs J Bradley

SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Mrs K Mallender



Mr A Whelan



Mrs J Robinson



SENDCo
Mrs H Kirk



Governor
Mr M Taylor

2026 Calendar Photo Competition

"A YEAR IN NORTH YORKSHIRE"

Are you a young photographer aged 11+?

Photos need to represent York or North Yorkshire.
They can be scenery or street photography, with no identifiable faces. We want to see North Yorkshire at its best throughout the year!

Closing date 31st August 2025



For more information and to enter:
contact Stef on 07398 149496
or email stef@nyy.org.uk

T&Cs apply
Poster image is looking from Grinton towards Beeth in Swaledale



Healthier Together
Improving the health and wellbeing of babies, children and young people in Humber and North Yorkshire



**LET'S
MAKE
SENSE
together.**

Let's Make Sense Together is a free resource that anyone can use. It provides information and support to children and young people with sensory processing differences.

On the Healthier Together Webpage you can find a series of videos to help parents, carers, teachers, and others who support children with sensory processing differences. You'll also find helpful advice sheets and links to other support and information.

All information has been created by local therapists.

www.hnyhealthierttogether.nhs.uk/parentscarers/your-childs-development/lets-make-sense-together



One Call Away
01723 850155



Adult Carer Service
For Unpaid Carers aged 18+



Young Adult Carers
For Unpaid Carers aged 16-30

Young Carer Service

Parent Carer Forum

Neurodiversity Workshop

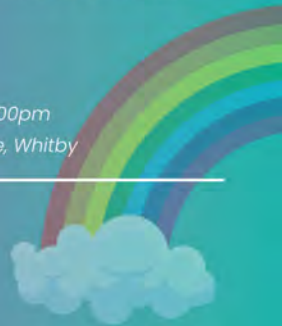
Join James Koppert and Carers Plus Yorkshire for our next Parent Carer Forum!

Challenges of Parenting a neurodivergent child.

James has a diagnosis of ADHD, is a parent of a child with neurodiverse conditions and has worked with schools and parents to develop strategies to support children and young people to develop positively around ADHD and Autism.

Tuesday 13th May at 10am - 1.00pm
Kirkham Close Community Centre, Whitby

To book your place contact:
E: kerrie@carersplus.net
T: 07710 888214



Wings
Whitby

TACKLING PERIOD POVERTY & STIGMA

- WE PROVIDE FREE ACCESS TO SAFE SANITARY PRODUCTS
- CONFIDENTIAL LOCAL SERVICE
- COMMUNITY SUPPORT
- BREAKING THE STIGMA

If you, or someone you know would benefit from free sanitary products please get in touch.

Email: admin@hopewhitby.co.uk



Whitby Youth Club



Music

Games

Food

Arts & Crafts

Support

Chill

Mondays (term time)

6.30-8.30pm

Flowergate Hall, Whitby, YO21 3BA

Open to School Year 7+

50p per session (first session free!)