



Whitby **school**
Ad finem terrae

ISSUE 2 of 4

Welcome to Whitby School

Primary School Transition Newsletter





WELCOME TO ISSUE 2

Whitby School is your new school; where pupils aim to do their very best and take pride in their achievements. By constantly challenging our pupils to excel, we will nurture aspirations and strive to cultivate a lifelong love of learning in our young people.

We will provide a creative, safe, and caring environment where every child is known and cared for as an individual. In this climate, every young person can thrive as they develop in personality, character and intellect and become a highly successful learner and individual.

We believe we can provide a unique education for our young people. As a school at the heart of the community it serves, we will work in partnership to ensure our children not only receive a broad and balanced education but also allow them to enjoy the area they live in and make a positive wider contribution to the area.



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OUR VISION AND VALUES

Our values embrace the high aspirations and opportunities we will create for our pupils and students at Whitby School as we encourage them to excel and develop both personally and academically.

“I will endeavour to be a person of great character who has the courage to realise my ambitions.”

Endeavour Striving for excellence to reach our potential.

Courage Exploring new opportunities with determination for personal growth.

Ambition A strong desire to succeed in achieving our goals.

Character Demonstrating qualities of honesty, integrity, kindness and respect in all we do.

ENDEAVOUR

Our school is a place where pupils will try their best to achieve, and we will support them in all their endeavours. We will teach and encourage our pupils and students to strive for academic excellence and success and to apply themselves with determination. We will demonstrate how focus and engagement with their learning will provide opportunities, experiences and success in their future endeavours.

COURAGE

Our vision is for our children to explore new opportunities, develop new skills and do what is right without fear. We will ensure our pupils and students are exposed to many experiences and opportunities to foster the courage and determination to succeed. We will encourage pupils to use their initiative, step outside their comfort zone, develop personal discipline and understand how to be safe and healthy as individuals and through their relationship with others whilst promoting a sense of belonging.

AMBITION

We will encourage and teach our children to pursue their personal ambitions, to strive to achieve and develop the skills and qualities required to succeed. Our school will provide opportunities to explore different learning and career pathways allowing pupils and students to be ambitious and bold with their future options.

CHARACTER

We are committed to teaching our pupils and students to think and behave with great character where they reflect the qualities that define their individuality, our school and wider community. We aim to provide a safe, creative and caring space where every pupil and student is known and cared for as an individual, where our pupils and students show kindness and behave in a fair and honest manner, act with integrity and care deeply for their peers and wider community.



2025 TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS

Enhanced Transition Days - Tuesday 10 and Wednesday 11 June

These are for pupils who have been identified by their primary schools. These are additional days to the whole school transition programme. Pupils and parents will receive a personalised invite in the post very soon, confirming the date. On the enhanced transition days Whitby School will arrange all transport to and from your son/daughter's primary school. Primary schools will be provided with a confirmation list of the pupils involved. If you believe your child requires enhanced transition but has not been identified by their primary school - please get in touch with us by email.

We're here if you need us...

We appreciate that some families may wish to speak to members of the Year 7 Team before transition, therefore we're offering an opportunity to drop in on **Wednesday 2 July, 4.00-6.00pm** so that you can have any questions or queries answered prior to your child's arrival the following week.

This is not a compulsory event, but all families are welcome to pop in and say hello if they wish to. We will have some blazers available to try on for size should you find that helpful and the kettle will be on too!

If you're unable to attend on this occasion, and still wish to speak to someone then you can call on the evening itself, or send an email.



Transition Days for all pupils - Tuesday 8, Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 July

All pupils to attend all days. Pupils arrive at Lower School site, Airy Hill for 8.55am, school day ends at 3.30pm. Pupils will be greeted by members of staff on their arrival and directed to the sports hall. Pupils will gather in their tutor groups. A programme of activities for the 3 days will be shared with your son/daughter. Pupils to wear primary school uniforms. If your son/daughter will be travelling via school transport, please ensure they are dressed visibly in their primary uniforms so they can be identified by transport companies. If travelling via train, Whitby School staff will meet pupils at the train station and direct to the mini bus which brings the children to the school site (your son/daughter is not required to walk from the station to school). Pupils who walk can arrive on the site via the footpath at the rear of the school, or via the footpath at the front entrance off the New Bridge. Any worries or queries please get in touch by email.

Best wishes,

The Year 7 Team hoy7@whitbyschool.co.uk



WHITBY SCHOOL UNIFORM



Our school uniform reflects our ethos and school values. It also reflects the pride pupils have in our school, and their own self-confidence as well as making an excellent impression upon the wider community.

Our uniform design: a blazer (with logo), jumper (with stripe) and tie (with logo) are all available from our supplier School Colours Direct. Trousers, skirts, shirts and shoes are available from all major supermarkets, high street retailers that stock uniforms and from other online uniform suppliers.

Uniform Expectations September 2025

Uniform drop in will be on Wednesday 2 July, 4.00-6.00pm with some uniform available to try on for size.

- Whitby School Blazer
- Whitby School Jumper (optional)
- Smart grey trousers or grey pleated skirts
- Smart polishable school shoes
- White collared shirts
- Whitby School tie (Pupil House specified, Houses will be allocated during Transition)
- Whitby School PE top

Whitby School Standard Uniform Expectations

All pupils in Years 7 to 11 are required to wear full school uniform every day. We expect a high standard of appearance in all our pupils at all times. All staff ensure that pupils are wearing the correct uniform at all times throughout the school day. Form tutors will check uniform each morning in registration.





Uniform Item	Whitby School Uniform Information
Blazer School Colours Direct	Black with badge and green piping on pockets
V-neck Jumper School Colours Direct	Grey with green stripe around neck (optional to wear)
School Tie School Colours Direct	Light blue/green striped with relevant house colour
Skirt Any uniform retailer	Mid grey in colour, knee length with pleats
Trousers Any uniform retailer	Mid grey trousers should be formal, classic and smart. They should be loose fitting (not skintight) and plain (without brass zips, logos, or studs on the pockets for instance). They should be waist height, so not to expose underwear. (Not leggings/jeggings/jeans/cargo/chino in style). They can be worn with a thin black belt if necessary (no fashion belts/large buckles).
Shirt Any uniform retailer	Standard white, loose-fitting shirt with stiff pointed collar (not open necked) to take tie; shirt must be long enough to be tucked in and wide enough at the neck to fasten the top button. Fashion shirts or blouses that include embroidery, logos, or slim collars that are not designed for a tie should not be worn.
Shoes	Plain (no decoration), polishable, black, low-heeled, sensible footwear with a plain black sole is appropriate for school. Plain black, low-heeled boots can be worn under trousers only. UGG-style boots are a fashion item and should not be worn.
Socks	Plain white or black
Tights	Plain (not patterned) and black in colour.





PE Kit

The PE kit has been designed by the PE department to create uniformity and a team ethic for sport within Whitby School. The colours match those of the school badge allowing for a strong team identity both within the school environment and at inter-school sporting fixtures.

Footwear & Sport Protection

- pupils are expected to change footwear for PE lessons. Trainers will be used for most PE lessons.
- studded boots are required to be worn for football and rugby
- plain black football socks (football/hockey) or plain white or black over the ankle socks
- base layers can be worn but should be plain black
- we recommend that shin pads are worn for football and hockey
- gum shields are advised for hockey and rugby
- jewellery must not be worn for PE. If ears are pierced, earrings must be removed
- hair must be tied back for PE lessons.



Polo Shirt

We would like all children to have this top.



Mid Layer Top

This is an optional outer layer to provide warmth through the seasons.



Rugby Shirt

This is highly recommended for outdoor winter sports due to its durability.

Shorts or Skort

Optional shorts or skort with the logo. Alternatively, plain black shorts (mid-thigh), skorts (mid-thigh), leggings/joggers can be worn.

Kitzbuhel Short



Soll Skort





Uniform Dress Guide Rules

Make-up and Jewellery	Discreet make-up is permitted. Excessive makeup will not be tolerated. No jewellery should be worn. This includes rings, nose studs and wrist bands etc. If ears have been pierced, plain studs (3mm diameter – only one per ear) may be worn and removed for PE (only one pair of studs may be worn at any time). Ears should only be pierced in the ear lobe. No other body piercing is allowed. False nails must not be worn.
Hair	Pupils' hair styles must be reasonable – we do not allow more extreme hair styles eg, bright/ multi-colours or Mohican cuts. Head scarves are not to be worn, except for religious reasons, and hair bands can only be worn if thin and black. Pupils considering a radical change of hairstyle should check with their Care and Achievement Coordinator in advance to ensure that it is within School guidelines.
Outer Clothing	We recommend a simple and inexpensive waterproof coat that completely covers the school blazer. Although hats and scarves are not part of the school uniform, they may be worn in very cold weather, but they must be removed inside school buildings. Denim jackets, hoodies and heavily branded jackets or coats with large slogans must not be worn.
Footwear	Pupils must wear plain, black, polishable footwear at all times during the school day, except for when they are having PE lessons or taking part in extracurricular sport activities. Shoes should be waterproof and should be polished regularly. During very cold or wet weather, pupils may wear waterproof boots to school, but these must be changed for school shoes as soon as they arrive in school.
PE Kit Footwear	Non marking sporting trainers with laces, which are designed to support pupils' feet during physical activity. Pupils are not permitted to wear school shoes, plimsolls, Converse, Vans or High Tops. Pupils are expected to change for every PE lesson.

Sensory Friendly Clothing

The following websites are companies that can provide school uniform that is suitable for pupils with sensory sensitivities with clothing:

- [Spector Sensory Clothing](#)
- [Sensory Smart](#)
- [Fledglings](#)
- [Autism Supplies and Developments](#)

These websites have been recommended by the National Autistic Society.

Also, George at Asda also do a range of sensory kind fabrics called [Easy-on-Easy Wear](#).

If anyone has any other recommendations, please do contact the school with the details.



MEET THE TEACHER - MRS FLEMING



Hello Year 6 pupils. I am in charge of the science department and I am responsible for everything to do with science, this includes lessons, experiments and assessments. I went to university to study Chemistry, so obviously this is my favourite of the three sciences.

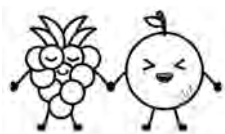
The really good thing about Year 7 science is we do a special topic at the beginning of the year which is all about working scientifically – you will learn how to use lots of different equipment, how to work safely in a lab

and will do a wide range of experiments.

After this you will then do different topics in biology, chemistry and physics.

I am preparing for your transition to secondary school so I thought it would be a good idea to set you a challenge. There are two to choose from and you will use things you have at home. **I'm looking forward to seeing you soon and hearing about what you discovered.**

Challenge 1 Down with gravity



Materials: newspaper, 2 oranges, chair, 1 grape

Steps:

1. Place newspaper on the floor
2. Place a chair on top of the newspaper
3. Carefully stand on the seat of the chair
4. Hold one orange in each hand, extend your arms.
Each orange must be at the same height
5. Let the oranges go at the same time and observe which one lands first
6. Repeat from step 3 but this time hold an orange in one hand and a grape in the other
7. Observe which one lands first

Can you link what you have found out to weight and the force of gravity?

Challenge 2 Melting polar ice caps



Materials: tray of ice cubes, large cup, water to fill cup

Steps:

1. The ice in this experiment represents the polar ice caps. Empty the tray of cubes in the cup – it should be about half full
2. Carefully fill the cup with water. Try to get the water as close to the rim of the cup as possible without overflowing it. The water represents the oceans of the world
3. Now, wait for the polar ice caps (the ice cubes) to melt.
4. Predict what you think will happen – do you think the water will rise and overflow, stay the same or decrease?

If the polar ice caps melted, would the sea level rise?



WHY I ENJOYED THE ROYAL NAVY WORKSHOP

Wes and Joey from the Royal Navy visited our school. We had an assembly to start with followed by a workshop. My class went into the sports hall seeing 6 duffle bags on the ground, but first we sat down for a quick briefing and a video of the Navy. Minutes later we were set a task to assemble a windmill with the equipment in the bag, all in the space of 20 minutes. Go time, we started strong until we realised an error, we had to start again having been set back, we kept going like nothing happened! 5 minutes left on the clock, time was very limited, we got a little help from Wes towards the very end. In the last second we finished and there was a sign of relief on our faces. We picked up our build and put it in the middle because we

were about to have a contest. Sadly we didn't win, and Liam's team won! We lined up for a little game where we got the hoop from one end to the other, and it was hard because we had to hold hands with another person. We got off to an early lead, the other team struggling to get through the hoop. We were at the other end, we came back faster than going and we won it! The other team took a while but made it in the end. Wow, what an amazing workshop, I really enjoyed everything about it and it was nice to do something different so overall a 5-star experience!

Elliot



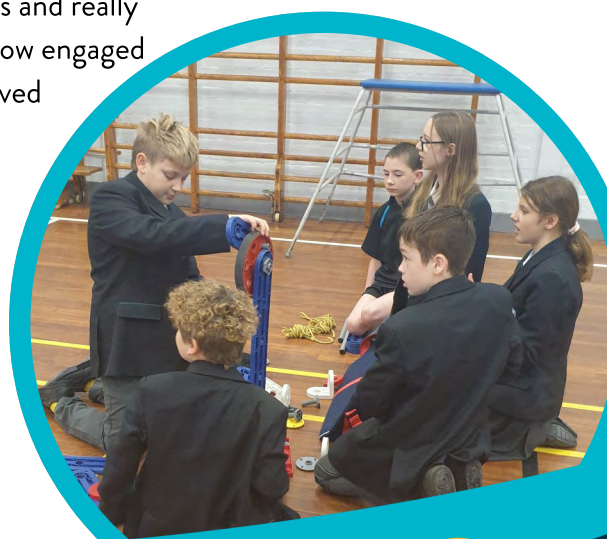


Hello, I am a pupil from Whitby School in Year 7, and my name is Harlow. My form took part in a Navy Assembly where they showed us what they do when they are on duty. My favourite part was when we had to get a hoop through a line of people.



Building the windmill helped to encourage and grow our pupils' teamwork and communication skills, as well as building resilience! Wes and Joey were impressed with our pupils and really appreciated how engaged and well behaved they were.

Gail Mackle





ADVANCED MATHEMATICS SUPPORT PROGRAMME: MATHS QUIZ

On Tuesday 10 December, Simon Riley and Emma Lees joined us on the Airy Hill site to host a maths quiz. All of the pupils in Mrs Mallender's Year 8 maths classes were involved and around 60 Year 9 pupils. They were able to use their maths knowledge and skills to solve complex problems.





OUR PASTORAL CARE SYSTEM

At Whitby School, we believe that every pupil should be known, understood, and cared for as an individual in order for them to achieve their full potential. We therefore put in place a comprehensive pastoral system to fully support your child in their school life.

Form Tutor

The Form Tutor is the member of staff who will get to know your child best throughout their school life. The Form Tutor will meet and register your child each morning and mentor your child in their school life and studies. You can contact your child's Form Tutor by email if you have any queries or concerns.

Care and Achievement Coordinator (Pastoral Manager)

Every pupil has a Care and Achievement Coordinator for their Year group, who oversees each child's academic progress, attendance, and wellbeing. Our Care and Achievement Coordinators ensure your child receives effective and appropriate support to ensure they achieve their full potential. They will be your first point of contact should you need to contact us or if you have any queries. Our Care and Achievement Coordinators are available to be contacted by telephone, email, and text message between 8.30am and 4.00pm every day and will check messages regularly. They will liaise with the Head of School, Form Tutors, teachers, and other staff to ensure they

receive the support they need to succeed. Year 7 Care and Achievement Coordinator is Miss A Clarkson, you can contact the Care and Achievement Coordinator by emailing hoy7@whitbyschool.co.uk - they aim to reply within 2 days.

Head of Lower School (Key Stage 3)

Our Head of Lower School will ensure that all pupils in Year 7 make excellent progress, and that they receive the support and encouragement they need to succeed and achieve their potential.

Attendance Officer

Our Attendance Officer works with pupils, parents, staff, and external agencies to ensure that any barriers to attendance, access or learning in school are removed. Pupils can also make appointments to talk to our Attendance Officer about any concerns they may have, and to access appropriate support.

Special Educational Needs Coordinator

Our Special Educational Needs Coordinator works with the senior staff and the pastoral team to ensure that all pupils receive the support they need to succeed. Our SENDCo also runs the LEXIA and Thinking Reading programme for pupils who require additional support with literacy, as well as working with external agencies.



OUR SEND OFFER



It is a pleasure to update you on some of the many excellent Special Educational Needs initiatives we use so that all pupils can settle in and have a productive start at Whitby School in September.

Our main purpose is:

- to identify support needs as early as possible through a system of referral and assessment
- to provide a range of sensitive and effective responses to individual needs
- to facilitate full access to a broad, balanced education taking into account the requirements of the national curriculum
- to build links with parents as partners. To encourage their participation in the decision-making process to support their child's/young person's education
- to facilitate staff development related to SEND issues
- to develop links with external agencies and educational support services
- to seek the views of the pupils/students and take them into account during the decision-making process
- to monitor the provision and the progress made.

We provide classrooms, a medical area and separate SEND room in our Upper and Lower school sites. This is perfect for pupils with SEND for their one-to-one and small group activity work as well as providing a comfortable, caring space for breaktimes. This will be ideal for those pupils who are anxious about less structured times of the school day. These spaces have been carefully considered to ensure they are at the heart of the school. This will mean that pupils have access to the support they need when they need it.

We have also have learning support in the library for pupils with social and emotional needs too.

Mrs Kirk, SENCo





TERM DATES 2025-26

Autumn Term 2025

Mon. 1 & Tues. 2 September	Training Days
Wed. 3 September	School Opens
Wed. 15 October	Training Day
Fri. 24 October	School Closes
Mon. 27-Fri. 31 October	Half Term Holiday
Mon. 3 November	School Opens
Fri. 19 December	School Closes
Mon. 22 Dec.-Fri. 2 January	Christmas Holiday

Spring Term 2026

Mon. 5 January	Training Day
Tues. 6 January	School Opens
Fri. 13 February	School Closes
Mon. 16-Fri. 20 February	Half Term Holiday
Mon. 23 February	School Opens
Fri. 27 March	School Closes
Mon. 30 March.- Fri. 10 April	Easter Holiday

Summer Term 2026

Mon. 13 April	School Opens
Mon. 4 May	Bank Holiday
Fri. 22 May	School Closes
Mon. 25-Fri. 29 May	Half Term Holiday
Mon. 1 June	School Opens
Fri. 17 July	School Closes
Mon. 20 July	Training Day