



Whitby school
Ad finem terrae

newsletter

ISSUE 35





FAREWELL AND THANK YOU

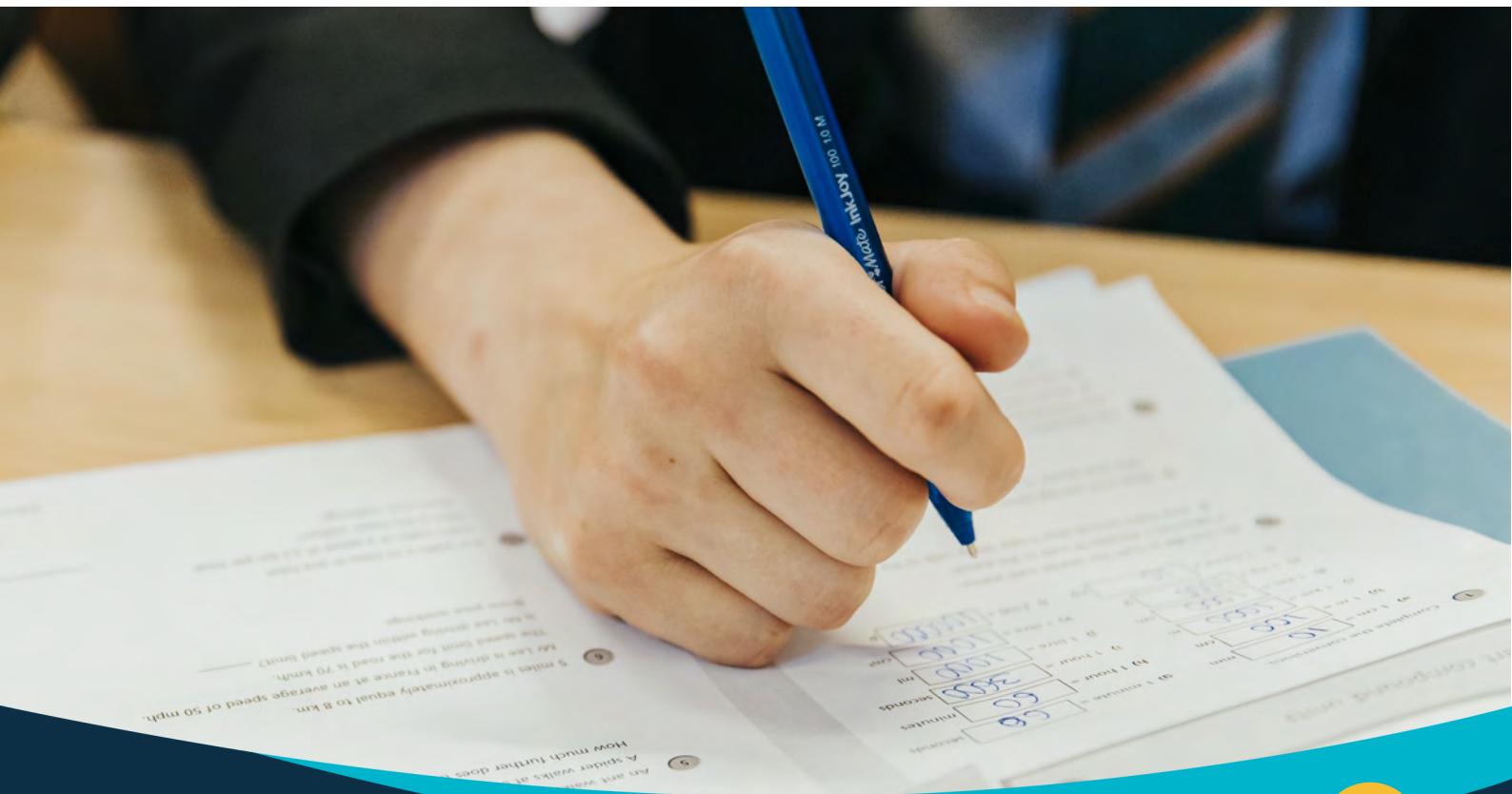
As I step down from my role as Chair of Governors at Whitby School, I do so with immense pride in what we've achieved together. It has been a privilege to work alongside dedicated colleagues, staff, and fellow governors to help shape a school that inspires ambition and nurtures growth in every child.

I would like to thank the staff, pupils, and wider Whitby community for their unwavering support of the governing body, and for the resilience shown throughout times of change. Your commitment has been vital to the school's continued progress.

Working with the governing board has been a true pleasure. Their shared passion and drive to support Whitby School will undoubtedly see the school continue to thrive.

I wish the entire Whitby School family and community every success in their future endeavours.

*With warm regards,
Brian Crosby*





HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



This week, we've continued to be impressed by the way pupils have returned to school - showing real **character, ambition, endeavour**, and **courage** in their learning and conduct. These values are at the heart of our expectations, and they're embedded in our **PACT** - the framework we use to guide behaviour across the school.

We ask pupils to reflect on their actions through **PACT**:

- have I been **patient**, not arguing back or interrupting, but listening to instructions carefully?
- have I been **ambitious** - working hard in lessons and aimed high?
- am I **consistently** on time, equipped, and in the right uniform?
- have I been kind and **thoughtful** to other members of our community?

We know that positive behaviour leads to better learning, stronger relationships, and a happier school environment. That's why we place such importance on recognising and rewarding pupils who live out our values. As Miss Caddell will share in her welcome, we are incredibly proud of the rewards given last year - from Golden Letters and celebration assemblies to end-of-year trips. These moments matter, and they reflect the hard work and commitment of our pupils.

At the same time, we know that behaviour needs clear boundaries. When pupils need a reminder of

expectations, we use in-school detentions at lunchtime. These allow pupils to reflect while still accessing a break and returning to learning. In some cases, we may issue after-school detentions. These are part of the Department for Education's guidance, which recognises that sanctions may cause inconvenience to families - but they are a necessary tool to help schools set and maintain high standards.

We apologise for any disruption this may cause and ask for your support in ensuring your child attends if a detention is issued. Our aim is always to use the lowest appropriate sanction to keep pupils in lessons and learning.

Together, through clear expectations, positive relationships, and shared values, we can ensure Whitby School remains a place where every child can thrive.

With very best wishes, Mr Davies





HEAD OF SCHOOL'S WELCOME



Celebrating Success: How We Champion Positive Praise and Reward

At Whitby school, celebrating success is more than a moment - it's a mindset. From spontaneous praise in the classroom to major termly events, we're proud to foster a culture where **effort, improvement, and values-led behaviour** are recognised and rewarded.

Every half term, we bring each year group together in our **Celebration Assemblies**, where pupils have the chance to reflect on their achievements and be publicly recognised. Heads of Year take this opportunity to celebrate the brilliant work and positive contributions of pupils across their year group.

Rewards range from **postcards, certificates, and vouchers**, to whole **tutor group prizes** - a fantastic way to honour both individual effort and collective success.

We make a point of celebrating the **highest number of rewards** earned in each of our **four core values**, as well as highlighting those who have shown the **greatest improvement** - because we know that effort and progress are worth celebrating just as much as results.

Last year, we introduced an exciting new initiative: the **'School Values Champion'** award. This special recognition is given in both Lower and Upper School, and within each subject area. Staff members nominate pupils who have truly lived out our **Core School Values**, setting an example to others through their actions, attitude, and approach to school life.

But rewards at our school aren't limited to one off events. **Every lesson offers the chance for positive praise.** Staff actively seek opportunities to award





Classchart positives, which pupils can save and **trade in for prizes**. In addition, pupils may be given **spontaneous tokens** for making great choices or producing outstanding work - tokens which give them the chance to go to reception to **'spin the wheel'** and win a prize!

We also run regular, light-hearted incentives such as **'Fun Fridays'**, and offer early break or **lunch passes** - simple but effective rewards that continue to prove very popular with pupils.

Just as important are the quieter, more personal moments of recognition: a **letter home**, a **praise postcard**, or a **positive phone call** can make all the difference in showing pupils that their effort has been noticed and appreciated.

Our approach to rewards is rooted in one belief: that **every pupil has something to be proud of**, and that by recognising positive choices and progress, we build a stronger, kinder school community.

With very best wishes, Miss Caddell





WHITBY SCHOOL EQUESTRIAN NEWS

Year 11 pupil Saffron and her horse Lahorna Lassie represented Whitby School at Alnwick Ford Equestrian Centre at the weekend in the National Schools Equestrian Association Northern School Championships show jumping.

Saffron achieved the most amazing results and was placed first in all three of her classes 90cm, 1m and 110cm, the treble win was the ultimate result.

This success has qualified Saffron for the Nationals and she is one of four riders to be selected to ride for Northern England in the Nations cup.

If anyone would like to join the equestrian team then please collect a letter from Whitby School reception. Please note that pupils must have their own horses and transport.

For more information have a look at nsea.org.



NSEA Show-Jumping 90cm		
Horse	SJ	Total
Lahorna Lassie Whitby School	0 in 30.14	0 1st
Seiont Tywysog Aysgarth School		0 2nd
Annandale Jedburgh		
Cinderella Fetterley		
Peel Shrewsbury		
O'Khao		





ICL BOULBY PAUL HOGARTH BURSARY

The Paul Hogarth Bursary honours the memory of Paul Hogarth, a past employee of ICL Boulby mine and a farmer, he worked tirelessly trialling our multi-nutrient fertiliser and was a pioneer in using Polysulphate and gave ICL the earliest crop trial results. Paul uniquely mined the mineral and used the finished product on his farm.

This Bursary, created at ICL Boulby is to assist students who wish to attend university, has this year, been awarded to former Whitby School Sixth form student, Alannah. She is set to begin her Sports Psychology Degree at Edge Hill University, Ormskirk.

Alannah is the last recipient of this bursary, which will see her receive financial assistance, along with internal support, including a paid summer placement, until she completes her degree in four years.

Alannah's journey in sports began at age nine when she joined Scarborough Ladies Football Club. Her talent and leadership qualities shone through as she captained her team, guiding them to the County Cup final. At fourteen, Alannah joined Middlesbrough RTC, where she continued to impress by captaining the under-15s side.

Balancing academics and sports, she made the decision to enter women's football at seventeen, signing with Guisborough Town. Despite her young age, she swiftly adapted and made a significant impact, playing twice in the women's FA Cup and earning the title of Young Player of the Year.

Beyond her sports Alannah excelled academically. After recently completing her exams, with impressive results, including a Distinction Star in Sports and Applied Psychology, and an A in English Literature. Alannah is determined to support her local community in Whitby, give back some of the help she has received along her journey and serve as a role model for women in the sports industry among local girls and fellow Whitby School pupils and students.

This award not only alleviates the financial burden of higher education but also serves as a source of motivation for Alannah as she strives to achieve her goals.

This article is taken from the Boulby and Teesdock Times.





YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING

Parents, Carers and Pupils in Year 6 are invited to our Open Evening to meet colleagues and children from Whitby School.

We are open on **Wednesday 15 October** on the Airy Hill site, **4.00-6.00pm**. Please join us if you can.

The Year 7 Team

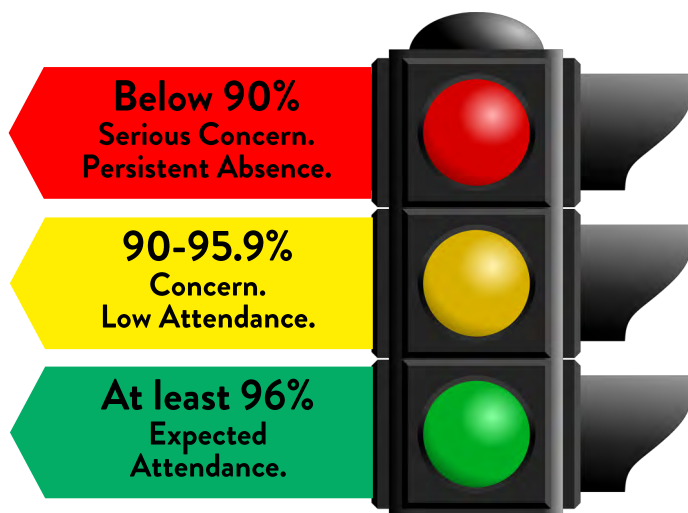
Email: hoy7@whitbyschool.co.uk



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.



SIXTH FORM SUBJECT FOCUS: FINE ART

What will I study?

Are you able to see the beauty and emotion in the world around you? Do you enjoy drawing, sketching and photography? Do you love to experiment with new techniques and styles of art? If you decide to study art, you will build on the skills you have learned in art GCSE, as well as learn some new techniques and approaches. We have a range of equipment across the department for you to access such as a kiln for clay work, screen printing equipment, dark room and cameras, laser cutter, glass-fusing kiln and a 3D printer. You will also have your own base room and desk, to be able to work independently during your study periods. No need to book in or hot desk!

What do students do afterwards?

We have helped students study at some of the most prestigious universities in the UK, including Leeds,

Chelsea, Glasgow, York and Falmouth. These students study a variety of disciplines in the art and design world, including art foundation studies, fine art, sculpture, film, illustration and photography. We have many students who have gone on to have successful careers in the competitive art and design world as textile artists, photographers and architects.

How will I be assessed?

60% personal investigation; 40% externally set task.

What can I do to prepare?

Have a look at some of the work exhibited around Whitby School or ask your teacher to show you some of the work students have produced on their Year 12 and Year 13 fine art courses. Talk to some of our students too - they'll fill you in on what they enjoy most about the course.

"I really enjoyed learning new techniques of art and how we have explored many different mediums of art within the first term. I have also enjoyed exploring abstraction of art as this has pushed me to create more layered and textured pieces of art. The best thing about art is how you have no limitations you can do what your mind wants to. I also find it helpful that the teachers are able to give feedback". - Lily

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.



SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.



SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.



SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.



ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.



INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.



Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.



ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.



BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.



USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.



Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 17.09.2025



NOTICES

Bus Passes

Pupils who use the school buses must carry their pass with them as the drivers could do a spot check at any time. They must also get on the bus for which the pass is allocated to.

Solstice

Our band, currently known as Solstice (Mylo, Charly, Pearl, Christine and Stephen), played at Castleton Show on Saturday 13 September, at the open mic performance. We played three covers of songs in front of a herd of passers-by. Keep looking out for future gigs and possible releases in the foreseeable future.

Reported by Charly



Post 16 Transport

Applications are now open and parents can apply online www.northyorks.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-and-college-transport/transport-sixth-form-or-college.

Whitby Sixth Form Instagram

Follow us to see the exciting things our students are achieving at Whitby Sixth Form.

ws_sixthform





EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

MONDAY

- Year 7-8 Football, 12.45-1.15pm (Astro, Airy Hill Site)
- Airy Hill Choir, 12.45-1.15pm (Music Room, Airy Hill Site)
- Year 9 Football, 12.45-1.15pm (Sports Hall, Prospect Hill Site)

TUESDAY

- Year 7-8 Football, 12.45-1.15pm (Astro, Airy Hill Site)
- Airy Hill Band, 12.45-1.15pm (Music Room, Airy Hill Site)
- Year 10 Football, 12.45-1.15pm (Sports Hall, Prospect Hill Site)
- Year 7-8 Football, 3.30-4.30pm (Field/Astro, Airy Hill Site)
- Football Club, 3.30-4.30pm (Field, Prospect Hill Site)
- SEN Homework Club, 3.30-4.30pm (Both Sites)

WEDNESDAY

- Chess Club, 12.45-1.15pm (Library, Airy Hill Site)
- Writers' Club, Lunchtime (Prospect Hill Site)
- Year 9 Football, 12.45-1.15pm (Sports Hall, Prospect Hill Site)
- Year 7-8 Netball, 3.30-4.30pm (Courts, Airy Hill Site)
- Year 10-11 Netball, 3.30-4.30pm (Sports Hall, Prospect Hill Site)
- SEN Homework Club, 3.30-4.30pm (Both Sites)
- Whitby Table Tennis Club, 7.00-8.00pm (Gym, Airy Hill Site)

THURSDAY

- Year 7-8 Football, 12.45-1.15pm (Astro, Airy Hill Site)
- KS4 Racket Sports, 12.45-1.15pm (Sports Hall, Prospect Hill Site)
- Funk Band, 12.45-1.15pm (Music Room, Prospect Hill Site)
- SEN Homework Club, 3.30-4.30pm (Both Sites)

FRIDAY

- Year 7-8 Football, 12.45-1.15pm (Astro, Airy Hill Site)
- BTEC Sport Intervention, 12.45-1.15pm (H9, Prospect Hill Site)
- Year 10 GCSE PE Intervention, 12.45-1.15pm (S4, Prospect Hill Site)



KEY DATES

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

21 September-26 September	German Exchange Visit to Whitby
Tuesday 23 September	U16 Netball at Ryedale
Wednesday 24 September	District Cross Country at Scalby Primary Boys Football at 3G, 1.00-3.00pm Years 8, 9 and 10 Welcome Evening, 5.00-6.00pm (Prospect Hill site)
Thursday 25 September	SEN Focus Group Meeting, 10.00am-12.00noon (Airy Hill site) U-15 B-Team Football v Fyling Hall, 3.45pm (H)
Friday 26 September	Primary Cross Country, 1.45pm (Airy Hill site)
Monday 29 September	Year 10 District Cup v Lady Lumley's (A)
Tuesday 30 September	Year 8 Rugby at Scarborough RFC Key Stage 1 Multi Skills, 1.00-3.00pm (Sports Hall, Prospect Hill site)
Wednesday 1 October	U-13 County Cup Football v St Ethelburga's (Airy Hill site) Year 9 Netball at Scalby Sixth Form Football Friendly v Malton
Thursday 2 October	Year 9 County Cup Football v Tadcaster Grammar (H)
Friday 3 October	Key Stage 1 Multi Skills, 1.00-3.00pm (Sports Hall, Prospect Hill site)
Sunday 5 October	Octoberfest, 2.00pm (Airy Hill site)
Tuesday 7 October	Year 8 Stem Trip, 1.30-3.30pm U13 B Team Football v Fyling Hall (H) Year 9 Rugby at Scarborough RFC U15 Netball at Ryedale
Wednesday 8 October	Young Carer Lunch Hub, 12.45-1.30pm (R4, Airy Hill site) U-15 County Cup v Sherburn High (A) Year 11 Welcome Evening, 5.00-6.00pm (with a focus on revision strategies, Prospect Hill site)
12-17 October	Music Exchange return visit to Whitby
Wednesday 15 October	Training Day
Wednesday 15 October	Year 6 Open Evening. 4.00-6.00pm
Thursday 23 October	Year 11 BTEC Dance Practical Assessment Component 2, 1.30-3.30pm
Mon. 27-Fri. 31 October	Half Term Holiday
Wednesday 5 October	Year 11 BTEC Dance Written Assessment Component 2, 10.40am-12.45pm



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



MEET THE STAFF

Senior Leadership Team

Mr G Davies – Headteacher
Miss J Caddell – Head of School
Ms S Boyd – 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)

SEND

Mrs H Kirk – SENCo

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
Ms A Ruberry – Year 9
Mrs J Cassell-Osowski – Year 10
Mrs AM Scales – Year 11

Care & Achievement Coordinators

Miss A Clarkson – Year 7
Miss E Hutton – Year 8
Miss K Wilson – Year 8
Mr D Taylor – Year 9
Mr D Jackson – Year 10
Mrs H Ross – 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

Airy Hill Band

**Tuesday
Lunchtime
Music Room**

Bring a packed lunch.

*For all
instrumentalists.*



FUNK BAND



**Whitby
School**

PROSPECT HILL SITE
THURSDAYS, LUNCHTIME
IN THE MUSIC ROOM
BRING YOUR LUNCH

AIRY HILL CHOIR

**Mondays,
Lunchtime
in the
Music
Room**



**For anyone who enjoys
singing. Bring your
lunch and a friend or
come along and meet
our friendly singers.**



**WHITBY
TTC**

JUNIOR CLUB NIGHTS

WHEN: Wednesdays, starting September 3rd

TIME: 7:00 – 8:00 pm

WHERE: Whitby School Gymnasium
(Airy Hill site)

£ COST: £2

Come along, have fun and improve your table
tennis skills! All abilities welcome.

Contact: whitbytabletennis@gmail.com



**Whitby
School**



Young Carer Whitby School Lunch Hub

Where:
Lower School Site,
Main Corridor,
Room 4

When: 10/09, 08/10,
05/11 & 26/11 Christmas
Celebration

Time: 12.45pm–1.30pm

Are you a Young Carer? Would you like to talk to someone about your caring role?

Come and meet a friendly Young Carer worker to find out more about the support we can offer you with your caring role.

There will also be the opportunity to meet and talk with other Young Carers within the school. Your Young Carer Lead within school is Miss A Clarkson

Become a youth leader



We're looking for volunteers to inspire the next generation at St John Ambulance Cadets in Whitby. Could it be you?

Get in contact today for more information.

Email address: NorthYorkshireCoastandMoors@sja.org.uk

Apply now at sja.org.uk/youthteam

