



Whitby school
Ad finem terrae

newsletter

ISSUE 25





HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



The Whitby Way to Learn

This half term, I have had the pleasure of observing some truly amazing lessons and am delighted to see our children learning so well. One of our key values at Whitby School is **courage**. Learning takes courage because, often, when we learn new things, we need to go through a process where we fail and make mistakes. This process makes us stronger and more resilient.

Learning itself is hard work. Children need to learn how to learn effectively. Learning doesn't just happen; there are many different factors at play. It involves acquiring new information, being unafraid to ask for help, having the confidence to practice, and reflecting

on how to improve. We teach children a lot, but we also need to teach them how to learn.

This is why, as a school, we take a shared approach to learning. Our lessons are designed to help children develop the skill of learning, ensuring they are equipped to face challenges with courage and determination.

This is why our teachers use the **Whitby Learning Cycle** to plan each and every lesson. This six-part structure, based on the best national and internal research, is proven to deliver pace, challenge, and improve academic outcomes for our children. The cycle provides a framework within which our teachers





can draw upon their expertise and extensive experience to ensure lessons have academic rigour, a broad range of activities, are exciting, and relevant.

PREPARE

Preparation ensures that pupils are ready to learn. By arriving on time, having the necessary equipment, and wearing the correct uniform, pupils create a focused and disciplined environment that minimizes distractions and maximizes learning time.

PURPOSE

Understanding the purpose of each lesson helps pupils to stay engaged and motivated. Clear aims and objectives provide direction and meaning, making it easier for pupils to connect with the material and see the relevance of their learning.

PRESENT

Being present during key learning moments is crucial for comprehension and retention. Active listening and respectful participation in discussions help pupils to absorb information more effectively and develop critical thinking skills.

PRACTISE

Practice allows pupils to apply what they have learned, reinforcing their knowledge and skills. Working independently and in groups fosters collaboration, resilience, and a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

PROVE

Proving their knowledge through assessments and activities helps pupils to consolidate their learning and identify areas for improvement. Maintaining a focused

and distraction-free environment ensures that all pupils can perform to the best of their abilities.

PONDER

Pondering encourages pupils to reflect on their learning, ask questions, and seek clarification. This reflective practice helps to deepen understanding, promote curiosity, and develop a lifelong love of learning.

By following the Whitby Learning Cycle, we ensure that our pupils are equipped with the skills and attitudes necessary for effective learning. Together, we strive to embody our school motto and create a supportive and dynamic educational experience for every child.

All the best, Mr G Davies





BARCLAYS CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOPS

We were absolutely delighted to welcome the Barclays Climate Change Workshops to Whitby School, where all Year 7 pupils had the opportunity to take part in two exciting and inspiring days focused on one of the most pressing issues of our time: climate change.

The workshops were diverse encouraging pupils to explore the topic from multiple perspectives. In the **fashion workshop**, pupils designed and created their own sustainable fashion items, learning about eco-friendly materials and ethical production. It was incredible to see their creativity and teamwork shine as they considered how fashion can be both stylish and environmentally responsible.

The **photography workshop** encouraged pupils to see the world through a different lens - literally. They learned how to capture powerful images that tell a story about climate change and the environment.

In the **poetry workshop**, pupils were given the space to reflect on their thoughts and feelings around climate change, using words to express both concern and hope for the future. The poems produced were heartfelt and powerful, highlighting how deeply our young people care about the planet.

The **game design workshop** challenged pupils to use their imagination and problem-solving skills to create games centred on climate change themes. They thought carefully about messaging, storytelling, and user engagement - all while having a lot of fun.

Across both days, the level of engagement and excitement from pupils was remarkable. They were inspired not only to learn but to think critically and creatively about the impact of climate change and the role they can play in addressing it. The workshops sparked meaningful conversations and left a lasting impression.

We are extremely grateful to Barclays and all the facilitators who delivered such high-quality and impactful sessions. The experience has undoubtedly helped empower our pupils to become more environmentally conscious and proactive citizens.





YEAR 9 TREAT DAY

Last week it was the Year 9 pupils' turn to receive their ice cream treats. Over 70 pupils had been nominated by all the staff to thank them for their hard work in their lessons. Thank you again to Lidl for helping arrange the ice creams.





Whitby Teacher Represents England in 5km Race

Whitby School teacher Mrs Mastrodonardo (formerly Duffield), was recently selected to run for England in a home countries 5km race against Wales. She was fourth counter for the team, and the England team won the competition, with Julie finishing seventh overall. This is a fantastic achievement for the Whitby teacher (and the England team) who has a very good track record of running in the past.

A huge well done to her!



Regional Table Cricket Final

This week we took nine Key Stage 3 pupils to Headingley, to compete in the regional table cricket final. They were up against seven other schools from Yorkshire and Lancashire most of whom were a lot older than them, the last team we faced were 22, this did not worry our pupils who remained calm, composed and committed.

Team captains, Archie, Shayan and Leah-Rae made sure pupils kept focused and motivated always. As always the pupils were a credit to Whitby School and we were exceptionally proud of how they approached the whole day.

Well done to, Archie, Freddy, Sam, Henry, Tobi, Shayan, Macie, Perri and Leah-Rae.

We are so incredibly proud of you!





BREAKFAST TALKS



We held the first of our Friday morning 'breakfast talks' last week, which was a great success. These talks will be from various employers from different career sectors so our pupils, in Year 9 and above, can find out more about particular jobs and career sectors they are interested in. This first talk was from Elisha Marsay, an alumni to our school, on her journey to become a barrister. The talk covered challenges she has overcome on her journey, as well as practical tips on how to succeed on the various stages that need to be

taken to become a barrister.

Our pupils asked very insightful questions about the type of work a barrister will do on a daily basis and learned a lot about how Barrister Chambers work and how a barrister's work is generated. Elisha also managed to dispel a few myths about being 'called to the bar', and how the process works. It was fantastic to start these breakfast talks off with such an inspiring alumni speaker.





APPRENTICESHIP EVENING

**To be held on Tuesday 10 June,
4.30-6.30pm.**

We have come back with a bigger and better apprenticeship evening for you this year!

Come along to speak with local employers about the various opportunities for them within this town and the surrounding areas.

Employers that have already confirmed are: Beyond Housing, the Army, NHS, Boulby Underground Laboratories, Simpson York, Mayfield Care Home, Everyone Active, Asquith and Co, Scarborough TEC, Askham Bryan and Fuscus. We are still waiting to hear back from a few more local employers too!

There will be talks from ASK Apprenticeships at 4.30pm and 5.30pm, which will be followed by short talks from some of the employers, so it promises to be

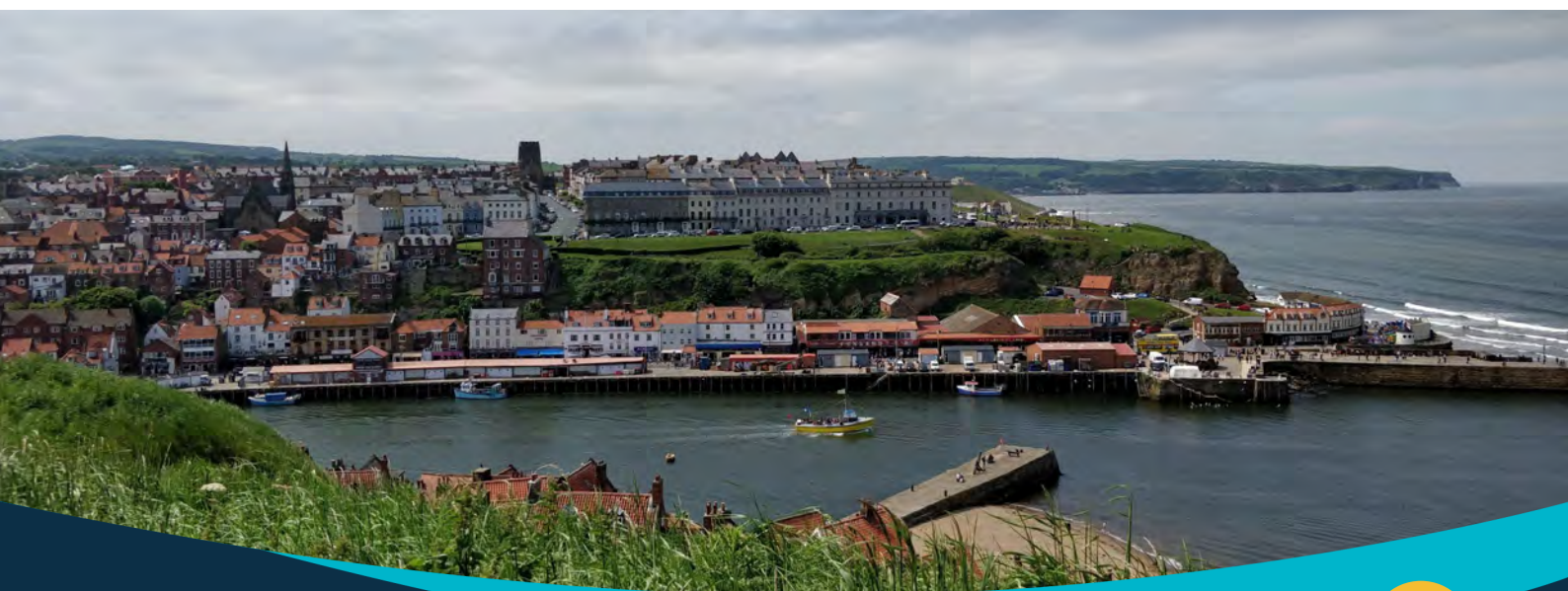
a good evening to find out more about many different apprenticeships and job sectors. Also for our young people to find out what it is they need to do to get the apprenticeship they want.

Tea, coffee, juice will be provided as well as some lovely school baked biscuits and cakes.

How to Sign up for the Evening

This event is for all pupils/students and their parents in Year 9 to Year 13. We ask that you register for the event on Eventbrite [HERE](#). This is so we have an idea of the number of people coming.

If you have any questions about the evening or if you would like to attend as an apprenticeship employer please contact our Careers and Guidance Lead Ms Mackle: g.mackle@whitbyschool.co.uk



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE

Around 70% of teenagers say they've seen real-life violence on social media in the past year – often from as young as primary school age. Just 6% actively seek it out; most encounter it through group chats or social media algorithms. From fights and pranks to hate speech and graphic media, exposure to violent content online is more widespread – and more harmful – than many adults realise.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA

Children and young people report feelings of anxiety, guilt, shame or fear after seeing violent content. For some, these effects may be short term, but for those with existing vulnerabilities or past trauma, the impact can be more severe. Many also feel pressured to 'laugh off' violent content to fit in with friends, even when they find it distressing.

BEHAVIOUR CHANGES

Exposure to online violence can lead to fear and avoidance behaviours – such as skipping school or staying indoors. When children see weapons used in videos, it can heighten their perception that the world is unsafe and, in rare cases, increase the likelihood they'll consider carrying a weapon themselves, such as a knife for protection.

ESCALATION AND PARTICIPATION

Violent videos often go viral quickly. What begins as an online argument can spill into real-world fights – which are sometimes filmed and shared to gain views or status. Some children even admit to sharing or creating violent content themselves to gain attention or boost their reputation.

DESENSITISATION

Older teens may become numb to violent content after years of exposure, admitting they're unlikely to report it. Younger children also tend not to report it – usually because they don't believe anything will be done or because they're afraid of being labelled a 'snitch' by their peers.

HARMFUL IDEOLOGIES

Violent content online may overlap with racist, misogynistic or otherwise extremist ideas. These messages can dehumanise others or glorify violence as a way to gain power, popularity or notoriety. Over time, this can normalise dangerous behaviours and attitudes among impressionable viewers.

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Not all children are affected equally. Those who are excluded from school, marginalised, disabled or neurodivergent are often more vulnerable to the effects of online violence. It's essential to consider wider context – including home life and access to safe spaces – when thinking about potential harm.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CREATE SUPPORTIVE SPACES

Many children feel adults are too busy or won't understand their experiences online. Take time to build trust through non-judgemental conversations about what they're seeing. If they don't want to speak to you directly, gently signpost towards trusted services they can turn to for support.

KNOW WHAT'S ILLEGAL

Some violent content is simply upsetting, while other examples may be criminal or a safeguarding matter that needs reporting. Help children understand the difference by staying informed about online laws and social media reporting procedures. A useful resource is reportharmfulcontent.com.

AVOID HARSH RESTRICTIONS

Fear of punishment is a major reason young people stay silent about violent content. Try not to overreact or threaten to take away devices. Instead, reassure children that they can speak openly and that asking for help won't get them into trouble.

UNDERSTAND TECH AND TRAUMA

Older children may already know how to block accounts or avoid triggering content. Help younger or more vulnerable children learn these tools and encourage habits that reduce exposure. Just as importantly, teach techniques that help them process distress – building resilience and emotional literacy for both online and offline life.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in digital safety, media law, and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit onlinemedialawuk.com for more.



The National College



NOTICES

Year 11 Uniform Exchange

Year 11s will be able to exchange their ties, blazers and PE tops for chocolate and sweets on Monday 16 June after the last big GCSE exam.

Staff will be present at the school gates where pupils can swap their uniform for items of confectionery as they leave. Uniform donations will be recycled and reused by pastoral teams and families who would be really grateful for them. Trousers, skirts, shirts, jumpers and PE kit can also be donated.

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

- 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)



KEY DATES

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

Half Term	26-30 May
Tuesday 3 June	Year 12 Parents UCAS Information Evening
Wednesday 4 June	Young Carer Hub, Prospect Hill site
Wednesday 4 June	Year 12 Talk the Talk Day
Friday 6 June	Breakfast Meeting with Beyond Housing for Sixth Form students
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
Monday 23 June	Years 9 & 10 Anglo American talk 'International Women in Engineering Day'
Tuesday 24 June	Year 12 students visit Boulby Mine
Tuesday 24 June	Geography Year 10 Fieldwork - Sandsend to Whitby
Wednesday 25 June	Geography Year 10 Fieldwork - Sandsend to Whitby
Wednesday 25 June	Year 10 Employability Workshops
Thursday 26 June	Year 11 Prom, 6.00-10.00pm (Sneaton Castle)
Monday 30 June	Year 12 students University of York 'Creativity Lab' Trip
Tuesday 1 July	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Tuesday 1 July	Year 7 Hunger Games
Tuesday 1-Wednesday 2 July	Year 12 trip to Oxford University
Wednesday 2 July	Young Carer Hub, Prospect Hill site
Friday 4 July	Sports Day
Friday 4 July	Year 12 students 'Project Dare' at Nestle, York
w/c Monday 7 July	Year 6 Transition (Airy Hill site)
8-10 July	We Will Rock You (Prospect Hill site)
Tuesday 15 July	Summer Concert, 6.00-7.00pm
Monday 21 July	Training Day
Tuesday 22 July	Training Day
Thursday 14 August	A-Level Results Day



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
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



WELLBEING FOR SCHOOL PARENTS

inourplace is funded in your area to provide your family with free access to expert learning about childhood development, wellbeing, brain changes, and much more to help you to connect with your children and make sure they thrive.

Here's a quick round up of what we think is great on **inourplace** this month.

End of term prep for school moves



Moving up

A digital hub of resources for parents to help you navigate and support your child to thrive as they move up or start a new school [LINK](#)

Adolescence: Emotional health for boys



How parents can raise emotional skills development for young boys

The Child Psychologist and Psychotherapist's view [LINK](#)

The child development and wellbeing course for parents



Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager

Online course empowering your parenting anytime, anywhere [LINK](#)

Expert insights for your parenting



Follow us on TikTok

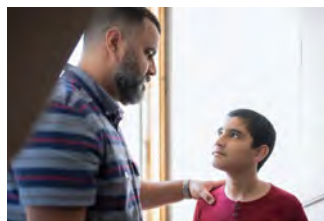
Short films on sleep, toddler tantrums, school behaviour, teenagers and much more

Navigating nightmares and night terrors

Advice and guidance from Clinical Psychologists and Health Visitors with parent voices [LINK](#)



My child is having nightmares or night terrors



How to talk to your child about events in the news without making them anxious

Talking about big world problems

The Psychologist's advice [LINK](#)



FREE CERAMICS WORKSHOP

For young people aged 11-17

Session 1:
Make a small
kiln dried pot

Session 2:
Add colour
with various
painting
techniques



Spin it, shape it, paint it —
make cool stuff from clay!

FYLING HALL SCHOOL
19TH JULY & 9TH AUGUST 2025
10:00AM TO 12:00 NOON

FOR BOOKING FORM E-MAIL:-
WHITBYROTARYARTS@GMAIL.COM

ESKMOUTH (WHITBY)SCOUT GROUP



OPEN EVENT

Come & join us at our Scout open event
We welcome everyone from ages 4 - 18 years old,
adults are allowed to get involved with the fun too!
We are re-opening a new Scout group. Join in this free
event to see what it is all about.



WHEN & WHERE?

- ✓ Whitby Scout Hall
(behind Lobster Hall Hotel)
Springhill . YO21 1EB
- ✓ Saturday 7th June 2025
- ✓ 1pm-4pm

CONTACT LIZ

Scan QR code to register/book a
place >>>>>

 ELizabeth.Till@Scouts.org.uk



Are you looking for local flexible work?

NHS
Professionals

We are recruiting for Catering Assistants in your area, put your skills to good use and work the shifts that suit you.

NHS Professionals can offer you the following benefits...



Competitive pay rates



First choice of shifts before agency



Flexible working to suit your lifestyle



Weekly pay



Work in one location or across multiple



Build holiday allowance for every shift worked



Book and manage shifts online



Explore different wards and gain experience



On-site local support and 24/7 support line



Stakeholder pension scheme available



Register Today for flexible working

Call Today: 0203 006 8113

Email: nhsps@nhsprofessionals.nhs.uk

Are you looking for local flexible work?

NHS
Professionals

We are recruiting for General Assistants in your area, put your skills to good use and work the shifts that suit you.

NHS Professionals can offer you the following benefits...



Competitive pay rates



First choice of shifts before agency



Flexible working to suit your lifestyle



Weekly pay



Work in one location or across multiple



Build holiday allowance for every shift worked



Book and manage shifts online



Explore different wards and gain experience



On-site local support and 24/7 support line



Stakeholder pension scheme available



Register Today for flexible working

Call Today: 0203 006 8113

Email: nhsps@nhsprofessionals.nhs.uk

Are you looking for local flexible work?

NHS
Professionals

We are recruiting for Receptionists in your area, put your skills to good use and work the shifts that suit you.

NHS Professionals can offer you the following benefits...



Competitive pay rates



First choice of shifts before agency



Flexible working to suit your lifestyle



Weekly pay



Work in one location or across multiple



Build holiday allowance for every shift worked



Book and manage shifts online



Explore different wards and gain experience



On-site local support and 24/7 support line



Stakeholder pension scheme available



Register Today for flexible working

Call Today: 0203 006 8113

Email: nhsps@nhsprofessionals.nhs.uk

Are you looking for local flexible work?

NHS
Professionals

We are recruiting for Domestic Cleaners in your area, put your skills to good use and work the shifts that suit you.

NHS Professionals can offer you the following benefits...



Competitive pay rates



First choice of shifts before agency



Flexible working to suit your lifestyle



Weekly pay



Work in one location or across multiple



Build holiday allowance for every shift worked



Book and manage shifts online



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Register Today for flexible working

Call Today: 0203 006 8113

Email: nhsps@nhsprofessionals.nhs.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!)