



Newsletter ISSUE 30





HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

We're so happy when your child is here

Dear Parents, Carers, and Members of the Whitby School Community,

As we approach the final stretch of the academic year, I want to take a moment to talk again about something that lies at the heart of every child's success: **attendance**.

At Whitby School, we are proud of the progress we've made. Our attendance for pupils with **social**, **emotional**, and **mental health need**s is higher than the national average, and our **Year 7 pupils** are leading the way with attendance **above that of similar schools** - a huge well done to them! We also see a strong pattern on **Tuesdays**, where our attendance consistently outperforms similar schools.

However, we must also be honest: **overall attendance at Whitby School still needs improvement**. This is a challenge we must face together - as staff, pupils, families, and the wider community.

Why does attendance matter so much?

- the Department for Education (DfE) reports that pupils with attendance above 95% are far more likely to achieve strong GCSE results
- children who attend school regularly report higher levels of happiness and wellbeing
- regular attendance builds confidence, friendships, and a sense of belonging.



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We've noticed a particular trend: **Fridays are our** weakest day for attendance, and we fall behind similar schools. We understand from conversations with families that some pupils are balancing part-time work with school, and this can lead to tiredness. If your child is working, please ensure they have a work permit and that their hours are appropriate for their age. Education must come first.

We want every child to thrive - and we are **so glad when they are here**. That's why we're launching a new **Attendance Campaign**, with exciting **raffle prizes** including:

Tickets to **Flamingo Land** Tickets to **Middlesbrough Football Club** Vouchers for **local restaurants** Prizes donated by **local businesses**

We are incredibly grateful to our community for supporting this initiative.

Looking ahead, we're encouraged: Whitby School's attendance this year is on track to be higher than both Eskdale and Caedmon's last year. But we're not there yet. We must keep going.

Finally, I'm proud to say that all local primary and secondary headteachers have come together to agree on shared communications and approaches about attendance. We stand united because we all believe in the same thing: your child's presence in school matters.

Thank you for your continued support. Let's finish the year strong - together.

Best wishes, Mr G Davies, Headteacher





Matt Cooper msc1photography@hotmail.co.uk



Enhanced Transition

We were exceptionally lucky, to welcome 30 Year 6 pupils early into Whitby School in preparation for an exciting few transition days. Pupils got to meet new friends and have a tour of the school, we are so excited to hear about their past few weeks at primary school and look forward to seeing familiar faces next week at our Airy Hill site.





Golden Ticket Attendance Raffle

This year at Whitby School we have a very exciting Golden Ticket Attendance Raffle. Each week a pupil has achieved 100% from Easter to the end of the summer term their name is put into the draw. We have been exceptionally lucky and lots of generous local businesses have donated some exciting prizes.

The draw will take to place in the last week of the summer term.

- Whitby Pavilion cinema tickets
- Middlesbrough Football club 2 home game tickets
- Sneaton Castle meal for two
- Flamingo Land two tickets
- Magpie Cafe voucher
- Evolution Martial Arts voucher for 3 months training
- Whitby Book Shop book and voucher
- Bothams two £10 vouchers
- North Yorkshire Water Park two tickets.



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YEAR 11 PROM

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone who made our Year 11 Prom a spectacular evening. Special appreciation goes to Paul Armstrong at the Artistic Lens, Charlene Kirk for the donation of the balloon arch, Lorraine Leadley at Beckholme Flowers for the fresh flower crowns, Limelight Hire for the photo booth, DJ Mr Gaulter, Sneaton Castle for helping create a magical atmosphere.

A heartfelt thank you also goes to our staff and pupil prom committees, whose hard work, creativity, and dedication behind the scenes ensured everything ran smoothly and beautifully. Our pupils were an absolute credit to the school. It was a privilege to see them celebrate the end of a remarkable chapter in their lives.

This cohort has journeyed through extraordinary times. They weathered the challenges of a global pandemic, with some even navigating the complexities of changing schools along the way. Through it all, they have shown **ambition**, **character**, **endeavour**, and **courage** - qualities that will serve them well in whatever path they choose next.

© Paul Armstrong at the Artistic Lens







© Paul Armstrong at the Artistic Lens



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© Paul Armstrong at the Artistic Lens









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This week saw Ms Beattie and Mr Cox take eight of our high aspiring Year 12 students on our yearly trip to Brasenose College, Oxford University. This is a well established trip for students in Whitby and we always make sure to meet up with past students who are living in or who have studied at Oxford or Cambridge, of which we have quite an alumni! This year, Whitby School student Billy had the opportunity to meet up with ex-Caedmon School pupil Jack, who is originally from Glaisdale. Jack left the Sixth Form here and went on to study Electrical Engineering at the prestigious University College London. He already has had a very varied and incredibly exciting career ("...and the money's not bad either" he told us); some of the projects he has worked on were fascinating to learn about.

As usual, we stayed overnight in Oxford University student accommodation. There was no cost to students for this trip. Students planned their time around the delicious meals that were provided in the College dining room and students went with their friends to various subject talks, seeing the different Colleges and also visiting some of the museums and just enjoying being in the city of Oxford. The students were a delight to take and everyone really enjoyed the experience and came away feeling inspired - staff included!





Here are what some of the students had to say:

"My favourite part was exploring the city; I enjoyed walking around and getting the feel for uni life"

"My favourite part of the Oxford trip was seeing all of the different Colleges and how each has their own different way of running it. I also enjoyed the architecture and the natural history museum. I also enjoyed spending time with my friends."

"My favourite part was staying in the accommodation overnight as it helped me to understand more about university accommodation and also enjoy time with my friends."

"It was great getting to experience what life is like in a university and also exploring such a historic city."





"It was great getting to experience what life is like in a university and also exploring such a historic city."

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NORTH YORKSHIRE WATER PARK TRIP

Twenty pupils had a wonderful visit out to North Yorkshire Water Park a couple of weeks ago. Groups took part in bush craft and archery in the morning, our lovely Learning Support Assistants even got to have a go, although I think our pupils were better.

In the afternoon the sunshine came out and we took part in raft building and then paddle boarding out on the lake. Pupils were given equipment to try and successfully make a raft, it's safe to say none of our rafts would keep us safe in an emergency, but we had lots of fun trying. Out on the lake pupils and staff paddled out on giant paddle boards and attempted to coordinate their strokes in the water before spending the afternoon playing games and jumping in the water.

The pupils, as always were an absolute credit to the school and we are exceptionally proud of how hard they have worked this year.









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Music Exam Successes

Huge congratulations to Year 9 pupil Stephen and Year 10 pupil William who have both recently achieved their grade 5 trumpet practical exams (with William scoring particularly highly being awarded a merit). William and Stephen are both committed musicians, performing in Music Centre ensembles in numerous events throughout the year in and around the local community. Their success demonstrates all of our school values by the bucketload; very well done.

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.



SCHOOL EDITION

8th, 9th & 10th JULY 2025 WHITBY SCHOOL • PROSPECT HILL SITE Doors open 6:30pm Curtain up 7:00pm General Admission £7

Tickets available exclusively at Prospect Hill site – or email finance@whitbyschool.co.uk with subject: WWRY Tickets

We Will Rock You – School Edition is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by: Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW) www.theatricalrights.co.uk

Monday 14 July 2025 4.00-5.30pm

Whitby School, Airy Hill Site, Whitby YO21 1QA

AWARENESS AND SUPPORT EVENT

Including Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

For parents, carers and adults involved with children aged 0-25yrs Family and Friends Welcome

CARERS PLUS | EAST WHITBY PRIMARY SCHOOL FYLINGDALES PRIMARY SCHOOL | KICK REXI OUT | MEL RANDELL CLAIRE WOOLF DYSLEXIA | PLACE2BE | NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE SIDEWALK | WOODSMITH FOUNDATION | TURNING TIDES | LESLEY WOOD SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY | HEARING IMPAIRMENT SERVICE MEADOWCROFT | WHISH | EP SERVICE | COAST TUITION THE ORCHARD AND WELBURN HALL WHITBY ROTARY CLUB PLUS MANY OTHER AGENCIES

SEND@whitbyschool.co.uk | TELEPHONE 01947 601901

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **D**A

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy 12 protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

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UNDER 18

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.



BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults 1.0 -

SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

olonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family Sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.



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FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable th installation of certain app types completely.

PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

The Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience. Formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable National College

X @wake_up_weds

perspective to parenting in the digital age.

Meet Our Expert

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@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: 02.07.2025



NOTICES

Dropping Off/Collecting your Son/Daughter from School

Please note that, for health and safety reasons, we need to restrict the movement of traffic on the schools' sites to keep our pupils safe. Parking is unavoidably limited for visitors, particularly on our Prospect Hill Site. However, Mayfield Road has space for parking which is easy to access. There are many pupils leaving the site at 3.30pm and we need it to be as safe as possible for them. Please therefore avoid turning into the Prospect Hill car park if there is space on Mayfield Road. Please also be respectful of our school neighbours and do not block or park in their private parking areas. This includes Beevers' Furniture Store car park - dropping off/collecting pupils from Beevers' car park is not permitted, nor is dropping off/collecting from our neighbours' parking areas at the top of the school driveway. The emergency access bay near to the field gate at our Prospect Hill Site also must be left clear at all times. When driving onto either school site, please note the 5mph speed limit and the reverse only policy for parking so that you only drive forwards out of any parking space. Thank you for your support with these matters.

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

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EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

MONDAY

• Airy Hill Site Band, Lunchtime

TUESDAY

- 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)
- 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.

w/c Monday 7 July	Year 6 Transition (Airy Hill site)
Monday 7 July	Hospitality and Catering Trip to Wagamamas, Middlesbrough
8-10 July	. We Will Rock You (Prospect Hill site)
Friday 11 July	. Sports Day
Friday 11 July	. Year 10 Pupils 'Project Dare' at Nestle, York
Monday 14 July	SEND Awareness and Support Event, 4.00-5.30pm (Airy Hill site
Tuesday 15 July	Sixth Form Trip to Yorkshire Water Park , 9.00am-3.00pm
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
Thursday 21 August	GCSE Results Day and Sixth Form Enrolment
1 and 2 September	Staff Training Days
Wednesday 3 September	School Opens
12-17 October	Music Exchange return visit to Whitby
Mon. 27-Fri. 31 October	Half Term Holiday
10-14 November	Year 11 Health Promotion Presentation Week
10-14 November	Year 12 Health & Social Care Work Experience
Mon. 22 DecFri. 2 Jan	Christmas Holiday
Monday 5 January 2026	Staff Training Days
Monday 20 July 2026	Staff Training Days





Autumn Term 2025

Mon. 1 & Tues. 2 September Wed. 3 September Wed. 15 October Fri. 24 October Mon. 27-Fri. 31 October Mon. 3 November Fri. 19 December Mon. 22 Dec.-Fri. 2 January Training Days

School Opens Training Day School Closes Half Term Holiday

School Opens School Closes Christmas Holiday

Spring Term 2026

Mon. 5 January Tues. 6 January Fri. 13 February Mon. 16-Fri. 20 February Mon. 23 February Fri. 27 March Mon. 30 March.-Fri. 10 April

Training Day School Opens School Closes Half Term Holiday School Opens School Closes 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)

SENDC_o

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





Donation Entry, Refreshments Tuesday 15 July, 6.00-7.00pm St. Matthew's Church, Grosmont



Whitby School

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 The parenting support group is run by Debi and Amy as part of the Mindside project, and is offered to any parents who live in Scarborough, Whitby or Ryedale localities. The peer support group runs alongside the Hub, which provides a safe space for young people while parents can access their own support. The support group is based in Scarborough, but can be accessed virtually if travel would be an issue. It is recommended that you contact Mind prior to your first visit to the group to ask about access requirements, the venue (which can sometimes change), the Hub, and any other questions you may have. Contact details are either 01723 339838 or info@swrmind.org.uk

Parent Peer

Support Group

1st Wednesday of the month 17:15 - 18:45

Walkers of Bar Street

Join us for a parent peer support group aimed at those who have children struggling with their mental health. This is an open group but we ask that there are no children present during the group session.

This group aims to give you the opportunity to give and receive support from others in a similar situation. We will also discuss various ways you can help your children with their mental wellbeing.















Scarborough,

Whitby and Ryedale





GET READY TO SWIM, BIKE & RUN: YORK KIDS TRIATHLON IS HERE!

- FUN ACHIEVABLE DISTANCES FOR ALL ABILITIES OF 5-16 YR OLDS
- HEATED INDOOR POOL SWIM
- TARMAC CYCLE COURSE & FLAT GRASS RUN ROUTE
- UK KIDS FUN TRIATHLON FINISHERS MEDAL FOR EVERYONE

16TH AUGUST 2025

YORK SPORT VILLAGE, YORK UKTRIATHLON.CO.UK



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

The bread and butter thing.



at Oakridge Community Primary School, Coronation Avenue, Hinderwell, Saltburn-by-the-Sea, Cleveland TS13 5HA

Get around £35 worth of food for £8.50

- Includes fresh fruit and veg, fridge favourites and cupboard staples.
- Open every Friday at 2.30pm.
 - You need to become a member to use the hub but it's free to sign-up and book a slot - just follow these steps.
- There is no commitment and it's free to join.

It's really easy to sign-up:



Text 07860 063 304 with your full name, postcode and the name of the hub you will be collecting from: "OAKRIDGE"



Select the size of order you want to receive: Family £8.50, individual £5 or Large Family £17. There is a Vegetarian option available too.

You'll get a text every Wednesday to see if you want an order. Just reply "YES" by 10am the next day. Your order will be delivered to the hub on Friday at 2.30pm.



Collect and pay for your goods from the OAKRIDGE hub. (Don't forget - someone can collect on your behalf if you can't make it and Healthy Start Vouchers are also accepted).

Where does our food come from?



Our weekly bags are made up of surplus food from supermarkets, food manufacturers and farmers. We never know what we're going to get from day to day, which means each week your bag of food will be different.

But it is always quality, fresh produce. You will probably need to top up from the shops as well, but our food will go a long way to helping will help you feed your family affordably.

Surplus food happens for lots of reasons – sometimes there is a fault with the packaging or there may just be too much of it for the supermarkets to handle.

Some of our food is beyond its BEST BEFORE date BUT that doesn't mean that you can't eat it. With proper storage - for instance in its original packaging and sealed with a clip or in an airtight container - lots of foodstuffs can be eaten long after their best before date, including:

- Crisps can still be edible for a good month after their best before deadline.
- Biscuits and cereals can last for another six months.
- Baked beans and other tinned goods can last in your store cupboard for a whole year, as can sweets and bottled pasta sauce.
- And don't throw away that packet of dried pasta that you've found at the back of a cupboard. If stored correctly, it should still be safe to eat around three years after its best before date has expired.

We will never provide food that is after its USE BY date because this is about food safety, not food quality. You can eat food on its USE BY date or, if you have a freezer, pop it in. Just make sure you make a note of how long it will be freezer safe and how long it takes to defrost:

You can find out more about our food and our work on our website:

www.breadandbutterthing.org

orat

@teamtbbt