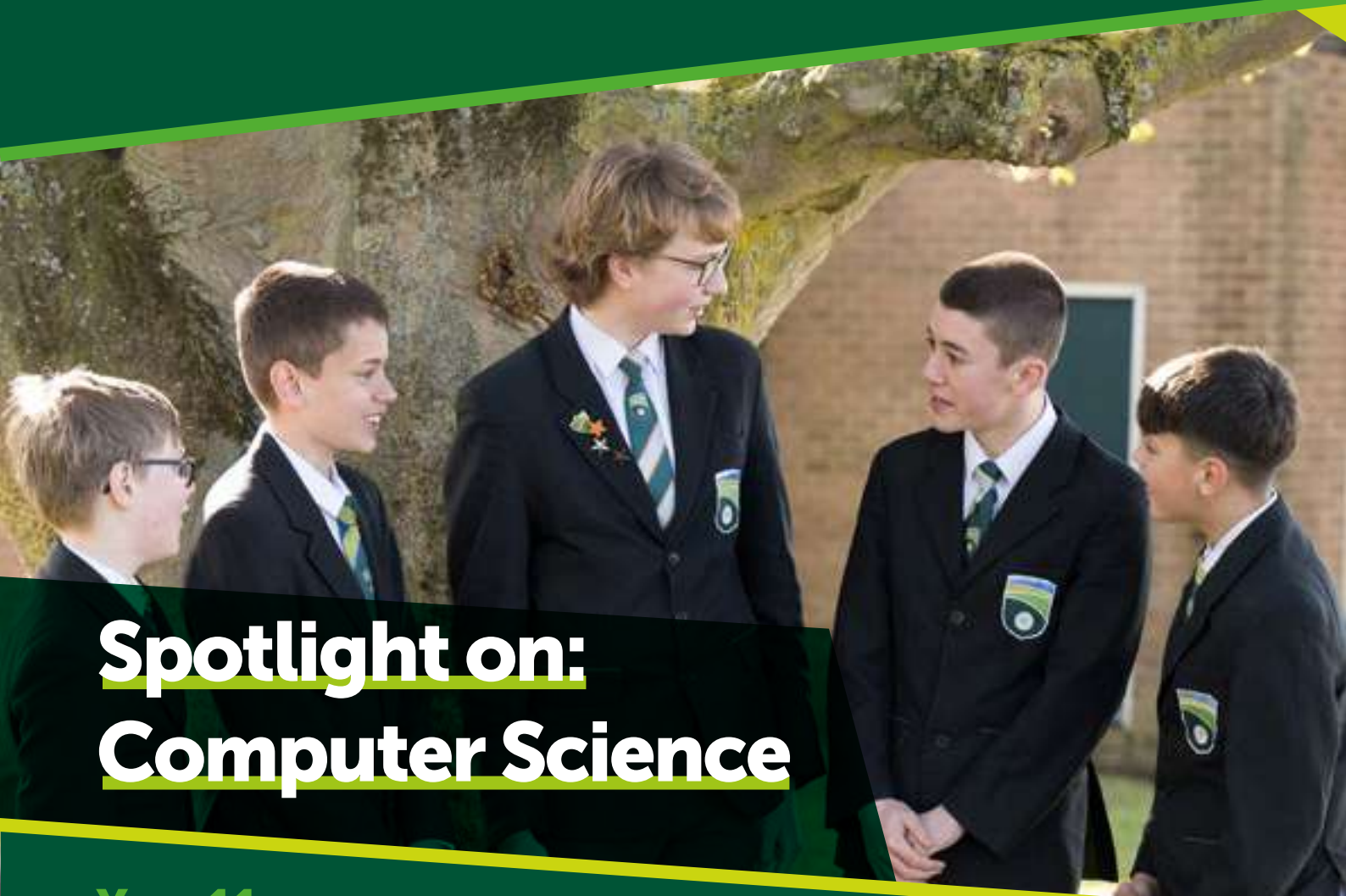


# Newsletter

ISSUE 391

Of great merit, character & value



## Spotlight on: Computer Science

### Year 11

With exams fast approaching, Year 11 pupils are deep in revision territory. Like their exam, their work is split into two broad categories: programming and computer systems. To support them, the school purchased all Year 11 pupils a revision guide and revision workbook; each has a complete textbook on loan. These can be used with the revision time table covering the entire exam specification given to every pupil. Most computer system revision is done through home learning, with the second weekly lesson set aside for questions about it.



The first weekly lesson allows pupils to practice and improve their programming skills. There are a whole range of problems for the pupils to solve. These problems range from simple to complex. Our pupils conduct their programming exams on screen using a professional integrated development environment (IDE) called PyCharm. It was chosen because it gives pupils considerable support for completing the first couple of questions on each paper. The latter questions are about problem-solving. This is where pupils must use the tools they have learned and apply them to solve a problem.

In addition to the support currently offered through the books and lesson time spent on solving computational problems, the entire specification, including all original lesson material, is available on the Computer Science SharePoint page. Pupils can access this from home through the Pupil Home Page. Finally, pupils can access all their work online, too.

## Year 10

Year 10 pupils have hit an exciting milestone. They have now covered the breadth of the exam specification. Some of the depth remains to be covered, but this puts our pupils in an incredible position as they approach the mock exams. Similarly to the full GCSE, there will be two papers. The first focuses on Computer Systems, and the second focuses on Programming. All year 10 pupils have been equipped with revision guides and workbooks they can take home. Additionally, they have access to full textbooks in class. Lesson time is spent cementing the pupils' learning in both areas. The last few weeks have focused on the number bases used in computer science, including converting between Binary, Denary and Hexadecimal. Understanding binary is a fundamental skill for a computer scientist. Pupils have also been increasing their understanding of how computer systems use binary to represent and store data such as images, sound and text. This led them to naturally look at how the Central Processing Unit (CPU) works and how instructions and data move around the system. In turn, this creates a strong link to programming. Programs are essentially instructions that then get turned into binary. Our pupils have been writing the same type of programs for a while now.

## Year 9

The year nine pupils have made a fantastic start to their course. They have been introduced to PyCharm, the integrated development environment (IDE) they will use until their exams in year 11. PyCharm gives pupils a fantastic amount of support regarding syntax and code suggestions. It also lets pupils step through their code line by line to see exactly what it does at any program stage. Pupils can also get and install PyCharm for free at home. The community edition is free to anyone. However, pupils at Woldgate School can also access the professional edition for free. All they need to do is sign up for GitHub using their school

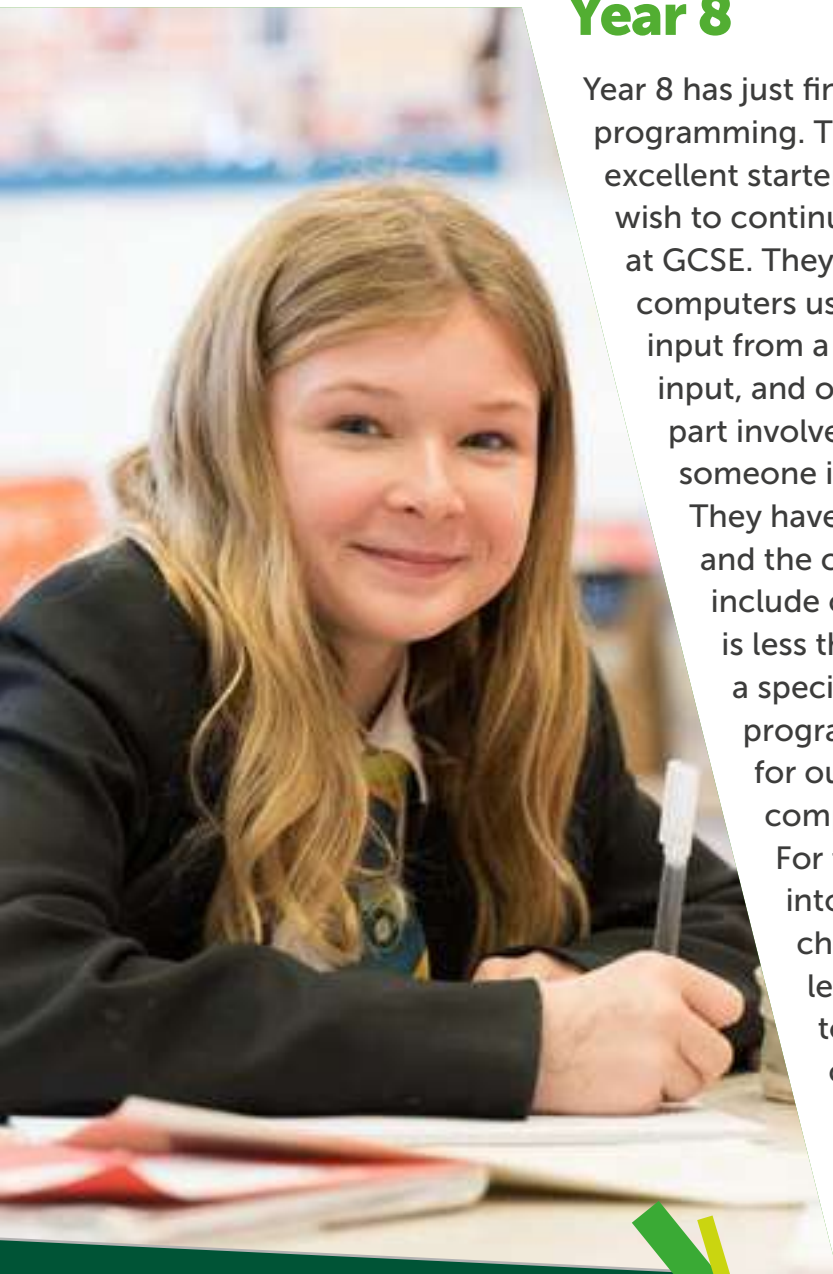
email address. Woldgate School is a GitHub education partner, so all of our pupils who sign up for GitHub are automatically enrolled in the GitHub education pack.

Being part of GitHub education gives pupils a wealth of free software such as PyCharm Professional. It also introduces Version Control and many other areas pupils can use for private study to further their prospects in the subject. Alongside taking their first steps in programming, the pupils learned how binary works and how to convert between number bases.

Pupils have also learned about the CPU's Fetch, Decode, and Execute cycles. These areas help pupils form an understanding of how programming and computer systems are integral to each other. With the foundations of the subject introduced, they are in a fantastic place to move forward and learn how that feeds into all aspects of the curriculum.

## Year 8

Year 8 has just finished its first introduction to text-based programming. The school teaches pupils Python, an excellent starter language. It also supports pupils who wish to continue their study of Computer Science at GCSE. They have learnt that when programming, computers use variables to store data. Then, they take input from a user, store it in a variable, process that input, and output it back to the screen. The processing part involves making choices, such as whether someone is old enough to watch a particular movie. They have also looked at doing things repeatedly and the controls they can implement. Controls include only continuing with the loop while a value is less than a specified value or doing something a specific number of times. The Python programming unit is a fantastic opportunity for our Year 8 pupils to get a real feel of how computer programs are made and executed. For those going on to GCSE, it feeds directly into the GCSE curriculum. For those who choose other options, the KS3 skills they have learned give them the understanding needed to make better choices when buying computers and software or hiring experts in the field.





## Year 7

Year 7 pupils have just completed a module in Scratch programming. Scratch is a visual block-based programming language that lets pupils more easily visualise what is happening. It still uses programming foundations, such as Variables (data storage in a program), Selection (making choices), and Iteration (doing something repeatedly). It teaches the pupils how computers will execute their programs pedantically accurately and how a list of instructions must be done in the correct order to get the correct result. This module is challenging for pupils as it takes them away from how they used Scratch in primary education. Building on those previous skills, it teaches them how the Scratch programs work and the thinking needed to write computer programs. It's also an exciting time for those who teach the subject. It's the module that really captures the imagination of our future developers.





## Headteacher's Welcome

**At Woldgate School, we know and care for our pupils and students as individuals, and we tailor our support to their individual needs.**

This ensures that our pupils develop in confidence and character, and grow into responsible members of the community. Positive relationships with pupils is at the heart of effective education, where pupils feel able to ask for help when they need it, and feel their voice is heard.

One of the ways in which we ensure pupils feel supported is our fantastic Care & Achievement team. Each year group has a dedicated, non-teaching Care & Achievement Coordinator. The Care & Achievement Coordinator knows every child in their year group, and ensures each pupil gets the support they need to succeed and thrive. Care & Achievement Coordinators can be contacted via their mobile numbers (available on our school website) or by email.



Our Heads of School play a crucial role in supporting our pupils and Care & Achievement Coordinators. Heads of School are Assistant Headteachers and support pupils by holding assemblies, planning events, visits and managing interventions and support for pupils. Ms Minton is Head of Lower School (Year 7), Mr Macdonald is Head of Middle School and oversees Years 8 and 9 and Mrs Atkinson is Head of Upper School (Years 10 and 11). Miss Smith is Head of Sixth Form and oversees Years 12 and 13.



Our Attendance Team, comprising Mrs Geary, Mrs O'Brien and Mr Marks are an important part of the Care & Achievement team, and support pupils and parents with maintaining good attendance, and putting in place support for pupils with low attendance. Good attendance is essential for making good progress in learning, as well as good mental health and wellbeing.

Finally, our Safeguarding Team play an essential role in providing our pupils with the care and support they need. Mrs Handley, Deputy Headteacher for Care & Achievement is our Designated Safeguarding Lead. Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Wright, works with staff, pupils, parents and external agencies to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our pupils. Mrs Handley and Mrs Wright's contact details are available on our school website.

We believe that Woldgate School is special due to the care we provide our pupils, and we have a dedicated and experienced team of colleagues to support our pupils every day. With these talented and hardworking colleagues, supported by our fantastic teachers and support staff, our pupils are truly known and cared for as individuals.

**Mr Sloman**  
**HEADTEACHER**

## Key dates

To find out more about upcoming events and visits, please view the [Woldgate School Calendar](#).

**Wednesday 26th March:** ..... Year 11 Woldgate Tutorial – Humanities (3pm to 4pm)

**Thursday 27th March:** ..... GCSE Drama Assessment Day

..... Year 8 Careers Day

**Friday 28th March:** ..... Year 7 Writing Workshop Day

**Monday 31st March:** ..... Iceland Visit

**Wednesday 2nd April:** ..... Year 11 visit to York University

**Friday 4th April:** ..... Last day of term (pupils finish at 12:15pm)





## YEAR 8 HPV Vaccinations

If your child is in **Year 8** they will be due to receive the HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) vaccination this year. The Immunisation team will be visiting Woldgate School on Tuesday **22 April 2025** to carry out vaccination sessions. This vaccination is part of the routine NHS childhood schedule, and is important in preventing different types of cancer in both males and females.

Please visit: <https://humber.schoolvaccination.uk/hpv/2024/eastriding> and complete a consent form online, please do this as soon as possible.

If you do not wish to consent to your child having the vaccinations, then please complete a formal NO consent via the same link.

**PLEASE BE AWARE CONSENTS/REFUSALS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED VIA THE LINK BEFORE 4TH APRIL. DUE TO EASTER HOLIDAYS, ANY SUBMISSIONS AFTER 4TH APRIL MAY BE INCLUDED IN CATCH UP SESSIONS.**

**Information about the vaccines can be found on the following websites:**

[www.schoolvaccination.uk](http://www.schoolvaccination.uk)

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6405e7ae8fa8f527fb67cb6a/UKHSA-12287-immunisations-young-people.pdf>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hpv-vaccine-vaccination-guide-leaflet>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immunisations-for-young-people>




# Knowledge Books

It is nice to see so many pupils using their Knowledge Books throughout school every day. We are pleased to have provided such a useful resource for children to use during the academic year.

Please can we make you aware that, if Knowledge Books have been lost, replacement copies can be provided. There is a small charge of £5 to cover production costs which can be paid by cash or card payment at the office.





## Helping your Child to Prepare for Exams: Part 1

**Tests and exams can be a challenging part of school life for children and young people and their parents or carers. With our Year 11 pupils and Year 13 students sitting their exams in a few weeks, we have provided some advice about how you can support your child before and during their exams:**

### Watch for signs of stress

**Children and young people who experience stress may:**

- worry a lot
- feel tense
- get lots of headaches and stomach pains
- not sleep well
- be irritable
- lose interest in food or eat more than normal
- not enjoy activities they previously enjoyed
- seem negative and low in their mood
- seem hopeless about the future

Having someone to talk to about their work can help. Support from a parent, friend or member of staff can help young people share their worries and keep things in perspective.

Encourage your child to talk to a member of school staff who they feel is supportive, particularly their Care & Achievement Coordinator. If you feel your child isn't coping, it may also be helpful for you to talk to your child's Care & Achievement Coordinator. Please contact them to arrange a meeting. Try to involve your child as much as possible.

## Make sure your child eats well

A balanced diet is vital for your child's health, and can help them to feel well during exam periods. Some parents find that too many high-fat, high-sugar and high-caffeine foods and drinks (such as cola, sweets, chocolate, burgers and chips) make their children hyperactive, irritable and moody. Where possible involve your child in shopping for food and encourage them to choose some healthy snacks.

## Help your child get enough sleep

Good sleep will improve thinking and concentration. Most teenagers need between 8 and 10 hours' sleep a night. Allow half an hour or so for your child to wind down between studying, watching TV or using a computer and going to bed to help them get a good night's sleep. Cramming all night before an exam is usually a bad idea. Sleep will benefit your child far more than a few hours of panicky last-minute study.

## Help them to study

Make sure your child has somewhere comfortable to study. Ask them how you can best support them with their revision. Help them to come up with practical ideas that will help them revise, such as drawing up a revision schedule or getting hold of past papers for practice. To help with motivation, encourage your child to think about their goals in life and see how their revision and exams are related to them.

**If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child, please do contact us.**



# Good Attendance



*Means being in school at least 97% of the time\**



**90%**

19 Days  
Absence

**BELOW MINIMUM** GOVERNMENT THRESHOLD

**93%**

13 Days  
Absence

**VERY LOW**

**95%**

9 Days  
Absence

**LOW**

**97%**

6 Days  
Absence

**GOOD**

**100%**

0 Days  
Absence

**PERFECT**

*\*Across one academic year*





# Rewards

## Rewards for the Week

Our school motto is **'Everything we do should be worthy of great merit, character and value'**, and every day our pupils' efforts, contributions and achievements are recognised with rewards that reflect these values.

Our pupils understand these core values as being the foundation of successful learning, and a successful life, and each of the rewards holds a special significance.

**279,608**

**MERIT**

**39,174**

**CHARACTER**

**21,437**

**VALUE**

**598,301**

**TOTAL**

## Our School Houses

Every pupil belongs to one of our five Houses, representing our local countryside. Pupils can be awarded House points for exceptional contributions to school life, and for participating in House competitions and events, and all rewards contribute to each House reward total.

**229,105**

**HOUSE TOTAL**



**126,668**



**137,175**



**143,565**



**108,945**



**106,403**



# Awards

## Headteacher Awards

The Headteacher Award is given to those exceptional pupils and students who achieve the highest number of rewards in their year group each week.

**The recipients of the Headteachers Awards last week were:**

- Year 7:** Harry Watson
- Year 8:** Noah Markowski
- Year 9:** Freya Sanders
- Year 10:** Leon Cook
- Year 11:** Jack Dower
- Year 12:** Ewan Higson
- Year 13:** Eleanor Taylor

## Acts of Great Character

The moral qualities that define an individual. For example, demonstrating kindness, offering support or actively engaging with the wider community.

**The pupils with the most Great Character awards last week were:**

- Year 7:** Kayla Alexieva
- Year 8:** Freddie Dunstan
- Year 9:** Harrison Best
- Year 10:** Harry Leeper
- Year 11:** Isobelle Smith
- Year 12:** Emmie Smith
- Year 13:** Oscar Rose

## Acts of Great Merit

The quality of being particularly good or worthy, especially deserving of praise or reward. For example, the production of an outstanding piece of classwork, home learning or an outstanding assessment outcome.

**The pupils with the most Great Merit awards last week were:**

- Year 7:** Alfie Barrass
- Year 8:** Noah Cox
- Year 9:** Matilda Matthews
- Year 10:** Sebastian Blair
- Year 11:** Rihanna Watts
- Year 12:** Charlie Gregory
- Year 13:** Lily Gibbens

## Acts of Great Value

The principles or standards of conduct we work to; those acts and skills that are valued by our wider society. For instance, the ability to demonstrate emotional intelligence, to communicate effectively or be a leader of a team.

**The pupils with the most Great Value awards last week were:**

- Year 7:** Olivia Beck
- Year 8:** Finn Hall
- Year 9:** Courtney Toon
- Year 10:** Amelia Ellis
- Year 11:** Freddie Hollingworth
- Year 12:** Adam Brown
- Year 13:** Emily Guest

# Meet our Pupil Care Team



**Care & Achievement  
Coordinator: Year 7**

Mrs F McDonough

fmcdonough@woldgate.net



**Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead**

Mrs C Wright

cwright@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement  
Coordinator: Year 8**

Mrs S Clark

sclark@woldgate.net



**Attendance Officer**

Mrs R O'Brien

robrien@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement  
Coordinator: Year 9**

Mrs R Marsden

rmarsden@woldgate.net



**Attendance and Wellbeing**

Mr J Marks  
01759 302395 Option 1  
jmarks@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement  
Coordinator: Year 10**

Mrs L Cavanagh

lcavanagh@woldgate.net



**Office Manager**

Mrs A Charlton  
01759 302395  
office@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement  
Coordinator: Year 11**

Mrs S Oliver

soliver@woldgate.net



**Office Assistant**

Mrs V Mills  
01759 302395  
office@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement  
Coordinator: Sixth Form**

Mrs E Fairhurst  
07790 987137

efairhurst@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement Coordinator:  
Diabetic Care and First Aid.**

Mrs L Kendra

lkendra@woldgate.net





**Woldgate**  
School

[www.woldgate.net](http://www.woldgate.net)

Part of the Family



**Wonder**  
Learning Partnership  
Primary | Secondary | Further Education

## Casual Examinations Invigilator

Closing date: 1st April 2025 | Apply: [www.wlp.education](http://www.wlp.education)

- Reliable and responsible colleague needed to join our examination invigilator team
- Play a key role in ensuring examinations are conducted in a fair, secure and controlled environment.
- All invigilators are employed on a casual basis and required to work during both internal mock and external examination periods throughout the academic year.
- SCP2 £12.26 p/h - SCP4 £12.65 p/h

# Teach with Wonder

## Paid Teaching Internship Programme 2025

£1,275  
Teaching  
Internships  
available  
now!

After an extremely successful internship programme in 2024, we are delighted to once again be able to offer more young people an opportunity to find out why teaching is such an inspirational career choice.

Our internship programme combines professional development, talks from external speakers, a visit to one of our primary schools, planning a trip and of course an opportunity to teach our pupils. You receive dedicated mentorship, support, and training over the three-week period and in your final week, you can choose to teach your very first lesson. It is simply a privilege to see our interns flourish and utterly amazing to see them stand in front of their first class after just three weeks.

In addition to all the great opportunities you will receive during this three-week programme, you will also receive a payment of £1,275.00 funded by the Department for Education.

### Our paid internships are available for people who:

- have a genuine interest in teaching
- have not already accepted a place on an Initial Teacher Training programme
- have not completed a paid internship before
- have (or are working towards completing) a degree or a related degree in mathematics, physics, chemistry, or modern foreign languages (French and Spanish)

### We are recruiting for placements in maths, physics, chemistry and modern foreign languages starting on:

- 9th June 2025 to 27th June 2025
- 23rd June 2025 to 11th July 2025

### Our internships are available at both:

Woldgate School and Sixth Form [www.woldgate.net](http://www.woldgate.net)

and

Longcroft School and Sixth Form [www.longcroftschoo.co.uk](http://www.longcroftschoo.co.uk)



**Wonder**  
Institute of Education  
Educate | Empower | Engage | Enrich

## Recruitment now open!

To register and receive an application pack please contact:

**Victoria Tomlinson**

Wonder Institute of Education

[IOE@WLP.education](mailto:IOE@WLP.education)