

Newsletter

ISSUE 438

Of great merit, character & value



New Sports Hall Takes Shape

It is hard to believe we have now been in our new school building for seven months. The sense of pride remains strong and is evident as you walk through the building seeing learning taking place in bright, modern classrooms equipped with excellent facilities.



Excitement continues to build as work progresses on the new Sports Hall. Watching the structure take shape in real-time is absolutely fascinating. It also provides a valuable real-world example for our pupils and students, demonstrating how design, planning, demolition, and construction all come together through teamwork to bring a project to fruition.

Our new Sports Hall is due to be completed by during the 2026 summer break and will provide our pupils with a high-quality sports hall, equipped fitness suite and dedicated activity studio.



If you have been to our school recently, you may have also noticed that the old main school building is being carefully demolished in stages. We expect this area of the site to be fully cleared by March 2027.

We thank you for your continued patience and consideration as building work continues.



Headteacher's Welcome

At Woldgate School, an exceptional academic education sits at the heart of everything we do, and we are uncompromising in our ambition for every child to succeed. However, this ambition goes well beyond examination outcomes. We are equally passionate about developing pupils' character, values, and sense of purpose, so that they are equipped to contribute positively to our community and the wider world.

We believe strongly that the best education is a holistic one - where academic success is complemented by the development of confidence, resilience, kindness, and integrity. These principles are brought together in our commitment to ensuring that all we do is worthy not only of **Great Merit**, but also of **Great Character** and **Great Value**. It is this balance that enables our pupils to flourish and prepares them for life beyond school.

The final half term of the year provides a wonderful opportunity to place a particular focus on these wider experiences, and we are looking forward to a range of events that bring our community together and allow every pupil to feel part of something special.

Our **Sports Days**, taking place next week, are a highlight of the school calendar. They are about far more than competition and sport - they are about participation, encouragement, and shared celebration. Alongside our traditional races, the Mini-Marathon ensures that every pupil can take part in a way that works for them, whether that is running, walking, skipping or using their wheelchair. It is always a fantastic occasion that captures the spirit of inclusivity and community that we value so highly.



We are also excited for our **Trips Days** in the final two weeks of term. All pupils in Years 7-9 have the opportunity to visit Flamingo Land, while Year 10 pupils can choose between Flamingo Land and York Maze. These experiences are incredibly valuable - not just as a reward after a year of hard work, but as an opportunity for pupils to build friendships and enjoy shared experiences outside the classroom. For those remaining in school, a carefully planned activities programme will ensure that everyone continues to feel engaged and included.

Finally, we are delighted to be introducing our first **RAG Day (Raising and Giving Day)**. This will see form groups working together to raise money for charities that matter to them, through stalls, activities, and friendly competition. It promises to be a joyful and purposeful day, helping pupils to understand the importance of giving back and the difference they can make.

We are really looking forward to the weeks ahead and all that they will bring for our pupils and our wider school community.

Please look out for further information on all of the above and have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Adams
Headteacher

Key dates

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

Thursday 25th June:..... Year 7 Parents' Evening

Thursday 18th June:..... Learning Support Review Evening

Friday 3rd July: Year 11 Prom

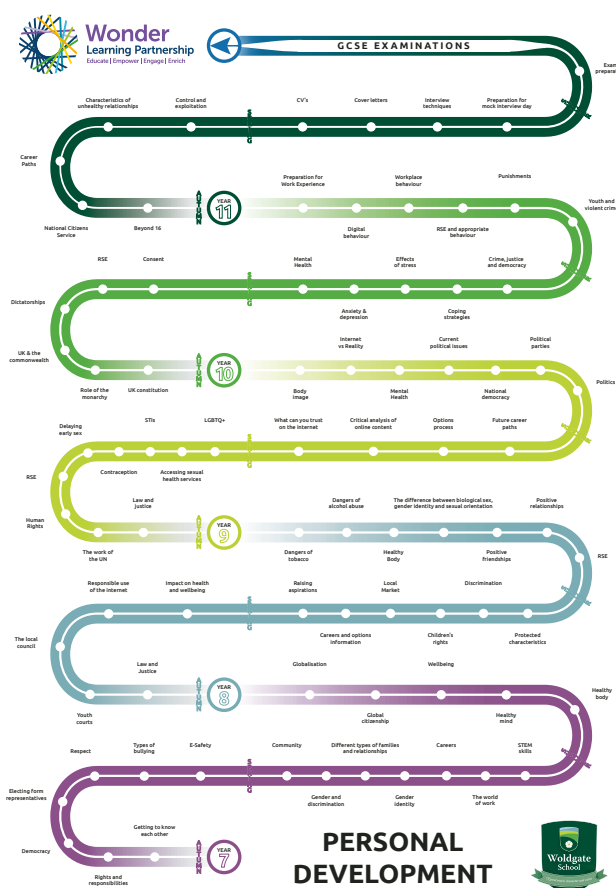
Friday 17th July:..... School walk and end of term (12.40pm finish)

Personal Development

What is Personal Development?

Personal Development refers to the knowledge, concepts and skills that pupils need to learn to be able to navigate the world successfully and safely. Personal Development comprises of elements of Citizenship, RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) and Careers. We divide this into 4 core themes that the work centres around; Living in the Outside World, Relationship and Sex Education, Careers IAG (Information, Advice and Guidance) and Wellbeing (both physical and mental). This week, I would like to update you on what Year 10 are exploring in Personal Development this half term.

This half term, Year 7 continue their journey through the 'Wellbeing' theme, looking this time at issues relating to mental wellbeing and how to support their positive wellbeing.



Careers Update

Information webinar 16th June about the construction industry for both pupils as well as parents /carers -

When we think of construction, we often picture bricklayers on scaffolding. While traditional trades are vital, the modern construction sector offers an incredibly diverse range of career opportunities perfect for our Year 10 and 11 pupils planning their next steps.

From digital design and drone piloting to civil engineering, sustainability planning, and project management, there is a path for every skill set. Whether your teenager is analytical, creative, or hands-on, the industry needs their talents.

Right here in our region, major developments—such as the **Humber Freeport** logistics hubs and massive renewable energy infrastructure like the **East Yorkshire Solar Farm**—are creating a huge demand for a skilled local workforce. Regional contractors like **Houlton** and **Persimmon Homes** are regularly looking for the next generation of talent.

Pathways to Success

There is no single “right” way to enter the industry. Young people can choose the route that best suits their learning style:

- **Apprenticeships:** Earn while learning, gaining hands-on experience with local employers while achieving NVQ qualifications.
- **T-Levels:** A fantastic technical alternative to A-Levels, offering a mix of classroom learning and a substantial 45-day industry placement.
- **University Degrees:** Ideal for structural engineering, architecture, or quantity surveying, often sponsored by major construction firms.

If you would like to join the webinar, please go to the link below:

<https://pathwayctm.com/event/insight-into-construction-careers-for-students-and-parents/>

BUILD YOUR FUTURE: CONSTRUCTION CAREERS WITH HULL & EAST YORKSHIRE CAREERS HUB

Thinking about a future in construction but not sure where to start?

Join an online session for students and parents/carers who want to explore the huge range of opportunities



- Explore the wide variety of construction careers
- Learn what employers are actually looking for
- Get practical, real-world advice on getting started
- Hear from industry professionals
- Ask your questions and gain valuable insights

Get inspired and hear from leading employers: Keepmoat, Miller, Vistry Group, and Axxis CLC



Online

Tue 16 June

REGISTER



Safeguarding

We are delighted to share that we have recently appointed Mrs Cavanagh as our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL). The role of DDSL is an exceptionally important role within a school focused on supporting our Care & Achievement Co-ordinator to manage welfare concerns and working with external agencies to ensure the best pastoral care for our young people.

Many families will already know Mrs Cavanagh through her work as part of our pastoral team. For almost five years, Mrs Cavanagh has provided dedicated support to young people and families that make up our current Year 11 cohort. Mrs Cavanagh continues to offer this support to Year 11 as they navigate their final GCSE examinations, look to celebrate their achievements at prom and prepare for their transition into Sixth Form.



Mrs Cavanagh brings a wealth of experience, knowledge and compassion to this role. Her strong relationships with students, families and staff, alongside her commitment to ensuring that every young person feels safe, supported and able to thrive, make her exceptionally well placed to undertake to take on this new role.

Staying Safe Around Water This Summer

We hope that you enjoyed the heat wave that we experienced over the May half term. Unfortunately, the lovely weather hasn't continued into the new term, but we are hopeful for a return of the nice weather as we look towards Sports Day, end of year celebrations and the Summer Holidays. As we look forward to good weather, we would also like to remind families about the importance of water safety.

Unfortunately, the May half term was marred by recent reports of tragic drownings involving children and young people across the UK. These incidents are a strong reminder that although open water can provide great fun it can also present significant dangers, even

to confident swimmers. Many incidents occur unexpectedly and often involve cold-water shock, hidden currents, deep water, slippery banks or difficulties getting out of the water once entered.

While we are fortunate to live in a beautiful part of the East Riding, our local area contains a number of canals and waterways that can pose risks to young people. Around Pocklington and the surrounding villages there are ponds, drainage dykes, rivers, reservoirs, lakes and flooded gravel pits which may appear safe but can contain hidden hazards beneath the surface.

To support you to discuss the dangers of open water swimming we have included some key messages regarding staying safe in water this summer.

- Never swim in open water unless it is a designated and supervised location.
- Avoid jumping or diving into open water.
- Stay away from the edges of rivers, lakes, ponds and reservoirs where banks may be unstable or slippery.
- Never enter water to rescue another person. Instead, call 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service if inland, or the Coastguard if at the coast.
- Always tell someone where you are going and who you are with.
- Avoid taking risks to impress friends or for social media content.
- Supervise younger children closely around any water source.

Furthermore, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) promotes key safety messages that are focused on staying safe should you find yourself in difficulty in open water. All year groups will be familiar with these safety tips as we have discussed them with our young people in form over recent weeks.

Float to Live

If you unexpectedly find yourself in difficulty in the water:

1. Tilt your head back with your ears submerged.
2. Relax and try to control your breathing.
3. Use your hands to help you stay afloat.
4. Once breathing is under control, call for help or swim to safety if possible.

We hope all of our families enjoy a safe and enjoyable summer. Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep young people safe both in and out of school.

How does your attendance impact your future?



Data released by the UK Department for Education shows that the lower your attendance the less likely you are to achieve in your GCSEs.

100%

82%

Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

OVER 95%

77%

Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

92%-93%

53%

Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

BELOW 90%

43%

Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

Research shows that for every 17 days you miss across your school career, your GCSE results go down by one whole grade!



Achieving 5 or more GCSEs at Grade 5+ has shown to increase your lifetime earnings by **41%**

There are
365 DAYS
in a year

175
are not spent
in school!

**That gives you plenty of time for holidays, TV, shopping and video games.*

Our Priorities

Wonder Culture: The health and wellbeing of colleagues and pupils
Life Changing Experiences: For every child, beyond the formal curriculum
Educational partnerships: A collaboration to raise standards and create opportunities
New Technology: New software, hardware, access to AI and the virtual world
Capital Investment: Shaping our vision for exceptional learning environments

Wonder Priority: Capital Investment

Shaping our vision for exceptional learning environments



Exciting Estates Development

New Classrooms at Melbourne Primary School

As part of our commitment to investing in learning environments, we are delighted to share that pupils at Melbourne Primary School have moved into their new classrooms. Built following a successful CIF (Condition Improvement Fund) bid, the classrooms replace two old mobile units and have already made a huge difference to colleagues and pupils.

Woldgate School New Build Update

As new memories are made in our fantastic new school building, we take a moment to remember all the learning and memories made through the generations of communities in Pocklington and surroundings areas as demolition of the old buildings gets started.

It's exciting to the space cleared and construction starting for the new sports hall which is the next phase of the Department for Education's (DfE) Schools rebuild programme.



HAF
Holiday Activities & Food

YPC

**BE A PART OF HAF
THIS SUMMER!**

Make some fun memories this
summer by signing up to our HAF
sessions!

There are lots of exciting activities available for
young people aged 11-18, with free HAF spaces
for those eligible to receive benefits-related free
school meals, as well as paid spaces (£2-5).

Why not get active this summer by joining us in our
boxing, water activities and nerf wars sessions?
Or you could learn a new skill by getting creative with
graffiti art, music making, science workshops -
and more!

**Each session is 4 hours long and includes a hot
meal! - BOOKING IS REQUIRED!**



WHEN?

23rd July - 4th
September 2026

WHERE?

17 Railway Street,
Pocklington,
YO42 2QR



- Youth Boxing
- STEM Workshops
- Water Activities
- Graffiti Canvas Art
- Outdoor Theatre
- Nerf Wars
- Sculpture Making
- Music Making
- Trashion Show



To book your place and see our full timetable
scan the QR code above or visit: eequ.org

For more info:
youthworker@ypcount.org.uk



Meet our Pupil Care Team



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Year 7**

Mrs F McDonough
year7@woldgate.net



**Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead**

Mrs L Cavanagh
safeguarding@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Year 8**

Mrs S Oliver
year8@woldgate.net



Attendance Officer

Mrs R O'Brien
01759 302395 Option 1
attendance@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Year 9**

Mrs S Clark
year9@woldgate.net



Attendance and Wellbeing

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



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Year 10**

Mrs R Marsden
year10@woldgate.net



Office Manager

Mrs A Charlton
01759 302395
office@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Year 11**

Mrs L Cavanagh
year11@woldgate.net



Office Assistant

Mrs V Mills
01759 302395
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**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Sixth Form**

Mrs E Fairhurst
07790 987137
sixthform@woldgate.net



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

Mrs L Kendra
lkendra@woldgate.net