Woldgate School
Of great merit, character & value

Part of the Family
Wonder Learning Partnership
Educate | Empower | Engage | Enrich

ISSUE 448

Newsletter

Of great merit, character & value

ADHD Awareness Month:

Understanding and Supporting Children with ADHD

October is ADHD Awareness Month, an opportunity to increase understanding of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and celebrate the strengths of those who live with it. Mrs Bramall, our SENCo has been delivering assemblies this week to raise awareness.

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92 Kilnwick Road, Pocklington, York, YO42 2LL

What is ADHD?

ADHD is a neurodevelopmental condition that affects how a person pays attention, manages impulses and regulates their activity levels. It is a difference in the way the brain functions.

Children with ADHD may experience:

- Difficulty concentrating or staying focused.
- Being easily distracted.
- Forgetfulness or losing things.
- Finding it hard to sit still.
- Acting impulsively without thinking through consequences.
- Difficulty organising tasks and managing time.

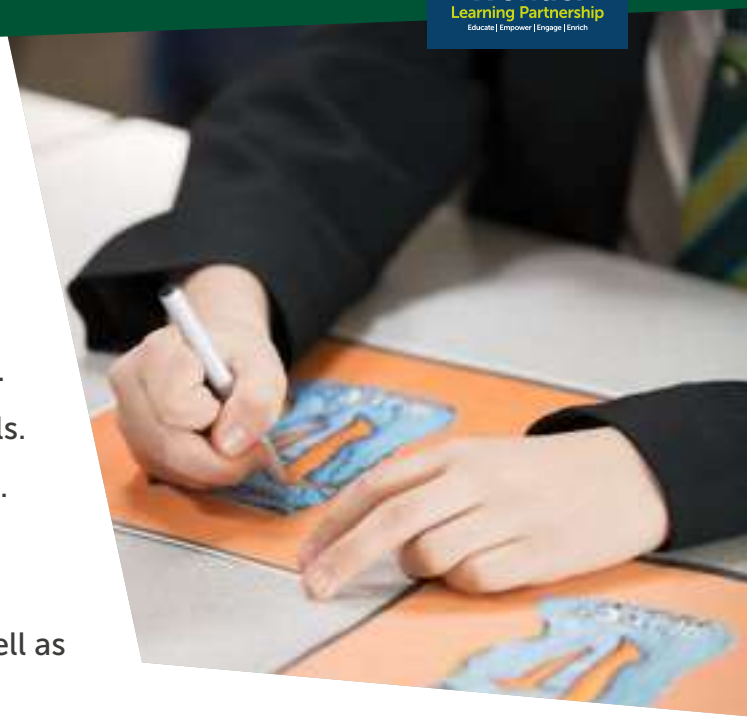
Every child is different, and ADHD can present in different ways.
Some children are predominantly inattentive, while others may be more hyperactive and impulsive.

Strengths of children with ADHD

While ADHD can present challenges, it is important to recognise the many strengths often associated with it. Children with ADHD may be:

- Creative and imaginative thinkers.
- Energetic and enthusiastic learners.
- Curious and adventurous.
- Resilient problem-solvers.
- Passionate about their interests.

With the right support, children with ADHD can thrive both in and out of school.



How we can help in school

We support children with ADHD by:

- Providing clear routines and expectations.
- Breaking tasks into smaller, manageable steps.
- Using visual reminders and organisational tools.
- Offering movement breaks where appropriate.
- Working closely with families to understand individual needs.
- Celebrating strengths and achievements as well as addressing challenges.

How parents/carers can support at home

Simple strategies at home can make a big difference:

- Establish consistent daily routines.
- Give one instruction at a time.
- Use praise and encouragement regularly.
- Help children organise belongings and homework.
- Encourage physical activity and healthy sleep habits.
- Work in partnership with school to share successes and concerns.

When to seek advice

Many children can be energetic, forgetful or distracted at times. If these difficulties are affecting a child's learning, relationships or daily life over a prolonged period, parents may wish to speak with school staff, a GP or other healthcare professionals for advice.

Working together

At our school, we recognise that every child is unique. **ADHD Awareness Month** reminds us of the importance of understanding, acceptance and working together to ensure that all children feel valued, supported and able to achieve their potential.

If you have questions about ADHD or would like advice on supporting your child, please contact the school. We are always happy to help and signpost families to appropriate sources of support.

ADHD
AWARENESS
MONTH
Understanding, Respect, and Support
Woldgate
School

WHAT IS
ADHD?

MYTHS
AND STIGMA

STRENGTHS AND
SUPPORT NEEDS
OUR STRENGTHS
SUPPORT THAT HELPS

HOW WE CAN
SUPPORT
OURSELVES
Self Advocacy Toolkit

HOW WE CAN
SUPPORT
EACH OTHER

REFLECTION AND
DISCUSSION
What can we do to make sure everyone feels included and supported at school?
Woldgate
School

Presenting the next Woldgate musical

Nativity! The Musical

Main Cast Rehearsals

Tuesday's After School (KU3) 3.30pm-5pm

Full Cast Rehearsals

Wednesday's After School (KU3) 3.30pm-5pm

Vocal Rehearsals with Mr Schofield

Wed, Thur, Fri Lunchtimes & Thur Registrations (KU1)

See schedule for details

Headteacher's Welcome

It was an absolute joy to welcome more than 800 people, representing 21 primary schools, to our first Open Evening in our new school.

This is an incredibly exciting time for Woldgate School. Our new buildings are nearing completion, including our soon-to-open sports, dance and fitness complex while the landscaping of our extensive grounds will complete what is an exceptional school for our community.

Our motto, **"Be Worthy"**, reflects our belief in providing a holistic education, **'of great merit, character and value'**. It shapes the education we provide and the opportunities our children experience through an extensive programme of clubs, visits, musical performances, sport and events.

Importantly, we remain a relatively small secondary school. We are sufficiently large to offer a broad and challenging curriculum, extensive enrichment opportunities and a Sixth Form, but small enough to ensure that every child is known, valued and cared for as an individual.

Our children also continue to achieve exceptional individual outcomes. This is true across Woldgate School and our Sixth Form, where, after seven years with us, our young adults leave having achieved highly and are ready for the next stage of their lives.

This year, as an academy and our own admissions authority, **we will guarantee a place to every child who names Woldgate School as their first preference on their admissions application**, allowing us to welcome even more children and families into our new school.

Ultimately, however, it is our community and, above all, our children who make Woldgate such a special place. Very few schools are fortunate enough to combine exceptional teaching and facilities with the privilege of serving such wonderful villages and market towns.

I would therefore like to thank all our parents who supported the evening by allowing their children to volunteer, and for braving the traffic to enable them to attend. Thank you also to my colleagues for giving of their time to meet families and support our Year 6 children as they begin their transition to secondary school.

Finally, thank you to our primary schools and to the many Year 5 & Year 6 families who joined us. It was a wonderful evening and a very special first Open Evening in our new school.

We very much look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 children in September 2027.

Jonathan Britton |Headteacher (Interim)

Key dates

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

October

21st ..... Year 11- Every Second Counts Evening
21st-22nd ..... Year 13 History and Politics London visit
24th-31st ..... Half Term
28th ..... GCSE Drama Hull Truck visit

November

5th ..... A Level Film Festival visit
12th ..... Sixth Form Open Evening
21st ..... Nativity Full Cast Rehearsal
26th ..... Year 11 Parents' Evening
28th ..... Nativity Band Rehearsal
29th ..... Nativity Full Cast Rehearsal

Safeguarding

Kinship Care: What Parents and Carers Need to Know

The Department for Education has recently updated its guidance on kinship care. Kinship care is when a child is raised by a relative or family friend when their parents are unable to care for them.

The new guidance highlights the importance of listening to children and young people in kinship care and making sure their voices are at the centre of decisions about their lives.

What is kinship care?

Kinship care is when a child is cared for by a relative, friend or another person connected to the family when their parents are unable to look after them. This may be a temporary or long-term arrangement and can include care provided by grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings or close family friends.

Kinship care can be:

Informal, where the child lives with relatives or friends without a court order.

Formal, where there is a legal arrangement such as a:

- Special Guardianship Order (SGO)
- Child Arrangements Order (CAO)
- Kinship foster care arrangement approved by the local authority

What does this mean for schools?

Schools are often among the first professionals to become aware that a child is living with kinship carers. The guidance recognises that many children in kinship care may have experienced significant change or trauma, which can affect their wellbeing, attendance, behaviour and learning.

From Autumn 2026, schools can record all children living in kinship care arrangements through the school census, including informal arrangements.

Schools will continue to work closely with families to:

- Support children's wellbeing and learning.
- Understand and respond to individual needs.
- Signpost families to specialist support and advice where appropriate.
- Ensure children are listened to and included in decisions that affect them.

Looking ahead

From September 2027, local authorities will have a duty to promote the educational achievement of children in kinship care, including some children who have never been in local authority care but are living under Special Guardianship Orders or Child Arrangements Orders.

Letting school know about kinship care arrangements

We encourage parents and carers to let the school know if a child is living in a kinship care arrangement. Sharing this information helps us to understand a child's circumstances and ensure the right support is in place. Some children in kinship care may be eligible for additional educational funding, such as Pupil Premium Plus, particularly if they are living under a Special Guardianship Order or Child Arrangements Order following a period in local authority care. Informing the school of any kinship care arrangement helps us identify available support and ensure children receive the help they need to thrive both academically and emotionally. Any information shared with the school will be treated sensitively and confidentially. If you are a kinship carer and would like advice or support, please contact the school on office@woldgate.net so we can help signpost you to appropriate services and resources.

Further information

Parents and carers can read the full government guidance here:

Kinship Care Guidance for Local Authorities

Catering News

Thank you to our kitchen team and Chartwells for the latest pop-up food bar where children had a wonderful selection of wraps to choose from.

Meet our Pupil Care Team

Care & Achievement Coordinator: Year 7

Mrs F McDonough
year7@woldgate.net

Care & Achievement Coordinator: Year 8

Mrs D Ellis (Interim)
year8@woldgate.net

Care & Achievement Coordinator: Year 9

Mrs S Oliver
year9@woldgate.net

Care & Achievement Coordinator: Year 10

Mrs S Clark
year10@woldgate.net

Care & Achievement Coordinator: Year 11

Ms R Marsden
year11@woldgate.net

Care & Achievement Coordinator: Sixth Form

Mrs E Fairhurst
07790 987137
sixthform@woldgate.net

Attendance Officer

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

Attendance and Wellbeing

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

Office Manager

Mrs A Charlton
01759 302395
office@woldgate.net

Office Assistant

Mrs V Mills
01759 302395
office@woldgate.net

Care & Achievement Coordinator: Diabetic Care and First Aid.

Mrs L Kendra
lkendra@woldgate.net

Meet our Pupil Care Team

Heads of School

Head of Lower School
Mr J Williams

Transition Coordinator
Miss K Lindsey

Head of Middle School
Mr R Askoolum

Head of Upper School
Mrs I Atkinson

Head of Sixth Form
Miss K Smith

Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs H Handley
safeguarding@woldgate.net

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs L Cavanagh
safeguarding@woldgate.net

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Miss K Smith
safeguarding@woldgate.net

Woldgate School

www.woldgate.net

Part of the Family:

Wonder Learning Partnership

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Casual Examinations Invigilator

Application Form: 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.
- SCP3 £12.85 p/h - SCP4 £13.05 p/h

Woldgate School

www.woldgate.net

Part of the Family:
Wonder Learning Partnership

Assistant Exams Officer & Cover Administrator

37 hours per week, term time only plus 5 days

SCP6: £26,847 (Full time equivalent)

Closing date: 9am 23rd October 2026

Apply: www.wlp.education

This position is fixed term to start November 2026 to cover maternity leave

Music Teacher

MPS

Part time - 3 days (Wed, Thurs, Fri)

Fixed Term 31st August 2027

Apply: www.wlp.education

Closing Date: 21st October 2026

Interview Date: 23rd October 2026

Woldgate School

www.woldgate.net

Part of the Family:

Wonder Learning Partnership

Pocklington
Junior School

www.pocklingtonjuniors.co.uk

Part of the Family:
Wonder
Learning Partnership

Teaching Assistant
Level 2

SCP5 £26,427 (pro rata)

Term time only I Mon-Fri

30 hours pw I 8.15am-3.15pm

Closing Date: 8am 3rd November 2026

Interview w/c: 9th November 2026

Apply: www.wlp.education