



School Newsletter 563

Values – Care – Achievement

Thursday 12 September 2025

Headteacher's Introduction



What a busy week we've experienced, where a real buzz of excitement continues as we conclude week two. I am delighted to share some wonderful highlights from our school community this week.

During my recent learning walks, I was fortunate to spend time in our art department and was genuinely impressed by the excellent work from our Year 10 students as they begin their Key Stage 4 journey. Their creativity and commitment are remarkable.

Attendance remains a key focus for us, and I am incredibly proud to report our remarkable achievements, particularly among our younger students. Our Year 7 and Year 8 students have demonstrated exceptional commitment, achieving attendance rates of 98% and 97.5% respectively. These figures are more than just numbers - they represent a crucial foundation for learning. By establishing strong attendance habits now, our students are laying the groundwork for future academic success.

Our commitment to pastoral care and spiritual development remains central to the vision of the school. This week in chapel, we've been reflecting on the Corinthians 'one body' scripture, exploring its profound message of unity, mutual support, and collective responsibility. This biblical teaching resonates deeply with our school's values, reminding us that each individual contributes to our broader school community's strength and success.

I'm looking forward to a significant event next week: inviting our Year 11 students and their families into school on Monday evening. This will be an important opportunity to explore the year ahead and fully prepare them as they approach this critical stage of their academic journey. We are committed to supporting our students through this crucial year and are delighted to inform parents that they are working diligently, demonstrating remarkable focus and resilience.

Best wishes for the week ahead.

Term Dates 2025 -2026

Autumn Term 2025

Staff Training Day

Half Term

Term Ends

- 3 Oct 2025 (School closed to students)

- 27-31 Oct 2025 (inclusive)

- 19 Dec 2025

Spring Term 2026

Staff Training Day

Students return

Half Term

Term Ends

- 5 Jan 2026 (School closed to students)

- 6 Jan 2026

- 16-20 Feb 2026 (inclusive)

- 26 Mar 2026

Summer Term 2026

Students return

May Bank Holiday

Half Term

Term Ends

Staff Training Day

- 13 Apr 2026

- 4 May 2026

- 25-29 May 2026 (inclusive)

- 17 Jul 2026

- 20 Jul 2026 (School closed to students)

Upcoming Events

Mon 15 Sept

Thu 18 Sept

Fri 19 Sept

Mon 22 Sept

Thu 2 Oct

Fri 3 Oct

Y11 Introduction Evening

School Photographs

School Photographs

Y10 Introduction Evening

Open Evening

Training Day (school closed to students)

MAIN SCHOOL OPEN EVENING

Thursday 2 October, 6.00pm

Values - Care - Achievement

PLEASE SHARE: If you would like to share students' achievements and events in the community, please email jssissons@ahs.pmat.academy. It's always nice to celebrate our school community.

AHS Feedback

We welcome all feedback and thank all parents for their valuable contributions. If you have a query or simply an observation about the school please complete the form online.



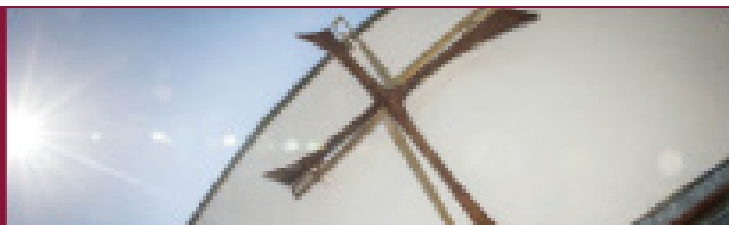
Social Media



Please follow us on Twitter @AHSYork or Facebook to keep up to date with the latest news and events!



This Week's School News



Food for Thought

This week our form tutor collective worship is entitled 'New Beginnings'. It reflects on the opportunities and challenges that a new academic year presents. We will reflect on the wisdom to be found in Ecclesiastes 3:1-4 and how we might live out the school's Christian values in the year ahead. Our daily quotes continue this theme.

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

Lao Tzu; philosopher and poet of ancient China

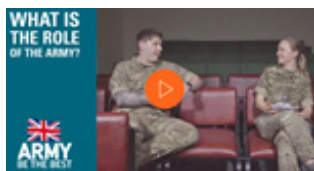


Art - Work of the Week

Year 13 student, Alyana Veldhuizen, has been working hard over the summer on her personal study project exploring people in their workplace. Very well done!



Careers Corner



What's Army Life Really Like?

New: Myth busting – Army edition

A brand-new series of [short videos](#) where real serving soldiers tackle the most common questions, concerns and misconceptions about Army life.

The videos cover common topics like training and day-to-day life, from whether you can join with piercings and tattoos to what to expect at the assessment centre.

Year 10 - Key Stage 4 Journey

We are delighted to share that Year 10 have made a fantastic start to the new school year. Over the past two weeks, students have returned with real enthusiasm and a strong work ethic, and it has been wonderful to see how quickly they have settled back into school life. Teachers have been impressed with the effort and maturity students are showing in lessons, and the way they are already beginning to rise to the expectations of Key Stage 4.

One of the most exciting parts of this term has been seeing students engage with their new option subjects. They are showing great curiosity and enjoyment as they explore these areas in more depth, and it is clear that many are thriving with the opportunity to study topics they have chosen themselves. Students are now firmly settled into these courses, and we would like to remind families that option choices are fixed at this point in the year, so there is no further opportunity to make changes.

We are very proud of how Year 10 have begun their GCSE journey and look forward to watching them continue to grow in confidence and independence over the months ahead. With such a positive start, we are confident they will make the most of all the opportunities this year has to offer.

Mr Green-Harding, Deputy Head: Curriculum

MFL Stars of the Week

Students were nominated by Language staff to receive an Effort merit, a postcard home and appear on the 'Stars Wall' for all their hard work:

KS3 French - Covenant Oluwasuyi, 9SDn
KS3 German - Daisy Johnson, 8KAn
KS3 Spanish - Saby Basu, 8MPe
KS4 French - Sam Button, 11SMr
KS4 German - Della Collins, 10EPy
KS4 Spanish - George Hughes, 11ECs
KS5 - German - Ava Gane, 12Da



Flu Vaccination

Vaccination UK is attending your child's school to provide flu vaccinations.



Vaccination UK

For your child to receive their nasal flu vaccination in school, please complete a [YES](#) consent form using the link below. The nasal spray is quick, painless and is the most effective option for under 18's.

If your child cannot have the nasal spray, the injectable flu vaccine is available, and you will be able to choose that method on the consent form.

If you DO NOT wish for your child to have a flu vaccination, please complete a [NO](#) consent via the same link.

Vaccination UK Immunisation, NY Administration Team
(01904 237 680)

REWARD & RECOGNITION

We're so excited to launch our rewards and recognition programme again this year and we look forward to praising and recognising achievement throughout.

A reminder of rewards and recognition available throughout the year within the table below:

Daily/Weekly	Half Termly	Termly	Yearly
House Merits (ALL Staff)	Subject Certificates	AHS Accolades	Reward and Recognition Mornings
HOY Award Nomination (ALL Staff)	Headteachers Breakfast	CEO Award	Sport Day
HOY Award (Year Teams)	House Competitions	Awarding of House Ties/Signature Tie	Announcing the House Winners and Presentation of the House Cup
Positive Messages / Phone Calls (ALL Staff)	Celebratory ACW and Award Distribution	Whole School Celebrations (Christmas, Easter and Summer)	
House Competitions		House Competitions	
		Whole School Celebrations	

Key dates:

- AHS Merit Mart will reopen its doors w/c 15 September
- HOY Award nominations have begun this week, 8 September
- HOY Awards winners for this week will be announced in next week's newsletter
- Headteacher Award nominations will begin towards the end of the half term
- Headteacher Award winners will receive a letter prior to the October half term



AHS MERIT MART

(OPENING TIMES)

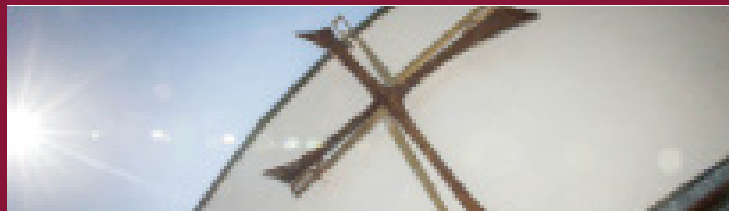
Monday - Closed
 Tuesday - Open 1.30-2.05
 Wednesday - Open 1.30 - 2.05
 Thursday - Closed
 Friday - Open 1.30-2.05

School Menu - Monday 15 September

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mains	Gammon & Pineapple Cheese & Onion Quiche	Honey & Ginger Sticky Chicken Vegetable Enchiladas (Vegan)	Roast Pork & Apple Sauce Vegetable Kiev (v)	Beef Lasagne Oven Roasted Vegetable Lasagne (v)	Freshly Battered Fish Veggie Nuggets (v)
On the side	Herby Diced Potatoes	Dirty Rice	Roast Potatoes Yorkshire Pudding	Garlic Bread	Chips
Vegetable	<i>Selection of Seasonal Vegetables served each day</i>				
Snack option & Daily Special	<i>Baked Jacket Potato & fillings</i> Homemade Sandwiches	<i>Baked Jacket Potato & fillings</i> Homemade Sandwiches	<i>Baked Jacket Potato & fillings</i> Homemade Sandwiches	<i>Baked Jacket Potato & fillings</i> Homemade Sandwiches	<i>Baked Jacket Potato & fillings</i> Homemade Sandwiches
Family Favourites	Pear Crumble & Custard <i>A selection of: Traybake/muffin Cookies Yogurt Fruit</i>	Jam Sponge & Custard <i>A selection of: Traybake/muffin Cookies Yogurt Fruit</i>	Apple Pie & Cream <i>A selection of: Traybake/muffin Cookies Yogurt Fruit</i>	Pineapple upside down Cake & Custard <i>A selection of: Traybake/muffin Cookies Yogurt Fruit</i>	Chocolate Sponge & Chocolate Sauce <i>A selection of: Traybake/muffin Cookies Yogurt Fruit</i>



This Week's Sixth Form News



Message from Mrs De Lashley, Assistant Head: Director of Sixth Form

Key Dates

Sixth Form Internal Taster Day - Friday 26 September
Sixth Form Open Evening - Thursday 13 November

Year 12

GCSE Maths & English Resit Exams - wc 3 November
Y11 IAG Day (no school for Sixth Form) - Friday 26 September
Y12 Form Tutor Evening - Wednesday 26 November
Y12 Winter Assessments - 2 x wks wc 19 January
Y12 Parents' Evening - Wednesday 4 March
BTEC External Assessments - wc 27 April
Y12 Summer Assessments - wc 29 June
Y12 Enrichment Week - wc 6 July
UCAS Evening for Parents - Tuesday 7 July
Y12 Work Experience - wc 13 July

Year 13

GCSE Maths & English Resit Exams - wc 3 November
Y11 IAG Day (no school for Sixth Form) - Friday 26 September
Y13 Autumn Assessments 2 x wks wc 3 November
Y13 Parents' Evening - Wed 10 December
Y13 Spring Assessments - wc 23 February & wc 2 March
BTEC External Assessments - wc 27 April
A Level Exams - wc 4 May
Y13 Prom - Friday June

Book Recommendation of the Week

A reminder that each week we share a recommendation from the post-16 reading list that we hope our students will engage with. This reading list is one of many that can be found online, but one that we think is broad, challenging and accessible. A copy of all of the listed books can be found in the Resource Centre.



Archbishop Holgate's School
A Church of England Academy Founded 1546



Sixth Form
2025-26

Student Leadership Programme

John 10:10 "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full."

At AHS we seek to nurture aspiration and promote excellence in all our students, driven by the belief that **'your present circumstances don't determine where you can go, merely where you start'.**

The Programme

This programme has been designed to encourage more student leadership where **impact is seen and legacies can be made.** Students will **manage their own project** from start to finish and **review progress** each term with the headteacher.

Students will present at **Senior Leadership Team meetings** and contribute to the **recruitment of staff** and the **School Development Plan.**

Students will be appraised throughout the process and **after completion** of the year-long programme, will be awarded the **AHS Student Leadership Programme Accreditation.**

School Captain will be awarded after completion of the programme to two students who have taken **full opportunity** of the programme to learn, develop and make a difference. This will be a **robust and fair system** that is based upon merit.

The Projects

1. Lead lunchtime clubs for main school and/or Sixth Form students
2. Student led communication (either paper or news bulletin)
3. Come up with three charities (one from each key stage)
4. Complete mural in the allotment
5. Community environmental action i.e. complete a project that gives back to our local community

Leadership: the ability to guide and influence a group of people towards achieving a common goal.

The need to know

- Apply by completing the form via the below QR code by **Friday 19th September**
- You must include detail of your vision for the project and steps involved in completing the project
- Your application will be reviewed and you will be called for interview with Mrs De Lashley, Mr McPaul or Mrs Pond



Many Different Kinds of Love: A story of life, death and the NHS by Michael Rosen

Poems, diary entries, doctor's notes and nurses' observations make up this moving account of Michael Rosen's six weeks in a Covid-induced coma. An antidote to anti-vaxxers and Covid denial, Many Different Kinds of Love is a warm expression of hope, strength and positivity and it's a compelling read for all sixth formers.



Physical Education Department

"Equipping students with the knowledge, skills and motivation to live active, healthy lives."



Welcome Back

Welcome back to PE everyone. We hope you enjoyed all the fantastic sport that took place over the summer and were inspired by the amazing performances at the Women's Euros. We are all looking forward to another exciting year of sport and PE. Please see details you need to access PE lessons and extra-curricular activities. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact school.

Google Classroom

In the next coming days, the PE Google Classroom for each class will be activated. On the classroom students can access general PE information, their Programme of Study and the Extra-Curricular Programme. Messages about lessons will also be on this class room, so please make sure that notifications are on.



Jewellery in PE Lessons

A reminder that students should not wear any jewellery for PE. In line with AfPE guidance, we remind students (via lessons and the newsletter) that they will be asked to remove ALL jewellery for PE lessons. This is a health and safety precaution and must be adhered to for the safety of your child and their classmates. If your child has just had their piercing done, they need to bring a note to state when they had them done and when they can be removed (usually 6 weeks). Until then you should provide tape/plasters to fully cover the piercing in the short term, however, they may not be able to take part in certain activities until the piercing is fully removed due to health and safety. Please remember that, in line with the school policy, only a single pair of plain studs and a nose stud are allowed in school and all should be removed for PE. Any cartilage piercings have to be removed for PE, so please ensure that your child is able to remove it by themselves.



Illness & Injury in PE Lessons

In PE, we endeavour to provide every student with an enjoyable experience to progress and achieve their full potential. In doing so, our school policy for illness/injury is stated below and in line with Ofsted guidance. This policy ensures that no student is missing out on vital information and is progressing through the lessons and scheme of work with their peers. They may not be able to take part fully, but they will still have a valued role within the lesson.

In the unlikely event that your son/daughter is unable to take part fully in PE lessons due to injury or illness then a signed parental note needs to be presented to their teacher at the start of the lesson. Please state the nature of their injury in your note so that the member of staff teaching your child can use their discretion as to how much the student can continue to be involved.

Despite being unable to take part fully, they may take on an officiating or coaching role or still be able to take part in moderate exercise. For example, if a student has hurt their hand and the planned lesson is Football then the student can still take part at a moderate level. If the student is unwell, again the member of staff would use their discretion to decide how appropriate the lesson plan is for the student and decide on an appropriate role for the student.

On receiving the note, we expect that all students whatever the injury or illness still get changed for PE. (If they are excused from swimming, they need to bring AHS shorts and t-shirt.) This is to ensure that they can, whatever the weather or activity, continue to participate in the role they are given. If a student arrives without correct kit they will receive a 20-minute lunchtime detention as stated in the school policy. They will be expected to wear the school's spare kit.

This policy ensures that all students are involved in the learning process and that the student will be appropriately dressed for being outside in all weather, with their teacher (there is no alternative supervision for the students so they must remain with their allocated teacher at all times). Please be advised that girls will not be excused from PE (except for swimming lessons) suffering from period pains. Medical evidence suggests that exercise eases these symptoms.

PE KIT Reminders

Please can we remind students that everyone needs to have a school hoodie or reversible for their outdoor PE lessons. As the weather starts to turn cold, students need to be dressed appropriately for their lessons as we will be outside in all weather. Students will also need to ensure that they have shin pads, navy blue football socks and boots for their football and rugby lessons due to health and safety. All PE kit is available from Keal Teamwear on Walmgate or through the second-hand school UNIFORMMD shop. Please see the school website for more details.



Extra-curricular PE

Our new extra-curricular programme for this half term is out now. Remember that our clubs are a relaxed environment with a focus on participation and enjoyment and students don't have to be selected in teams if they don't wish to be involved. Students do not need to sign up to PE clubs, you just need to show up on the day with the correct PE kit for the activity. Fixtures are also back on, so if you would like to be a part of a team then make sure you attend training to be eligible for selection.

Duke Of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Mr Goldsmith will be asking for names of any Y10 students that would like to work towards achieving their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award this year. It is a fantastic opportunity to add this to your CV as well as learn new skills and volunteer within the school and wider community. More information to follow in October.





Monday - Friday
08:00 am - 08:40 am
Learning Resource Centre



EXTRA CURRICULAR PE CLUBS UP TO OCT H/T.

DAY	LUNCH	Venue	Time
MON			
TUE			
WED	Netball Sixth Form (HGa)	Courts	1.30
THU	Badminton (Trainers only) Exam Y11 & 12 (Gs & WHy)	SH	1.30
FRI	Exam Catch Up Y10 - Y13 (Gs)	PE1/IT4	1.30

After School	Venue	Time
Badminton All Years (Be)	SH	3.20 – 4.10
Football Girls Y9,10,11 (EWr)	Back Field	3.20 – 4.10
Primary Festivals	Various	4.00 – 5.00
Netball All Years (Be, HKy)	Courts	3.20 – 4.10
Fitness Y10 & Y11 (Sl)	Fitness Suite	
Football Boys Y7 & 8 (WHy & LBr)	Back Field	
Table Tennis All Years (John) (Starting 7 th October)	Studio	
Meetings		
Football Girls Y7 & 8 (EWr)	Back Field	3.20 – 4.10
Football Boys Y9 & 10 (WHy & Gs)		
Rookie Lifeguard Invite Only Y7 (Be)	Pool	3.20 – 4.10

Remember to wear full school PE kit for after school activities and be on time.



Lunchtime Clubs



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A Cafellas (Boys Choir) 13:30 - 14:10 L37 Mr Starkie	Sparx Homework Club 13:30 - 14:00 MA12	Y7 Science Club 13:40 - 14:05 SC1 Mr Thompson	Exam Class Y11 and Y12 Badminton 13:30 - 14:10 Sports Hall Mr Goldsmith and Mr Hartley	Y7 MFL Film Club 13:20 - 13:50 ML4 Miss Leplatre Bring your packed lunch
KS4 Chess Club 13:30 - 14:10 SC4 Mr Tilbrook	Y11 - 13 History Society 13:30 - 14:00 HI2 Mr Walker	Werewolf Card Game Club 13:30 - 14:10 HI1 Miss Field	Sparx Homework Club 13:30 - 14:00 MA12	DT Club 13:20 - 13:50 TE3 DT TEAM
Sparx Homework Club 13:30 - 14:00 MA12		Silent Space Reading Room 13:30 - 14:00 HI7 Miss Turvey (Bring your packed lunch)		Exam Catchup 13:30 - 14:10 PE1/IT4 Mr Goldsmith
		6th Form Netball 13:30 - 14:10 Netball Courts Miss Gavin		KS3 Chess Club 13:30 - 14:10 SC4 Mr Tilbrook
		6th Form Christian Union 13:30 - 14:10 L17		Sparx Homework Club 13:30 - 14:00 MA12
		Sparx Homework Club 13:30 - 14:00 MA12		

Come along and 'Join in', it might open up lots of 'opportunities' and allow you to 'understand yourself and others'. Clubs help build 'responsibility and resilience', they may help you decide on your 'next steps', and make you 'examples to follow'. It's exciting what 'your future' may hold!



After School Clubs



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Backstage Club (Starts 15th Sept) 15:15 - 16:00 (Main Hal) Mr Gladstone	ALL Years Dead Poets Society 15:25 - 16:25 EN8 Miss Dearlove	Y17 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 BS1 Miss Walker	Year 7 and 8 Girls Football 15:20 - 16:00 (Back Field) Miss Wheeler	Y7 Rookie Lifeguard (Invite Only) 15:20 - 16:10 Swimming Pool Miss Beard
Year 9, 10 and 11 Girls Football 15:20 - 16:00 (Back Field) Miss Wheeler	ALL YEARS Netball 15:20 - 16:10 Courts Mrs Beard	Y8 and 9 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 BS2 Mr Stabler	ALL YEARS Needlecraft Club 15:15 - 16:00 (RE6) Mrs Robertson and Mrs McDonald	Computer Gaming Club 15:15 - 16:00 BS1 Mr Jones
ALL YEARS Badminton 15:20 - 16:10 Sports Hall Mrs Beard	Y10 and 11 Fitness 15:20 - 16:10 Fitness Suite Mr Skelton	Y10 and 11 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 BS1 Mr Jones	Y7 Drama Club 15:20 - 16:00 Drama Studio Mrs Mullenger	
Y7 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 BS1 Miss Walker	Table Tennis 15:20 - 16:10 Studio External (Starts 7th October)		Y9 and Y10 Boys Football 15:20 - 16:10 Back Field Mr Hartley	
Y8 and 9 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 BS2 Mr Stabler	Y7 and Y8 Boys Football 15:20 - 16:10 Back Field Mr Hartley		Y7 - Y11 Debate Club 15:25 - 16:25 EN9 Mrs Doyle	
Y10 and 11 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 IT4 Mr Jones	Y7 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 BS1 Miss Walker		Y7 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 BS1 Miss Walker	
KS3 Student Voice Newsletter 15:15 - 16:00 EN5 Miss Donnell	Y8 and 9 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 BS2 Mr Stabler		Y8 and 9 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 BS2 Mr Stabler	
	Y10 and 11 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 IT4 Mr Jones		Y10 and 11 Homework Club 15:15 - 16:00 IT4 Mr Jones	

We offer a **monthly events programme** during term time for parents and carers of children and young people with additional needs in York, with or without a diagnosis.

We look forward to welcoming you!



CUPPA AND CHAT

Join us at home with your cuppa to connect with others in our parent carer community, to share, celebrate, offload, ask questions and receive support.

- **First Monday in every month**, online from 7:00pm
- Email connect@pcforyork.co.uk for the meeting link.



PARENT CARER WELLBEING

Meet us for some light relief, to have a giggle, share some positives, talk to other parent carers, maybe learn a craft and enjoy a cuppa - on us!

- **First Tuesday in every month**, 10:30am - 12:00pm
- at New Earswick Folk Hall.



NEW TO SEND SIGNPOSTING

If you are new to the world of SEND or perhaps are new to living in York, join us online to find out what parent carers tell us are the most useful resources.

- **First Wednesday in every month**, online from 6:30pm
- Email connect@pcforyork.co.uk for the meeting link.



PARENT CARER VOICE

Meet other parent carers to discuss any issues you are having, receive support and find understanding in a safe, non-judgemental place.

- **Third Thursday in every month**, 10:30am - 12:00pm
- at SEND entral, Clifton Green Children's Centre.



LISTENING EVENTS

Join us to find out more about SEND services and updates, hear from key speakers, ask your questions and provide feedback to inform decisions about SEND services in York.

- **Monthly on varying dates**, online from 6:30pm
- Full detail on website Email connect@pcforyork.co.uk for the meeting link.

www.parentcarerforumyork.org www.facebook.com/groups/pcforyork

VACANCIES

Archbishop Holgate's School

Catering Assistant

Cleaning Assistant

Required as soon as possible

For more information visit:

www.archbishopholgates.academy/staff/vacancies

Pathfinder MAT is an equal opportunities employer, committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

Enhanced DBS check will be required.

As part of our due diligence process, an online search will be carried out on all shortlisted candidates.

Opportunity to Engage in Research

Please note - You will receive a £5 Amazon voucher following participation. If you would like to participate, please fill out this [consent form](#).

If you are a parent/carers, please also fill out this [consent form](#). (For participants under 16, both parental and participant consent is required. For participants over 16, only the participant consent will be required).



Preparing for Adulthood Opportunities Event

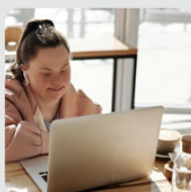
Tuesday 14 October 3.30-6.30pm
Askham Bryan College

For parents and carers, and young people in year 9 and above with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities in York, Leeds and North Yorkshire.

Drop in any time and:

- ✓ **Get inspired and explore** post-16 options in employment or education
- ✓ **Speak to** education providers, employers and support services
- ✓ **Book onto** provider open days

For more information, email skills@york.gov.uk or scan the QR code to book a place (not mandatory)



Quiet space available and quieter time usually from 5.30pm



We are using Eventbrite to help run our event, find out more about what they do with your information at [Eventbrite Privacy Policy](https://eventbrite.co.uk/help/en-gb/articles/460838/eventbrite-privacy-policy/). (eventbrite.co.uk/help/en-gb/articles/460838/eventbrite-privacy-policy/)

CO-PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

ARE YOU AN **AUTISTIC STUDENT** ATTENDING SECONDARY SCHOOL IN ENGLAND?



LEARN ABOUT MY RESEARCH ON HOW CREATIVE ARTS-BASED PEDAGOGY IS USED IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS WITH AUTISTIC STUDENTS.



CHAT ABOUT HOW CREATIVE ARTS-BASED PEDAGOGY IS USED IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS, WITH OTHER AUTISTIC STUDENTS OR ALONE.



ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS AND THEN DECIDE AND PRIORITISE WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE HAPPEN NEXT.

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR EMAIL ME AT KAYLEIGH.DOYLE@YORK.AC.UK TO FIND OUT MORE:



<https://forms.gle/TCF5YJW4CBFRCPZS9>



YORK BOARD GAMES CONVENTION

St Peter's School, YO30 6AB

24TH - 26TH OCT 2025

YBGC.CO.UK

Exhibitors
Bring & Buy
The Forge (RPGs)
Games library
Giant Games
Clocktower

supported by
hachette
BOARDGAMES UK
IIG

scan for tickets!



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Conspiracy theories are false or misleading beliefs that explain events as secret plots, often involving powerful groups. While once fringe, they are now more accessible through digital media, online influencers and because of algorithmic recommendations. The DfE guidance document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) explicitly recognises conspiracy theories as potential content risks. This guide will help parents and educators understand the risks, spot the signs, and build children's resilience to conspiracy theories.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNDERMINING TRUST

Conspiracy theories can lead children and young people to distrust democratic institutions and British Values, teachers, and even their own families and loved ones. This erosion of trust makes young people more vulnerable to extremist narratives by isolating them from reliable sources of information.

ONLINE ALGORITHM TRAPS

Social media platforms can often recommend sensationalist content. Once a child engages with one conspiracy-themed video or post, algorithms push more of the same, thereby creating an echo chamber that can intensify their beliefs.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

Exposure to frightening conspiracy content, such as global plots, viruses, or government control, can fuel feelings of anxiety, paranoia, or hopelessness. For some young people, it can trigger prolonged distress or obsessive thinking.

GATEWAY TO EXTREMISM

Conspiracy theories can often overlap with extremist ideologies. Narratives that blame specific groups, such as politicians, scientists, or particular ethnic groups, can groom children in ways that foster hate, bigotry, and radicalisation.

CONFLICT WITH PEERS

Belief in conspiracy theories can lead to isolation or conflict at school. Children may struggle with peer relationships if they express these beliefs or become distrustful of others who disagree; sometimes, confrontation can even result in a strengthening of the belief in the conspiracy theory.

ERODED CRITICAL THINKING

Young people influenced by conspiracies may reject evidence-based learning. This risks undermining their academic progress and weakening their ability to think critically, assess risks, or engage in healthy debate.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CREATE SAFE CONVERSATIONS

Don't mock or dismiss any questions that children and young people ask about conspiracy theories. Instead, create open, judgement-free spaces to talk. This strengthens trust and makes it more likely they will confide in you.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Teach young people how to assess information critically. Encourage them to ask appropriate questions, such as: Who is telling me this? What evidence is there? What do other trusted sources say? Use real examples from current media to explain your answers and reasoning.

MONITOR DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR

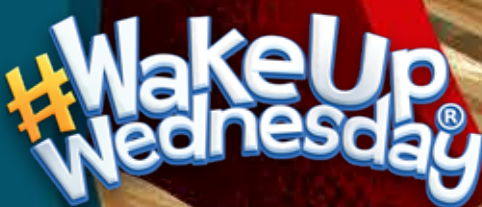
Be aware of the content children are accessing, especially on platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, or Reddit. Use parental controls, but more importantly, maintain ongoing dialogue about online experiences and influencers.

REINFORCE RELIABLE SOURCES

Point children toward trustworthy and reliable sources of news and information in a variety of formats tailored to the young person's age. Build habits of verifying facts using reliable sources, and teach them how to spot misleading content.

Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keeffe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/conspiracy-theories>

OUR SCHOOLS ARE RECRUITING



Support Staff Vacancies

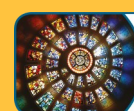
For details and to apply, visit our [website](#) or scan the QR code

Job	Head of Year 9
School	Malton School
Details	NJC Payscale Grade G, Scale Points 13-18 37 hours per week Term time plus one week (incl. training days) £24,696—£26,797 per annum Actual Salary Based on £28,163—£30,559 per annum FTE Required ASAP
Closes	Monday 15th September at 9am

Job	Cleaning Assistant
School	Archbishop Holgate's School
Details	Currently £12.60 per hour Full Year or Term Time 20 hours per week, Monday-Friday, 3.30-7.30pm Salary paid monthly over 12 equal payments Required as soon as possible
Closes	N/A

Job	Exam Invigilator
School	Malton School
Details	£12.45 per hour. Casual Contract.
Closes	N/A

Job	Teaching Assistant (TA2) 1:1 SEN support
School	Hempland Primary School
Details	Grade 4 Level 1-4 (£24,335 – £25,503) reduced pro-rata Fixed term to 17th July 2026. 18.75 hours per week, Term Time Only Wednesday to Friday and to include a lunch duty
Closes	Wednesday 17th September at Middy



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Support Staff Vacancies

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Job	Teaching Assistant
School	St Barnabas CE Primary School
Details	Grade 4, Level 1-4— £25,114—£26,319 32.5 hours per week, Term Time only. Fixed Term Contract for 1 Year. Required from September 2025
Closes	Friday 19th September 2025 at MIDDAY

Job	Teaching Assistant
School	Poppleton Road Primary School
Details	TA2 Grade 4, level 1 –4 (£25,114 - £26,319 per annum, reduced pro rata) 28 hours 50 mins Monday - Friday 8.45am to 3.15pm Term time only
Closes	Monday 29th September 2025

Job	After School Club Assistant (Tuesday and Thursday)
School	Malton School
Details	Grade 3 Level 1-4 Full time equivalent starting salary = £24,483, reduced pro-rata. Hourly rate payable is £12.73.
Closes	Thursday 18th September at 12 midnight

