Archbishop Holgate's School

A Church of England Academy Founded 1546

Prospectus 2025/26

Pathfinder

Multi Academy Trust

Values – Care – Achievement

"Teachers are very caring and you feel that they know your child well and that their welfare and learning are a priority."

Parent

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

"Archbishop Holgate's School is an exceptional place for pupils to learn. The school's values of justice, compassion, forgiveness and trust are at the heart of every aspect of school life."

Ofsted

SIAMS outstanding

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

"The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Archbishop Holgate's as a Church of England school are outstanding. Archbishop Holgate's makes a very positive impact on the community it serves."

SIAMS

Headteacher's **Welcome**

By **Lucie Pond**

We understand that the decision about where to entrust the care of your child is extremely important and we thank you for considering Archbishop Holgate's School. As a school community we pride ourselves on the fact that our students are happy and enjoy the experience of learning with us in all kinds of ways.

As Headteacher at Archbishop Holgate's School, I am delighted to welcome you to our highly successful school. Our students are at the centre of everything we do to ensure they have the support and guidance they need to reach their full academic and personal potential.

As a school we are fully committed to the principles of John 10:10, that each student '**should have life and live it to the full**' and 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**'.

We are a flourishing school with outstanding examination results, high quality teaching and learning, an inspiring curriculum and a wide, varied programme of extra-curricular opportunities. We aim to foster a love of learning, stimulate curiosity, develop creativity and enthuse and engage students to be lifelong learners.

Pastoral care and inclusion are of exceptional quality, as we put the needs of individual students at the centre of everything we do. We are fortunate to have a caring, skilled and dedicated set of teachers, support staff and governors, who believe that there is no limit to learning or ceiling on achievement as we seek the best outcomes for the children in our charge.

We are committed to ensuring that our students develop in all ways and at the heart of all we do is a commitment to 'Values, Care and Achievement':

- Christian **values** that underpin all we do
- Outstanding pastoral **care** that sees each student as an individual
- Maximum **achievement** for all students, at all levels

The AHS Journey is unique to our school: it ensures all students have the capacity, at every stage of school life, to develop and fulfil their individual potential. Through bespoke enrichment, extra-curricular and culture packages, students are fully equipped with the skills to reflect upon who they are as people, developing an understanding and ownership of their own personal values and identity whilst appreciating their place and responsibility within the wider communities in which they live.

We have an enormous sense of pride in our school community and a determination to support every young person to flourish and excel. We know that one of the most important strengths of our school is the partnership between students, staff and families and we are committed to working together with care and compassion to ensure that all our students benefit from an excellent education.

We know that your son or daughter's education is precious and as teachers we feel it is a privilege to play a part in helping shape so many exciting futures. By choosing Archbishop Holgate's School for your child, you are committing yourself to working with us for your child's future in our caring and aspirational school.

"Archbishop Holgate's is a school where real opportunities for transformation exist." SIAMS

Values, *Care, Achievement*

Our Vision is one which combines Values, Care and Achievement.

As a Church of England school we strive to ensure that all of our young people are cared for, given every opportunity to develop through academic study, to grow personally and spiritually and to live into being those Values we hold dear in our community and in wider society. Our role as a Church school is to help nurture both academic excellence and to help shape young people who can make a significant contribution to the community they serve. Key to this is a clear recognition that all students have individual gifts and talents and with support every young person can flourish.

As such, the three strands of our vision, Values, Care and Achievement, are deliberately expressed in that order. Our distinct Christian Values help ensure that every child is cared for as an individual and this in turn will help them to succeed academically.

This is reflected in the words of the former Archbishop of York:

"Archbishop Holgate's School, is built on the model of Christian love, and the challenges of how to live this out day by day in work and relationships. Its ethos reflects the attitude found in the best Church of England schools across the land. An attitude which says there should be no cap on aspiration for students serving one another willingly and with joy, achieving a true education which enables them not only to achieve academic success, but to apply it for the benefit of all, committed to making a difference to the lives of young people and their community. This is a school, rooted in a joyful trust in God revealed in Jesus Christ, which seeks to serve. And its staff and Governors work to create an educational environment built on the foundations of Christian love, faith and hope, but not restricted to those who call themselves Christians. At its heart, it has the Gospel virtues of Justice, Compassion, Forgiveness and Trust, values which are nurtured in the school community and lived out day by day."

"It is a very happy and inclusive community where the four key values of Justice, Forgiveness, Compassion and Trust can be seen not only in policies, but also in practice wherever you go in school. This can be seen in the respect, love and care shown by all and in particular by Sixth Form students volunteering to support younger students." **SIAMS**

Over the years, our School Values of Justice, Compassion, Forgiveness and Trust have been embedded across our school community and permeate all areas of school life. Perhaps the best example of our Values being 'lived into being' are our students, through their tireless commitment to charity and volunteering.

During recent years, over a thousand students have achieved their KS3 Young Leaders Award. Students contribute to a remarkable range of projects and events from fundraising for the Fikelela charity in Cape Town to volunteering in local primary schools and care homes and organising events in school for the local community including our annual Community Coffee Morning.

"The school's values of justice, compassion, forgiveness and trust are at the heart of every aspect of school life."

Ofsted

"Parents are overwhelmingly proud of the Academy and state the vision statement really attracted them to the school. It is implemented on a day-to-day basis."

SIAMS

Every year the school raises significant amounts for charity. Examples of this include the Sixth Form RAG (Raising and Giving) week, Harvest collections, Food Bank collections, cake sales and charity sporting events. We are also, proud to be the first local school to set up a Food Bank, located in reception where we have four collection points, one for each of our Houses and we are delighted to say that these are regularly filled.

We are very proud of our links with the Diocese of Cape Town and in recent years some of our KS4 students visited South Africa, working with the Fikelela charity to support those impacted by HIV and AIDS. In July, our students visited Uganda to volunteer with the Abaana charity which works to support children and young people in Africa.

As a school community we think it's important to come together to celebrate whole school occasions. Whilst our Christmas Service in York Minster is perhaps the most well-known of these we also celebrate Christmas and Easter with whole-school services. We are also proud to welcome visitors to school such as the Archbishop of York, the Secretary of State for Education and Archbishop Tutu who blessed our Spiritual Garden.

Values, **Care,** *Achievement*

"Pastoral care is exemplary… the outstanding pastoral care based on clear Christian values, supporting every child in school on their personal journey." SIAMS

We believe that Archbishop Holgate's School is a very special place to be.

Our last Ofsted inspection confirmed this view by saying that students feel exceptionally well supported by the school's pastoral team. Our reputation for knowing and caring for each student as an individual is what attracts many families to our school.

We are exceptionally proud of the pastoral care that we offer to our students and our families and of the investment we have made to create additional pastoral capacity and care. Each year team is supported by a range of experienced staff, all of who play key roles working with our students and ensuring that our school is a happy, thriving and safe environment. We believe that the care we offer is second to none and ensures that all of our students feel valued and supported. We have further extended this support with a Counselling Team, Wellbeing in Mind Team and School Nurse.

We believe every child will need an extra level of care and support at some point in their AHS Journey. Our pastoral and inclusion teams are continually focused on supporting the needs of our families and our wider community, in the hope that we will further strengthen our close bonds of partnership.

This team extends to our Form Tutors, who are very much the first port of call for our students and point of contact for parents and families. Each Head of Year focuses on leading the cohort, developing its sense of identity, strong values and shared vision. Alongside the wider team, the Head of Year develops an insight into each individual student and an understanding of our families and carers.

Assistant leaders within each year team focus on promoting positive behaviour choices and ensuring that students are safe, supported and that any issues are quickly and effectively resolved. Attendance also plays a pivotal role in this work in our recognition that strong attendance is essential for strong outcomes for learners. Thus, we strive to ensure that our school is a place where students feel happy and engaged and therefore, motivated to attend.

We pride ourselves on the positive relationships that all staff have with students. Our behaviour system, based on collective responsibility and mutual respect is underpinned by our belief in Forgiveness and Justice. Our system is one which rewards positive behaviour choices wherever possible and ensures that students are encouraged to always 'try their best,' be kind and endeavour to help others. There are a multitude of ways in which students are rewarded. These might include the whole school events which recognise outstanding behaviour, attitude and attendance, weekly praise from the Headteacher and even breakfast with the CEO! In more subtle ways, we strive to ensure that dialogue and interactions are positive, encouraging and mutually respectful and that the 'little things' do not go unnoticed.

We are committed to our firm belief that all students, regardless of circumstances, should have the opportunity to experience a wide range of cultural trips, both locally and nationally, throughout their AHS Journey. We passionately believe that education should offer an equality of opportunity for all – a belief which is evident in the wealth of funded experiences provided.

"There is a strong sense of community. We look out for each other."

Student

Tutor time plays an intrinsic role in the school community and is recognised as 'the sixth lesson of the day.' Consequently, a great deal of time goes into developing a programme that enriches all students. Form Tutors know their students as individuals whilst activities are able to build powerful relationships through daily interactions.

Activities are rich and varied and include 'DEAR Time (Drop Everything and Read)', 'Thought for the Day', 'Journey sessions which focus on character, culture and community' and regular acts of Collective Worship. Such careful planning means that our students are able to enjoy, develop and grow during these vital moments each day. Student leadership and community service are also an essential element of our broad AHS Journey.

Our tutor time is further enhanced by the school House System which all students belong to, working together in a wide range of competitions throughout the year which is most vividly illustrated on Sports Day where all students take part in a range of activities.

Care for the individual is also seen in the commitment of our students to volunteering. We have an incredibly strong team of Sixth Form Student Leaders who work with younger students in lessons each week and who lead the school's thriving School Council which has regular meetings with each year group. This academic year also sees the launch of our whole school parliament which will have a voice in school matters. Student leadership, with a particular focus on equality, tolerance and justice will become a future area of development and of focus as the academic year unfolds.

"The very strong relationships throughout the school built on mutual respect underpinned by the explicit vision and Christian values."

SIAMS

Values, Care, Achievement

Maximum Achievement for each student at all levels.

Achievement comes in many different forms and collectively, as a school community, we take great pride in our individual and collective successes. We firmly believe that all our students can be successful and make the most of their gifts and talents.

Whole School

At the last Inspection:

- ***SIAMS - The Diocesan Inspectorate - has graded us Outstanding in all areas (2018)***
- ***Ofsted graded us as Outstanding in all areas at our last inspection in 2021. We have also had Ofsted visits in History (2018), Sixth Form (2017) and Design & Technology which have all since formed best practice case studies***

The Department for Education has afforded us both:

- ***National Teaching School status (Pathfinder Teaching School) as well as our recent designation as one of the prestigious National Teaching School Hubs***
- ***National Support School status***

Other accolades include:

- ***RE Gold Award***
- ***Wellbeing Award for Schools***
- ***Poverty Proofing the School Day***

Quality of Teaching and Leadership

Senior leaders share expertise with other schools locally and nationally.

> *"The school's work as a national Teaching School is also recognising the central importance of sharing expertise around what makes for effective pedagogy."*
>
> YCP

"The leadership team is extremely high calibre, led by a passionate and inspirational Headteacher. There is a real sense of openness, wisdom, and insight in their practice, which enables everyone in the Academy to feel valued and therefore to flourish." SIAMS

Academic Excellence

- ***Post-16 performance consistently places the school in the top 10% nationally for both A Level and Vocational outcomes***
- ***A Level results in recent years have ranked within the top 1% nationally***
- ***The combined English and Maths GCSE pass rate of 81% is well above the local and national average***
- ***Disadvantaged pupils' combined English and Maths GCSE pass rate shows no gap compared to the attainment of all pupils nationally***
- ***GCSE performance overall is outstanding, with the last five years of published data showing the school well above national averages across all KS4 key performance indicators***
- ***Over the last five years, our average Progress 8 score has been above +0.5, placing us among the strongest both locally and nationally***
- ***Over the last five years, the average Progress 8 score for our disadvantaged pupils has exceeded the national average for all pupils***

"Pupils benefit hugely from the extensive opportunities to learn in and out of the classroom."

Ofsted

Examples of Student Achievement

- ***Y7 pupils complete the 'Super 7 Challenge', across a range of extracurricular activities***
- ***Volcano and Global Issues competitions***
- ***Blockhead Competition in D&T***
- ***Finalists in the Yorkshire Speak Out Challenge***
- ***Competing in the Young Writers Competition***
- ***County cup quarter and semi finalists in KS3 and KS4 Football***
- ***Y10 Pupils representing York School Girls and Boys in Football***
- ***Country level representation in Tennis and County, Regional, National representation within Cycling and Swimming***
- ***Semi finalists in Netball***
- ***KS4 and KS5 pupils complete the Duke of Edinburgh Awards each year***
- ***100% of pupils awarded with Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Awards throughout their time at school***
- ***Successful school productions, including Joseph, Matilda and We Will Rock You***
- ***Over 450 pupils achieve the Headteachers Award each academic year***
- ***Over 150 leader representatives as House, Vice and Sports Captains***
- ***Form Captain house representatives***
- ***81% of sixth form pupils accepted into their first choice university.***
- ***Acceptance to Oxford and Cambridge University, range of degrees including Law, Medicine and Veterinary.***

School Life

"The very strong relationships throughout the school built on mutual respect underpinned by the explicit vision and Christian values." SIAMS

Moving to Secondary School

This is a significant moment for all families. At Archbishop Holgate's we have young people from over 40 different primary schools join us each year and are committed to going the extra mile to ensure that when they join the school they are happy, safe and supported to achieve and succeed. As part of this we have developed a transition timeline for families. This starts during Year 5 with numerous visits to school to take part in enrichment days. From **June** in Year 6 the programme includes visits to all primary schools by our Head of Year 7 and Saturday morning sessions at Archbishop Holgate's for those students who are perhaps joining us in smaller numbers from certain schools. **July** sees both the Year 6 Induction Evening and Induction Day and as part of these, parents are provided with a comprehensive Year 6 Transition Booklet containing all key information in one place. Before **October** half term parents will have benefited from a 'Welcome Evening' with Form Tutors and the school's leadership team. In addition, students will have experienced the Lakeside residential trip to build friendships and a sense of community within the year group.

"My daughter has really grown in confidence this year. I am really grateful to the staff at AHS."

"Really very happy with the school, it has surpassed expectations, thank you."

"Transition Day and the meeting before school started helped me feel less nervous."

Parents

"Thank you for investing in my child. He has loved his first year which means as a parent I am happy too." **Parent**

Communication

As a school community we realise that clear and effective communication with parents is essential. There are various ways to ensure this, from using the school phone number **01904 411341**, email address **reception@ahs.pmat.academy** or contacting your child's Form Tutor, Assistant Head of Year or the Head of Year. In addition, the Headteacher sends out a weekly newsletter to all parents and the school Facebook account **www.facebook.com/AHSYork** provides information each day about school life. We also have a school website **www.archbishopholgates.org** with parental feedback tab, and make effective use of both text messages and our ClassCharts app, which you can download and keep up to date on school life, your child's attendance and academic progress.

Facilities

Once at Archbishop Holgate's, students benefit from excellent teaching and learning within high quality facilities. The school is fortunate to have a dedicated Maths Block, a modern Sixth Form building (used by all students), a modern English block complete with Drama Studio and ICT facilities and this year we have a brand new Geography block. We have extensive sporting facilities including an indoor swimming pool, sports hall and gymnasium as well as a large green area at the back of school. ICT resources throughout school are excellent and we have a Spiritual Garden where students from all year groups can meet at lunchtime. Each year we commit to further improvements, but are proud of our welcoming school with high quality displays and facilities that create a positive climate for learning.

School Life

"The lessons are challenging and the sports have been fun. There are loads of clubs." Student

Tutor Programme

We are proud of our form tutor programme and the role it plays within each pupil's AHS Journey. Form tutor programmes run each morning between 08:45am and 09:10am. A typical form tutor programme consists of:

Monday
Year Group Act of Collective Worship

Tuesday
DEAR Time (Drop Everything and Read)

Wednesday
Form Time Act of Collective Worship

Thursday
The Journey (Developing Character and Culture)

Friday
Chapel / DEAR Time

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We have an extensive range of extracurricular opportunities for all pupils. In year 7 we encourage pupils to take part in the 'Super 7 Challenge', which encourages pupils to attend as many extra-curricular opportunities as possible. Extra-curricular clubs take place either on a lunchtime or afterschool, opportunities range from sporting, creative, reflective and competitive activities.

School Lunch

Mrs Calvert, our Catering Manager, and the Kitchen staff at Archbishop Holgate's pride themselves on providing an excellent well-rounded menu whilst encapsulating food and cultures from around the world.

We also work very closely with staff and students, in developing the menu to ensure it is both varied, healthy and popular.

Homework

Homework will be set for all of the subjects that each student studies at Archbishop Holgate's School. There will be at least two subjects allocated each day. Subjects that have one lesson per week will set homework fortnightly. Subjects that have more than one lesson per week will set homework weekly.

School Unity Fund

The Unity Fund was founded in 2018 borne out of an idea of giving acts of kindness to those students where a little given would mean a lot. This could be from giving a pencil case or helping with the cost of a second hand bike to save on bus fares. Money to form the fund was raised by holding a Christmas Fayre and we have continued to fundraise ever since with support from friends, families and staff. We have a second hand uniform shop to help families with the costs of uniform, more details can be found at **https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/172**.

Personal Development

Personal Development at AHS is everything we do in school in order to ensure students leave with the capacity to maximise their life chances, echoing "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" John 10:10

We aim to provide students with the opportunity to reflect upon and identify their own character whilst understanding their place within the wider world. Throughout their time at AHS, students have the opportunity to place themselves into the context of modern society, ensuring they can discuss, debate and accept a wider variety of opinions and attitudes which may differ from their own. Our aim is to show students the choices which are theirs to make, thus leading to a life which is personally "full".

There is no one single strand to "Personal Development". All staff play a part in ensuring students have a rich and fulfilling experience.

The British Values and the School's Christian Values

Underpinning all our work on Personal Development are the four Christian values: Justice, Compassion, Forgiveness and Trust. Throughout our Personal Development plan, these are closely linked to the British values of "Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance." "Justice and Trust" are closely linked to "Democracy and the Rule of Law". "Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance" are again closely linked, reflecting the school's values of "Compassion and Forgiveness". Students are given frequent opportunities to reflect upon both the British Values and our distinct Christian Values in collective worship, tutor time, lessons and enrichment and cultural opportunities.

The AHS Journey

No year is wasted at AHS and at each point, we believe students are undertaking a different aspect of their personal development. No two students' journey will be the same. However, our students can share similar experiences and opportunities in order to shape who they are and what they believe. Throughout a student's time at school, we provide them with opportunities to reflect upon who they are as a person, what their aspirations are, what they want to do and change and ensure they have all the skills to become the person they want to be.

This is highlighted around the school in collective worship, form time, enrichment opportunities and trips. Each step builds upon previous parts of the students' journey, as highlighted below:

The following contributes to a student's personal development at Archbishop Holgate's School:

High quality Teaching and Learning: Students are provided with the opportunity to place their learning into a wider context across the curriculum. This may include exploring real life experiences and examples or linking the current learning to future careers and aspirations. Lessons also provide the opportunity for students to place their learning into the context of the school's journey.

The extra-curricular programme:
Students of all key stages take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities which foster a student's school journey. The extra-curricular offer is continually developed and refined to meet the ever changing needs of students.

Trips and Visits: Students are given the opportunity to go on a variety of trips and visits which are both local and further afield. Students are encouraged to engage with cultural opportunities which go beyond their day-to-day experience at school.

Your AHS Journey

Model the behaviours of responsibility and privilege

Discover leadership

Develop plans for the future

YEAR 13 – OUR FUTURE

Prepare for next steps

Take responsibility for actions

Gain independence

Make important choices and explore your personal values

YEAR 12 – EXAMPLES TO FOLLOW

Celebrate and reflect upon achievements

Develop future career possibilities and build links

Focus and succeed

Engage with a range of cultural trips and visits

Experience industry, business and financial matters

Deepen our wellbeing strategies

Reignite your passion for sport and culture

Graduate from Key Stage 3

YEAR 11 – RESPONSIBILITY

Discuss and debate contemporary issues

Volunteer and contribute, completing the Young Leader's Award

YEAR 9 – UNDERSTANDING YOURSELF AND OTHERS

Enjoy cultural trips at home and abroad

Continue and widen your engagement with clubs and extra-curricular

Represent your year group or house

YEAR 6 – GET READY

Reflect on all your achievements at primary school

Explore your new school and meet your form tutor

Make new friends during the transition event

Complete the summer transition challenges

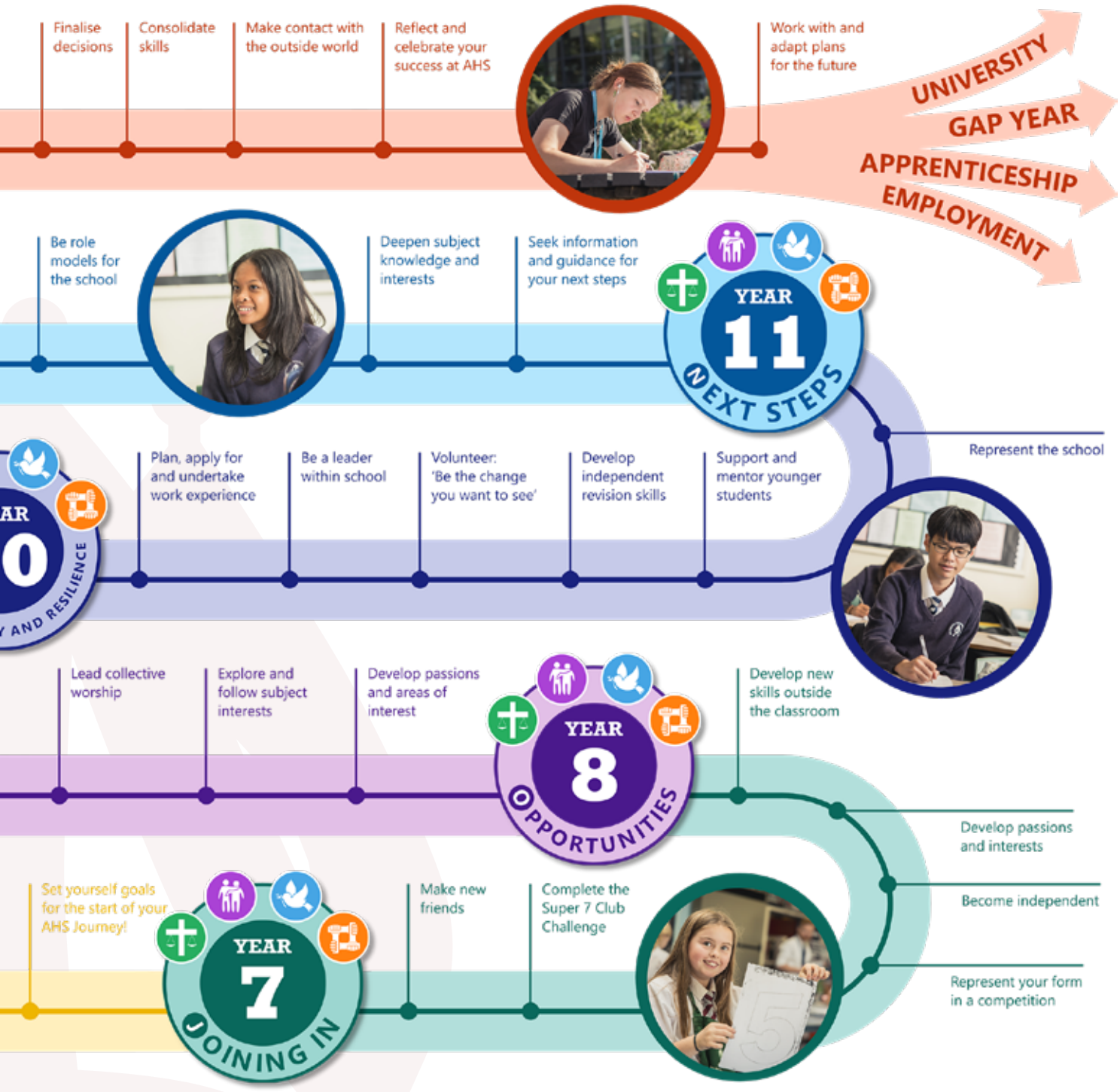
Explore the new subjects you will be studying next year

Whole School Community

- Minster Service
- Sports Day
- World Book Day
- Awards Mornings
- Rewards Trips
- Celebratory Acts of Collective Worship
- Masked singer and School Discos

School Trips

- Subject Trips
- Local Culture Trips
- Arts and Sports Trips
- Rewards Trips
- Turing Scheme
- Outdoor and Adventure Trips
- International Trips



Enrichment

- Healthy Week
- Enrichment Week
- House System
- Sports Fixtures
- Industry Day
- Parliament Week
- Careers Programme
- University Trips

Charity and Volunteering

- Student Leaders - Including House, Vice and Sports Captains
- Mentoring
- Anne Frank Exhibition
- RAG Week
- Community Mornings
- Student Fundraising
- Charity Days

Exciting Trips and Visits

Archbishop Holgate's prides itself on the wide range of local and international trips and visits that play a vital part in enriching the curriculum and giving our students valuable life experiences that will linger long in their memory. This begins in Y7 where the year group is invited to undertake a range of activities in a residential area that takes place in the final week of the summer term. Regular international trips in recent years have included Paris, Germany, Barcelona, Florence, Iceland, Sicily, Uganda and the annual ski trip, but we also pride ourselves in providing truly unique experiences when we travel longer distances, with the aim of broadening our students' horizons even further. In the past, we have visited Kenya, Vietnam, South America and the US. In addition to the incredible international experiences Archbishop Holgate's offers, we are proud that our curriculum planning allows students to access rich and varied local and national visits. Further to this we offer two cultural experience visits as part of the Year 9 Journey 'Understanding the World and Others'. On rotation pupils will visit the cities of York and Hull. Whilst in York, pupils will travel on an open top sightseeing bus, tour York Minster, visit the

National Railway Museum and enjoy a traditional Ghost Tour. Whilst in Hull, pupils will travel by coach and visit the Streetlife Museum, Hull and East Riding Museum and the William Wilberforce Museum.

Visits to diverse places of worship such as Heslington Church, Mosques in Liverpool, Manchester and York, as well as Buddhist centres in both Manchester and Pocklington, in addition to Auschwitz, the Thackray Medical Museum in Leeds and Harlow Carr Garden. These are just a sample of the trips offered across the curriculum areas. Field trip opportunities in Science and Geography include visits to Malham, Flamborough Head, Boggle Hole and Scarborough. Additionally, our Applied Law students benefit from numerous visits and speakers to complement their studies and give them working examples to use in their BTEC courses.

"This trip has changed my life, what an experience."

Student

Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Opportunities

We are passionate about providing your child with diverse learning opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom and view extra-curricular as an area where our school community really excels, indeed we believe that our rich and varied extra-curricular programme is a resounding strength of the school.

We place huge value on the impact extra-curricular can have on the achievement and personal growth of our students; a vast variety of clubs run each week, with diverse experiences ranging from Allotment Club to MFL Film Club, as well as the Duke of Edinburgh Award for students in KS4 and 5 – there truly is something for everyone.

Our sports clubs benefit from outstanding facilities including a swimming pool, gym, sports hall and extensive fields and include rugby, football, netball, tennis, swimming, trampolining, hockey and rounders. Our exceptional music opportunities have been showcased in a range of school and community events including the Minster Christmas Service and School Show. The school's backstage club is also showcased significantly throughout the year and in addition to events above, provides all the lighting and sound for the Celebratory Acts of Collective Worships at the end of each half term. Our annual AHS Curriculum Enrichment Week offers students the opportunity to work together in new and exciting ways!

Through a mix of in-school and out-of-school activities, we provide a wide variety of experiences, in a way that is not possible during a typical school day. The structure of the week is fixed, but the content varies year on year, allowing us to keep activities fresh and relevant, whilst ensuring students have a wide variety of experiences to pursue.

During this week, a number of students will be out of school enjoying foreign trips to places like Paris, Barcelona, Naples and Germany, as well as more far-flung trips to places like Uganda and South Africa. Those students who remain in school will access two Subject-based Enrichment days, one Sport Enrichment day, as well as a year group Reward Trip. The whole school then comes together on the last day for mixed activities chosen by the students from an extensive list of options including: Big Fat Quiz of the Year, Computer Science, Cycling at York Sport, Dance, Giant Outdoor Games, Henna Designs, Indoor Cricket, Jewellery Design, Karaoke, Local Walk, Marble Run Competition, Mindfulness Zone, Music for Thinking, Music Technology, Musical Theatre, Nail Art, Reading for Pleasure, Recyclabox, Rock School, Simple Crafting, Staged Battles, Table Tennis, Tag Rugby, Paper Engineering, Traditional Games, T-Shirt Decorating, etc. The whole week is designed to spark new interests in students, so they can develop a new hobby or skill outside of school.

An Outstanding Sixth Form

"Archbishop Holgate's Sixth Form has a trend of being ranked in the top 1% nationally for student performance."

"At Archbishop Holgate's Sixth Form we are committed to ensuring that all students will flourish amongst an environment that harbours aspiration, resilience and a strong sense of community."

Director of Sixth Form

With a strong local and national reputation, at Archbishop Holgate's Sixth Form every student is known and cared for as an individual.

The success of our Sixth Form community is no accident; it is the result of academic rigour combined with outstanding pastoral care and high quality teaching and learning. Our students enjoy their learning and, within the context of an inclusive curriculum, are supported and challenged to ensure that their individual needs and aspirations are met.

"The sixth-form curriculum is exceptionally strong."

Ofsted

Here are just a few of the excellent reasons why people choose our Sixth Form:

- ***A consistent trend of being in the top 1% nationally for student performance***
- ***Our proven track record of outstanding results have placed us within the top 2% nationally for a decade***
- ***A truly broad and inclusive curriculum offer***
- ***History of Vocational awards including BTEC School of the Year and an invitation to Downing Street in recognition of outstanding achievement***
- ***A literacy focus that encourages exposure to a broad range of texts***
- ***Strong focus on personal responsibility and being a valuable citizen***
- ***Consistent progression of over 50% Russell Group success and over 80% first choice university success***
- ***A growing success in securing degree level apprenticeships***
- ***A structured learning environment from the start of each day where students are known***
- ***Academic rigour and support for all***
- ***The opportunity to be Student Leaders of the whole school***
- ***A real sense of enrichment, community and cohesion***

"I quickly realised that my views could make a difference so I joined the Student Leadership Team. We have organised events, visits, raised money for charity and have helped shape the future direction of the Sixth Form."

Student

School House System

At Archbishop Holgate's School, being part of a House is a key part of being part of the school community. Throughout the year there will be a calendar of events that students are able to take part in and enjoy.

The four Houses of Archbishop Holgate's School are:

- ***Bootham***
- ***Micklegate***
- ***Monk***
- ***Walmgate***

House Merit Awards

Throughout your time at Archbishop Holgate's School, students will be recognised for contributions towards their House:

500 House Merits	***Bronze Award Certificate Home***
1000 House Merits	***Silver Award Certificate Home***
1500 House Merits	***Gold Award Certificate and Gold Shield Badge***
2200 House Merits	***Platinum Certificate and Letter***
3000 House Merits	***Special Commendation Certificate, Letter and Awarded House Colours Badge***
4000 House Merits	***Eligible to apply for a House Tie***

More information on rewards and recognition can be found on the school website:
www.archbishopholgates.academy/parents/school-life/rewards

Appearance

We are very proud of our school uniform.

LOWER SCHOOL
YEARS 7 to 9

UPPER SCHOOL
YEARS 10 and 11

The school uniform consists of:

- ***Claret jumper with school logo* (Lower School)***
- ***Navy jumper with school logo* (Upper School)***
- ***Claret and silver clip-on tie* (Lower School)***
- ***Navy and silver clip-on tie* (Upper School)***
- ***Plain white collared shirt***
- ***Black trousers/skirt***
- ***Black leather/pleather school shoes***

Sixth Form

- ***No uniform, but smart casual dress***

PE Kit

- ***Navy blue reversible games top***
- ***Navy blue shorts***
- ***Swimming trunks/shorts***
- ***Navy blue long football socks***
- ***Football boots***

Full details on our uniform can be found at:
https://archbishopholgates.academy/parents/school-life/school-uniform/

"I'm happy because I've made lots of friends and learnt new things." **Student**

**The school jumper and tie must be purchased from our uniform supplier Keal Teamwear. Students can also purchase the optional hoodie from Keal Teamwear to wear to and from school and as part of their PE kit.*

An Inspiring Curriculum

"The curriculum at this school is exemplary." Ofsted

Whilst the national directive on curriculum continues to dictate much of what a child should study to Key Stage 4, at Archbishop Holgate's we strongly believe in the education of the whole child.

We have a broad and balanced curriculum that supports all learners to successfully move onto progression routes that include Sixth Form and Apprenticeships. All students will study a range of creative subjects in KS3. We are delighted to continue to offer a suite of Technology subjects at Key Stage 4 including BTECs in Engineering and Business, alongside a host of Creative Arts subjects including Music, Performing Arts and Media. Students wishing to gain an understanding of the modern world can do so through Sociology or Travel & Tourism.

Our values driven curriculum is enhanced further with a RE and PSHCE curriculum that embraces the development of the whole child, raising their awareness of all aspects of Spirituality, Social Justice, and Moral Conduct and supports students to become well-rounded citizens ready to tackle the challenges of the modern world.

Each child can expect to be taught by a subject expert, who will be continually challenging all learners to achieve their very best. Our staff are all passionate about their subjects and seek to inspire learners with an enthusiasm for each and every subject they are studying.

"Archbishop Holgate's is an outstanding school because it has recognised the crucial importance of getting it right in the classroom."

YCP

Keeping in touch with life *at Archbishop Holgate's*

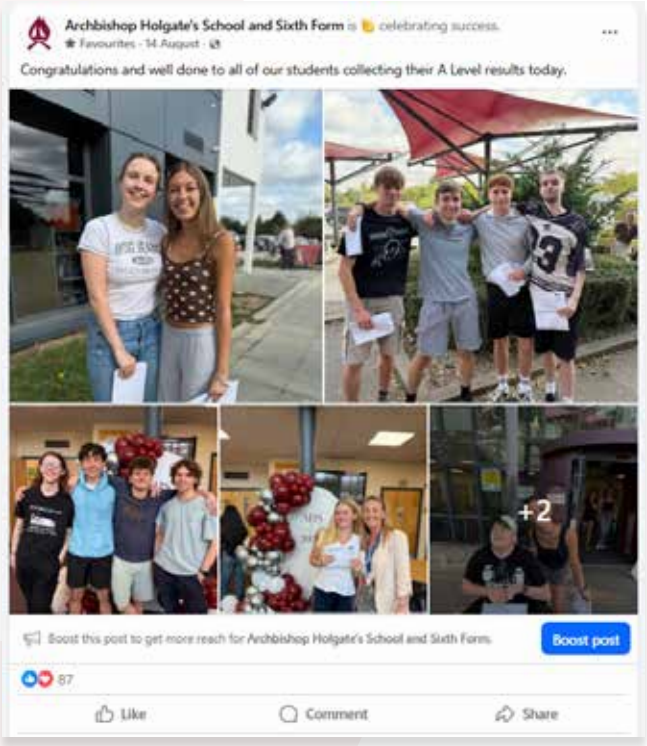
We are incredibly proud of our school and what our students and staff achieve each day. As such, ensuring that this is communicated effectively to parents is an absolute priority.

Some of the ways that you can stay in touch with life at Archbishop Holgate's are:

Website www.archbishopholgates.org

Our website is designed to present all the information you might need in as user friendly format as possible. It is updated each week with key news stories and has a parental feedback tab with a 24 hour response time.

Social Media



Follow us on Facebook **www.facebook.com/AHSYork** for updates each and every day about life at school.

ClassCharts

Download the ClassCharts app to see your child's timetable, classes, reports, merits and certificates as well as any announcements from the school.

Ofsted Parent View

Over the last six years we have had more than 1700 Parent View responses, of which...

"97% of parents would recommend the school to another parent."

Weekly Newsletter

Written by the Headteacher with contributions from all staff. This is emailed home each week.

Admissions

Archbishop Holgate's is an extremely popular school and one that takes students from a wide geographical area both in York and beyond. Last year our intake included young people from 41 different primary schools, including some in the East Riding. We have 30% Foundation places and 70% community places. Last year the community places stretched 16 miles. The school's full Admissions Policy is available on the website: www.archbishopholgates.org

How do I enrol my child at Archbishop Holgate's?

Request a place at Archbishop Holgate's via the Common Application Form (**www.york.gov.uk/schooladmissions**). The form should be returned to the City of York Council online. It is important that you express a preference for Archbishop Holgate's on this form, and that you return the form by 31 October. You will hear in March which secondary school is offering your child a place.

If you are applying for a Foundation place, you also need to complete a Supplementary Information Form signed by your minister of religion. Details of the criteria for Foundation places are set out in the school's Admissions Policy. Copies of all these documents can be obtained from the school. Please return the Supplementary Information Form directly to the Admissions Secretary at Archbishop Holgate's, by 31 October. For a Community place you need to take no further action.

If your child is at another secondary school, or if you are moving into the area:

Please contact School Services, City of York Council, West Offices, Station Rise, York, YO1 6GA; **Tel: 01904 551554; email: education@york.gov.uk.**

Well over half our students come to Archbishop Holgate's from outside the school's designated catchment area, and their applications are warmly welcomed. Foundation places are offered on faith grounds to members of Christian churches and other major world faiths. Community places are offered to those seeking a school with a Christian tradition, with priority first to siblings, second to students living in the area normally served by the school, third to those with the closest safe walking route. As part of enrolment, students and parents also sign an Acceptance Form, based on the school's aims, marking the beginning of a partnership between home and school.

Admissions - Key Dates

2 October 2025, 6pm

This is the date of Archbishop Holgate's School Open Evening. Parents travelling by car are encouraged to aim to arrive early to give ample time for parking. The evening is always tremendously busy.

31 October 2025

Latest date for parents to complete the secondary school choice preference sheet for their Local Authority. Supplementary Information Forms (with confirmation of regular attendance at worship where appropriate) are sent directly to the Admissions Secretary, Archbishop Holgate's School.

End of December

For admission into Year 7 in September 2026 requests must reach the school's Admissions Secretary by the last day of December 2025.

1 March 2026

Parents are informed about secondary school allocations.

If you need help or advice...

Information about admissions in York is available from School Services, City of York Council, West Offices, Station Rise, York, YO1 6GA; **Tel: 01904 551554, Email: education@york.gov.uk.** Alternatively, please ring our Admissions Secretary **(01904 411341)**, who will be very happy to explain the procedures to you.

Pathfinder
Multi Academy Trust

Setting the course | Leading the way | Serving and inspiring

Archbishop Holgate's School

A Church of England Academy Founded 1546

Archbishop Holgate's School is proud to be part of Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust, an inclusive partnership of church and community schools committed to providing an excellent education to all the young people in our care.

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

Values - Care - Achievement

Providing an excellent education from age 2 to 19

"An outstanding school"

Ofsted and SIAMS

OUR MISSION

Christian values
an ethos which lives Christian values into being

Care for the individual
effective pastoral care with students valued as individuals

Maximum achievement
maximum achievement for each student at all levels

Hull Road, York, North Yorkshire YO10 5ZA
Tel: 01904 411341 **Email:** reception@ahs.pmat.academy
www.archbishopholgates.org

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