

# Updates from the Principal



## Update - 15th May 2026

### Principal's Update

Good afternoon,

Well done to Year 11 after their first full week of GCSE examinations. Attendance at revision sessions has been really high.

Assemblies this week have been on the theme of mental health awareness week. If you would like more information, please follow this link: [Mental Health Awareness Week](#)

Thank you for your continued support.

Gill Mills  
Principal

### Attendance Update from Miss Garland, Assistant Vice Principal

Overall Attendance this half term: 89.76%  
Week 30 Attendance:

Year 7	91.28%	National Average: 93.29% 2025/26
Year 8	91.15%	National Average:

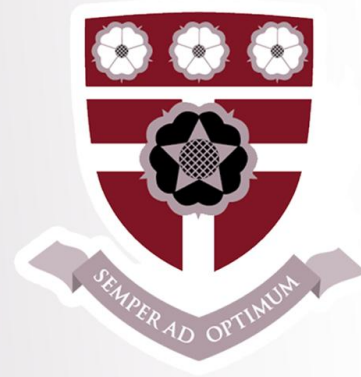
		93.29% 2025/26
Year 9	82.97%	National Average: 93.29% 2025/26
Year 10	85.48%	National Average: 93.29% 2025/26
Year 11	97.48%	National Average: 93.29% 2025/26

Y11 have made a super start to their GCSE period and are showing ambition and maturity. The school attendance team is around in the minibus in the morning for Y11's, please let us know if you need any help.

Our attendance is improving, thank you for your support.

Thank you for your clear communication regarding absences and for supporting our school system.

# Updates from the Principal



Mr Donaldson  
Assistant Vice Principal

Week beginning 18th May

	Monday 18th May 2026	Tuesday 19th May 2026	Wednesday 20th May 2026	Thursday 21st May 2026	Friday 22nd May 2026
P0 8.00 – 8.40	Chemistry	English Lit	French	English Lang	PE
P1					
P2					
P3	English Lit Booster (Psychology Students Only) <i>All other students in timetabled lessons</i>	Computer Science Booster (Computer Science students only) <i>All other students in timetabled lessons</i>		Business Booster (Business students only) <i>All other students in timetabled lessons</i>	
Lunch					
P4		English Lang Booster (All Students not in CSC)	English Lang Booster (All Students)	Maths Booster (DT and Psych Students Only) <i>All other students in timetabled lessons</i>  PE Booster (PE Students Only) <i>All other students in timetabled lessons</i>	Maths Booster (All Students)
P5	English Lit Booster (All Students)	English Lang Booster (All Students not in CSC)	English Lang Booster (All Students)	Maths Booster (Business when finished and CSC students only) <i>All other students in timetabled lessons</i>	Activity (All Students)
P6 3.15 – 4.15	English Lit	French	English Lang	PE	

Please see the Exam Booster Timetable above for all activities next week.

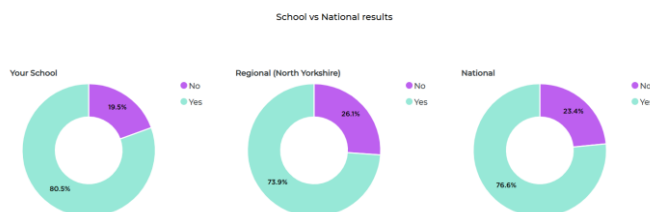
## Votes for Schools

Each week, the students are given an opportunity to participate in a democratic voting experience as part of their tutor time. We will share the responses of our students with you.

This week, it's Mental Health Awareness Week, and we're inviting voters to reflect on how tests affect their mental health.

Question: Do tests affect your mental health?

## Regional results vs national results



Mrs G Cook  
Safeguarding and Welfare

With the lighter nights and summer gatherings, we have noticed a small increase in ASB and alcohol abuse. In particular the trend we are seeing is BuzzBallz - these are widely available in shops like B&M and Asda.

Change Grow Live have sent the following guidance on trends they are seeing throughout York-

**Codeine** is a prescription drug which can be bought from the social media platform Telegram. It is an opiate and there is a risk of overdose with this. It is recommended not taking codeine 3 days in a row due to it being highly addictive.

**Lean** is crushed up codeine and THC liquid. This is put in a bottle, and it is red; unsure why or what makes it red. Young people are then drinking this. This has been seen in a big bottle which is around ¼ full. Lean is bigger in America, as they have codeine cough syrup and this is mixed with sweets and fizzy drinks. We don't have this cough syrup in the UK.

# Updates from the Principal



**Huffing or Chroming** is currently trending on social media platforms such as TikTok and involves inhaling a mixture of a vape and aerosol sprays.. There is limited cost, and it is a trend with easy to access materials. This can cause sudden death and recent news articles can be found where this has happened to young people.

## Science Sparx Revision

Year 7 to Year 10 will be doing Science assessments after term. Topic lists to help students learn their revision have been provided with links to Sparx science. Students will be provided with paper copies in class and there are electronic copies available on Google Classroom. The links have also been sent as separate attachments to this update.

## PE Clubs June - end of term

Vale of York PE clubs Half term 6 (June - July 2026)				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
LUNCH YEAR 8	MR Dodgeball - Gym No need to get changed - max number 40 pupils 12.40pm - 1.10pm	MR Table tennis - G41 No need to get changed - Max number 20 pupils 12.40pm - 1.10pm	MR - Year 8 + 10 Badminton - Gym / Sports Hall No need to get changed - Max number 24 pupils 12.40pm - 1.10pm	No clubs due to meetings
LUNCH YEAR 7 + 9	MR Dodgeball - Gym No need to get changed - max number 40 pupils 1.40pm - 2.10pm	MR Table tennis - G41 No need to get changed - Max number 20 pupils ( <b>ONLY WEEK A</b> ) 1.40pm - 2.10pm	MR Badminton - Gym / Sports Hall No need to get changed - Max number 24 pupils 1.40pm - 2.10pm	
AFTER SCHOOL	JM - Year 7 - 10 Rugby - Field MR - Year 7 - 10 Cricket - Astro Changing room 1 & 3	MR - Year 7 - 10 Athletics - Field HC - Year 7 - 10 Rounders - Field Changing room 1 & 3	MR - Year 7 - 10 Tennis - Courts CB - Year 7 - 10 Badminton - Sports Hall / Gym Changing room 1 & 3	

All afterschool clubs require Vale of York PE kit to be worn, students will get changed at 3.15pm in the changing rooms specified. Sessions will end at 4.15pm and all clubs are mixed gender. Lunchtime clubs pupils will remain in uniform but can change in to their trainers as required. Students will need to sign in on the register with the staff running the club through Edulink.

## Current Vacancies

[Cleaner - 16 hours per week](#)

## Key Dates:

**Mon 1st Jun - Fri 26 Jun**

KS3 Assessment Window 2 / Year 10 Trial Exams

**Tuesday 14th July**

Year 9 Graduation