

Updates from the Principal



Update - 25th September 2026

Principal's Update Mr Green-Harding

It has been a really positive start to the new academic year, with calm, purposeful learning across the Academy and many examples of our values of Kindness, Respect and Teamwork being lived out every day. I have been particularly impressed by our Year 7 pupils, who have made an excellent start to life at Vale and are already settling confidently into our routines and expectations.

There is lots happening across the Academy, from reading and careers work to preparations for our KS4 Information Evening and Open Evening. We are also looking forward to strengthening how we recognise and celebrate pupils who consistently get things right.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mr Hunt, Trust Vice Principal

We have enjoyed a fantastic first few weeks of term; thank you for your ongoing support of your children, and of the staff here, as we continue to embed high expectations across the Academy. The atmosphere around the Academy is so positive with calm, purposeful lessons and so many daily

examples of our values of kindness, respect and teamwork.

We are currently finalising our recognition procedures to ensure that we are consistently rewarding our fantastic pupils when they get it right. We are excited to share more information on this with pupils and you at home very soon and are looking forward to celebrating the great work of so many of our young people.

Mr Donaldson, Assistant Vice Principal

A reminder for any Year 10 and 11 parents; our Key Stage 4 Revision Evening (covering all topics exam and GCSE related) is taking place on Tuesday 29th September. The Year 11 talk will commence in the Main Hall at 17:00. The Year 10 talk begins at approximately 17:45.

For Year 11 parents, information on Period 6 revision sessions will be provided during the evening, with more details to follow in next week's newsletter. Thank you, and I look forward to meeting you all!

Mrs Harrower Long, Assistant Vice Principal

Thank you for your continued support with attendance and ensuring your child does their best to attend everyday. We have given all students two and a half weeks grace to settle into routines, this week I have delivered my assemblies and the importance of attending

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everyday as well as being punctual. As of next week the academy will be issuing detentions if a student is late to school.

The detentions will run as follows:

Late between:

1minute - 5 minutes = 20 minute DT

5minutes - 10 minutes = 40 minute DT

10 or more minutes late = 60 minute DT

Please be aware the detentions will take place on the same day and you will be notified of this by lunch time.

Thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact me or the attendance team if you have any questions.

Miss Tyrer, Assistant Vice Principal

This week our Fresh Start screening has begun for KS3 pupils. This helps to ensure that any relevant reading interventions are in place for pupils. Please continue to discuss with your child what they are reading and encourage them to read for pleasure outside of school. We would love to see all of our year 7 pupils bringing a reading book to school as part of their equipment.

Please note that the window to change options for Y10 pupils is now closed.

Mr Orr, Director of Community

Our fantastic parents group Vale of York

Society, who support and raise funds for projects within the Academy, will be holding their AGM on Tuesday 13th October from 6pm - 7.30pm at Vale of York Academy They would be delighted to welcome anyone who is interested in getting involved or would like to know more about the work they have done. If you wish to know more or would like to be part of the meeting, email Mr Orr via r.orr@voy.hlt.academy

Mr Martin, Careers Lead

This week our students have been completing the future skills questionnaire so that we as a school can better support them in their careers education. There is a parents and carers version available, it would be great to gain your insights too -

<https://www.cecparentcarer.co.uk/bc430a47-f6b3-490f-8e5a-eda7ddb02d2e>

Year 11 have started their post 16 journey, with an assembly from York College on Tuesday and our annual post 16 meet and greet on Thursday where we had visitors from Joseph Rowntree, Archbishops Holgate, All Saints, Huntington, and Askham Bryan.

Each week there will be a different area of focus to help support you and your families better understand careers education. This

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week's focus: What is a T-level?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e_pBdDwoeel

Key Dates:

Thursday 8th October - Open Evening

Tuesday 29th September - KS4 Information
Evening

Friday 23rd October - School Closed

Monday 26th to Friday 30th October - Half Term

Thursday 12th November - Y7 Parents
Consultation Evening

Friday 18th December - School Closed

Kindness | Respect | Teamwork

ALWAYS GIVING THE BEST