

# Updates from the Principal



## Update - 6th March 2026

### Principal's Update

Dear Parent/Carer,

Congratulations to Year 11 who have completed their last phase of trial examinations before the summer GCSEs. Well done to the Year 11 students who collected the first revision duck - James Pond - this week. The second revision duck - Jack Quack - will be available from the Year 11 lunch area on Monday break time.

This week, it has been Careers week. There have been lots of opportunities for students to learn about different careers available. The assemblies were all on this theme and there were other activities including an environmental careers activity and an Antarctica live stream.

Further congratulations to the students who took part in the Shakespeare Schools Festival. They were watched by an audience of around 800. Well done all.

In the absence in Year 8 of Miss Appleyard and Miss Cooke, please contact the following members of staff for support. For subject issues, please contact the class teacher; for behaviour issues, please contact Sharon Rainbird, Behaviour Manager; for attendance issues, please contact [attendance@voy.hlt.academy](mailto:attendance@voy.hlt.academy)

We will be celebrating International Women's Day on Monday next week.

Kind regards,  
Ms Mills

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

Overall Attendance this half term: 89.62%  
Week 23 Attendance:

Year 7	92.20%	National Average: 92.0% 2025/26
Year 8	90.78%	National Average: 92.0% 2025/26
Year 9	86.86%	National Average: 92.0% 2025/26
Year 10	85.04%	National Average: 92.0% 2025/26
Year 11	91.14%	National Average:

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		92.0%
		2025/26

Good attendance is 95%+ and 100% represents excellent attendance.

Thank you for all your support! We are tracking 2% above the same period last year consistently.

This week Y11 have been brilliant attenders (94%+) and shown amazing effort with their mock exams.



To recognise great attendance we are running an 'Easter Streaks' theme. If students can be in for 25 days they will receive an easter egg. This sits alongside the attendance raffle tokens for 100% weekly

attendance and weekly attendance achievement points issued by form tutors. There are 15 days left of this half term.

Our attendance team is sending text messages, making calls and doing home visits every day to support improving attendance.

## Half Term 4 Attendance Leagues

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### Championship

11SN
11CSM
10EL
8SD
11CEL

### Premier League

7DHO
7PBR
10HCO
7PWI
7JPE

MOMENTS  
MATTER.  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.

### League 1

9JCO
8AMA
9TGI
8RCU
7MRA

### League 2

8KDE
11JHU
10JMI
9JMA
8SST

### National League

9HJA
10RNF
8TNU
10SVI
11KBR

Please continue to report absences to the school attendance team in advance.

If you have any attendance questions, please get in touch via the school phone line or at [attendance@voy.hlt.academy](mailto:attendance@voy.hlt.academy)

### Exams

As always, help is available in school from the Y11 Progress Leader and our welfare team. Below are the external links relating to support for exam stress.

[Childline](#)

[Kooth](#)

[Young Minds](#)

[The Mix](#)

[Mind](#)

### Votes for Schools

Each week, the students are given an opportunity to participate in a democratic voting experience as

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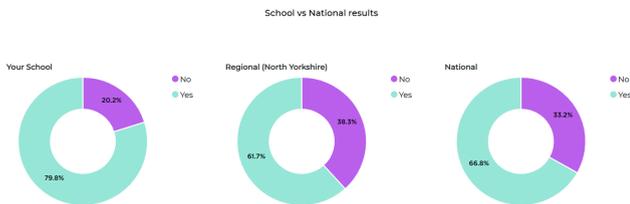


part of their tutor time. We will share the responses of our students with you.

This week, it's National Careers Week, and we're exploring how employers can support young people to think about their future careers. Voters will consider whether adults should share their career experiences in schools to help students understand the wide variety of paths open to them.

Question: Should employers have to work with schools?

## Regional results vs national results



## Quality of Education Update from Mrs Cripps, Trust Vice Principal

This week has seen the final week of mock exams for Year 11 - many thanks for your support over the past two weeks with these. Y11 students who study Food Technology have their practical exam next week - parents have been informed individually about this. Period 6 for the next three weeks will be all subjects except English, Maths and Science.

All students are welcome to attend sessions, however letters will be sent to parents of students who we recommend should attend particular subjects.

Year 9 students have received an assembly about Hospitality and Catering as an options subject this week - the power point will be sent to all parents via email, please discuss this with your child.

## Behaviour Update from Mr Donaldson, Assistant Vice Principal

### Sparx Science League Table

Leaderboard		Leaderboard		Leaderboard	
7PWJ	78%	8AMA	64%	9TGI	41%
7JPE	73%	8SDI	50%	9JMA	35%
7PBR	48%	8SST	44%	9HJA	20%
7DHO	40%	8RCU	41%	9TMU	16%
7MRA	28%	8KDE	17%	9JCO	14%

Leaderboard		Leaderboard	
10HCO	48%	11CSM	25%
10ELY	42%	11KBR	12%
10JM1	41%	11CEL	10%
10RNI	37%	11JHU	7%
10SVI	30%	11PME	7%

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## Safeguarding and Wellbeing from Mrs Cook Designated Safeguarding Lead

We are aware of some tiktok accounts that have been created about staff in school. Please support us by checking their social media accounts.

Please see below dates -



### Think Together at SEND CENTRAL March 2026

Think Together are a team of mental health practitioners who can support when mental health difficulties first present. They can support with advice and information giving, as well as signposting to local services, which may be able to support with your child/ young person 's mental health. A way in which this support will be offered is through workshops. Please see the below workshops which have been arranged for parents/carers at SEND CENTRAL, to attend in March

#### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 10am - 11.30am Introduction to Anxiety for Parents and Carers.**

A workshop for parents/ carers to learn about Anxiety and how it can present in young people. This will include advice on how to manage symptoms of Anxiety and information about local services.  
No need to book.

#### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 10am- 11.30am Introduction to Low Mood for Parents and Carers.**

A workshop for parents/ carers to learn about Low Mood and how it can present in young people. This will include advice on how to manage symptoms of Low Mood and information about local services.  
No need to book.

#### **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026 10am- 11.30am Energy Accounting Theory: Helping manage energy levels with Autistic young people.**

Energy accounting is an idea developed by autistic psychologist, Maja Toudal. It uses the idea of a bank account, where the withdrawals and deposits are energy rather than money. Many autistic people find this idea useful as it provides a way of thinking about managing stress and energy levels. Energy accounting is something that you can use yourself, or that others around you can help you with. This workshop will introduce energy accounting, how we can plan into a daily week and how to build ourselves up when already low on energy.  
No need to book.

All held at SEND CENTRAL, Children's Centre on the site of Clifton Green Primary School, Water Lane  
York YO30 6JA Tel: 01904 555076 Email: SENDCENTRAL@york.gov.uk

## Y11 Women Unlocked Mentoring Programme -

## Current Vacancies

[Higher Level Teaching Assistant - 37 hours a week, term time only](#)

[Advanced Teaching Assistant - 30 hours per week, term time only](#)

[Advanced Teaching Assistant - 37 hours per week, term time only](#)

[Advanced Teaching Assistant - 28.75 hours per week, term time only](#)



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# **Updates from the Principal**



## Key Dates:

**Mon 24th Feb - Fri 13th Mar**

Year 11 Trial Exams 2

**Thursday 30th April**

Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening

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

KS3 Assessment Window 2 / Year 10 Trial Exams

**Friday 17th July**

Year 9 Graduation

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