

Updates from the Principal



Update - 7th November 2025

Principal's Update

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a good start to the half term. Thank you to those of you who attended the parent/carers Yondr meeting on Monday evening.

In preparation for Remembrance Day, students have been attending assemblies on the theme of Remembrance. We have been really lucky to have an amazing opportunity to hear from one of the very few remaining D-Day veterans, Ken Cooke, about their experiences, supported by the Lord Mayor, Martin Rowley, who himself has served in the forces. We will be marking the event as a whole school next week on Tuesday 11th November and many of our students will be representing the community in York this weekend.

Kind regards,
Ms Mills

Quality of Education Update from Mrs Cripps, Trust Vice Principal

Please see below for all exam information

[Y11 Mock Timetable](#)

[P0, P3 and P6 timetable](#)

[Y11 Exam Revision](#)

Behaviour Weekly Focus and Update from Mr Donaldson, Assistant Vice Principal

Yondr Launch

If you were unable to attend the parental meeting this week then you can find further details here about [Yondr](#)

If you have any questions regarding the Yondr launch, please contact hello@voy.hlt.academy

Attendance Update from Miss Garland, Assistant Vice Principal

Overall Attendance this half term: 87.78%

Week 9 Attendance:

Year 7	95.52%	National Average: 93.4% 2025
Year 8	90.30%	National Average: 93.4% 2025
Year 9	85.04%	National Average: 93.4% 2025

Updates from the Principal




Year 10	90.08%	National Average: 93.4% 2025
Year 11	87.62%	National Average: 93.4% 2025

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

This half term, students with 100% attendance will be invited to a Christmas Film and popcorn alongside the attendance raffles.

From HT1, all teams that are in the 'Premier' Attendance league have won a form breakfast. At the end of HT2, all teams that are promoted to the next division will win a breakfast. Let the promotion battles commence!



7PBR	97.5
7DHO	97.1
7JPE	96.5
7PWI	95.3
11PME	95.0

Thank you for your continued support with attendance, it has a huge impact on students'

progress and wellbeing. Good attendance is considered 95%+.

Please continue to report absences to the school attendance team in advance. Where possible, please update us with the nature of the illness so we can inform any vulnerable members of our community.

If you have any attendance questions, please get in touch via the school phone line or at attendance@voy.hlt.academy

Exam Information and Regulations

Year 11's had an assembly on Friday 7th November to outline the expectations in the mock exam period. These regulations have come from JCQ and will be the same during the summer exams. Students have signed a document to say they understood this and are clear. Please see the [information from the assembly \(Vale specific\)](#) and [JCQ information](#).

As always, help is also 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](#)

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Updates from the Principal





Anxiety Webinar
Thursday 20th November
4pm - 5pm

This webinar is aimed at parents or young people needing support and advice

The webinar will focus on:

- Understanding what we mean by anxiety
- Understanding different types of thoughts
- Exploring techniques for managing anxiety
- Breathing and grounding techniques.

notice your thoughts

just keep Breathing

inhale exhale

Joining Information

To join our workshop please scan the QR code and follow the instructions to join using Microsoft Teams. You can also join using the following details:

Meeting ID: 367 112 853 219
Passcode: 673Uw3ej

If you have any issues logging on or any questions prior to the workshop please contact

teww.wimtwsa@nhs.net



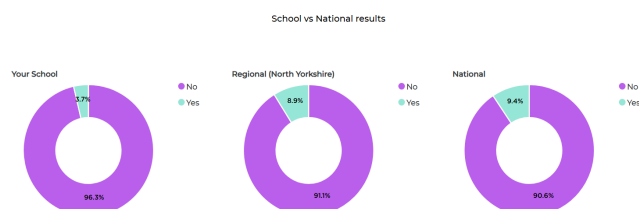
Votes for Schools

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, voters consider the time and place for using devices and reflect on the pressures to be online: how could having a tech-free bedroom help them disconnect from daily pressures? Or would it just create more?

Question: Do you wish your bedroom could be a tech-free zone?

Regional results vs national results



Safeguarding and Wellbeing Support, Mrs Cook, Designated Safeguarding Lead

Please see below the opportunity to participate in a survey about policing, which aims to gather the views of thousands of young people on policing and police complaints.

The survey aims to:

- Understand young people's lived experiences of policing
- Examine trust in policing and police complaints
- Look into local differences across England and Wales
- Involve young people in developing future solutions.

The survey is open to young people aged 13-25 years across England and Wales.

Young people can take the survey here:

<https://uk.surveymonkey.com/r/MSWTBF6>

The survey deadline is Friday 19th December 2025. The survey's results will be published in the coming year.

Exciting opportunity for Young People aged 10–25 to join the York and North Yorkshire Youth Commission!

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The Youth Commission will allow young people to support, challenge and **inform the work of the York and North Yorkshire Deputy Mayor for Police, Fire and Crime**. The Youth Commission will explore urgent Police Fire and Crime issues affecting young people, such as County Lines, Online Safety and Relationships with Police.

We're looking for a diverse group of young people from different backgrounds and life experiences to take part, including those who have direct experience with police, authorities and the justice system.

This is a brilliant opportunity for young people to gain new knowledge, skills and experiences that focuses on listening to the views of young people in York and North Yorkshire. Members of the Youth Commission will work directly with key decision-makers from the York and North Yorkshire Combined

JOIN THE YORK & NORTH YORKSHIRE YOUTH COMMISSION

Are you aged 10-25?

Do you live in York or North Yorkshire?

Do you have opinions about Police, Fire & Crime?

Make your voice heard!

Questions? Contact Emily at Emily@leaders-unlocked.org

Link to application form - <https://forms.gle/jLNqvB68ob7EPAEe7>

Deadline 18th December

SCAN HERE

LEADERS UNLOCKED **YORK & NORTH YORKSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY**

- To apply the form can be found on the link below
- <https://forms.gle/x75y2AUgAM4ovjiNA>

Wellbeing in Mind Team resources

UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOUR

Bullying vs **Banter**

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Bullying vs **Banter**

Bullying: Repetitive, An imbalance of power, Hurtful, Intentional, May be physical, emotional, verbal, sexual or online

Banter: Good humoured, Friendly, Playful and positive, Reciprocal interaction - "verbal ping pong", Can appear aggressive to outsiders

@wellbeinginmind.mht

ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE

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THINGS TO CONSIDER:
Topic - Often certain topics are 'off limits' when it comes to banter, is someone targeting your insecurities?
Context - Banter usually happens between friends, but friends can still cross the line and be offensive.
Intent - Banter should not be intended to harm. Looking at physical and verbal cues can help us understand the intent.
Audience - Banter can cross the line when the audience grows and the conversation shifts from private to public.
Reaction - How the respondent reacts can help us understand when banter has crossed the line of acceptability.
@wellbeinginmind.mhst

WHAT TO DO IF...
My banter might have gone too far
Speak to the person in private, check how they feel
Apologise if they are upset
Try and understand it from their point of view
What might have been acceptable once, might not be funny anymore
Learn from your mistake
Don't laugh along if you're not finding it funny
Banter is upsetting me
Speak up if you can, let them know they have crossed a line
Speak to a trusted adult or friend if behaviour does not change
Discuss your line of acceptability
@wellbeinginmind.mhst

WELLBEING IN MIND TEAM
notice your thoughts
JUST KEEP Breathing

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Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening
Friday 12th December

Christmas Big Sing

Mon 15th Dec - Fri 23 Jan

KS3 Assessment Window 1

Tuesday 16th December

Christmas Concert

Thursday 8th January

Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening

Thursday 5th February

Year 9 Parents' Consultation Evening / Options Presentation

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

Vacancies:

[Cleaner - 16 hours per week](#)

[Lead Teacher of Maths](#)

Key Dates:

Mon 10th Nov - Fri 28th Nov

Year 11 Trial Exams 1

Thursday 13th November

Year 7 Parents' Consultation Evening

Thursday 11th December

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