

Updates from the Principal



Update - 9th October 2026

Principal's Update Mr Green-Harding

It was a real pleasure to welcome so many prospective pupils and their families to Vale for our Open Evening on Thursday.

The evening was a fantastic opportunity to showcase everything that makes our academy such a special place – our brilliant pupils, dedicated staff and the real sense of community that runs throughout the school.

A particular thank you goes to the many pupils who gave up their time to support the evening. Whether welcoming visitors, leading tours or helping in departments, they were fantastic ambassadors for the academy. Their confidence, enthusiasm and pride in their school really shone through.

Thank you also to our staff and families for their continued support. It was a wonderful evening and one that made me incredibly proud to be Principal of Vale of York Academy.

Mr Hunt, Trust Vice Principal

We have really enjoyed a settled, calm and purposeful start to the school year so far. Thank you to all of you for your support and communication; working together is a vital part of

our success as a community.

We will be continuing our focus on uniform as we look to maintain the high standards that have been set so far this term. Please encourage your children to ensure that they are in correct uniform, with a particular focus on trainers, leggings and jewellery. We are very happy to work together to solve any issues relating to uniform; please contact your child's Learning Manager in the first instance should you need to discuss anything.

We are currently analysing systems and procedures related to pupil behaviour in the Academy. While we have had a great start to the year, we are never complacent and always looking for ways to improve things. Any changes to these systems and procedures will be communicated via this bulletin and will involve us gathering feedback from parents prior to any decisions being made, as we continue to work together.

Mrs Rachael Harrower-Long, Assistant Vice Principal

We are excited to have launched our "Attendance Streak" to all students this week, lets see who can hit the target of 97% for 5 and 10 days in the run up to half term, spooky

treats up for grabs 

Who's going to keep their streak? 

Mr Donaldson, Assistant Vice Principal

Kindness | Respect | Teamwork

ALWAYS GIVING THE BEST

Updates from the Principal



Thank you to parents and carers for your support in ensuring students attend their P6 sessions - we have had a great turn out.

Mr Orr, Director Community

We were delighted to have held our Community Open Evening on Thursday 8th October. This was really well attended by Year 6 children and their families. We had over 200 Vale of York Academy pupils involved in the running of the evening, all of them did the school proud with their energy, enthusiasm and impeccable manners. Thank you to all parents and carers who completed consent forms to enable this amazing support from your children on the evening.

Grace Cook, Designated Safeguarding Lead

A huge thank you to PIE (Performance in Education) for visiting our school this week and delivering an amazing production to our Year 8 students!

The performance focused on the dangers and risks associated with vaping and smoking cigarettes, providing students with an engaging and thought-provoking opportunity to learn about the impact these choices can have on their health and wellbeing.

It was fantastic to see such positive engagement from our students, and the feedback following the production was excellent. The session provided a valuable opportunity to raise awareness,

encourage discussion and support our students in making informed and healthy choices.

A huge thank you to Freddie, Cohan, Joe and James for coming into school and introducing our students to the Army Cadets!

It was fantastic to see them engaging with our students and sharing the opportunities, experiences and skills that being part of the Army Cadets can offer.

The cadets Open Day is TOMORROW!

<https://armycadets.com/county/yorkshire-n-w-acf/>

Key Dates:

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