



DRIFFIELD  
SCHOOL  
& SIXTH FORM

# CORNERSTONES

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CARE - PERSEVERANCE  
RESPECT - RESPONSIBILITY

## Personal Development at Driffield School

- To ensure students understand the benefits of looking after their mental and physical health
  - To provide opportunities for students to access and remember for a lifetime
  - To promote equality and diversity and respect difference
  - To raise aspirations to achieve personal excellence
- 



# SPOTLIGHT ON...

## MRS FRAZER - BEHAVIOUR & INTERVENTION COORDINATOR

My name is Mrs Frazer and many of you may previously have known me as a Head of Year, but from September I have started a new role as the Behaviour & Intervention Coordinator for the school.

This means that although I am always delighted to see students, in this role not so much, as I am responsible for the School Remove Room and the Internal Suspension Room, which unfortunately means they are completing sanctions for poor behaviour incidents.



I will provide some essential one to one behaviour intervention sessions for those students who need them, offering them behaviour reflection time to discuss and explore what went wrong and suggest alternative approaches to situations, as well as delivering a PSHCE style programme of work to incorporate the school's Cornerstone values.

I am hoping that my years of experience working at the school will be beneficial to this role as I will be able to provide the students with advice and guidance to enable them to make different choices about their behaviour. I look forward to being the consistent face for the students in this area of the school.





# APEX CURRICULUM

APEX (Achieving Personal Excellence) is designed to develop our students into thoughtful, responsible and informed members of the community who are prepared for life beyond school. Students will explore how they can keep themselves safe and make considered choices about their personal development and wellbeing.

In Key Stage 3 lessons this term, students will be exploring units of Identity and Diversity and how this plays such an important role in the modern world. Topics include what it means to be a British citizen, how we challenge discrimination in society and how they can make a difference in their local community.

We have also introduced a new unit in Year 9 where students explore character and virtues. The lessons encourage students to consider the characteristics and qualities they wish to have and how they can develop these.

In Key Stage 4 lessons this term, students will be working on RS (Religious Studies) content up to January where they will then move onto the APEX content.

To ensure all our lessons are delivered safely and effectively, our Head of APEX liaises very closely with the pastoral team. If you have any concerns about the content delivered, please do contact the Head of Year.





# **BREAKFAST CLUB**

**DAILY IN WEST CANTEEN**

**8.20AM - 8.40AM**



# ANTI-BULLYING

At Driffield School and Sixth Form, we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our students so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. 'Driffield School and Sixth Form is a friendly and happy place' (OFSTED) and we are committed to ensuring it remains so. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all students should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a telling school. This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the school, either by telling a member of staff, parent, friend or peer. As a school we take bullying seriously. Students and parents will be supported when bullying is reported. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Our 'Chat and Chill' room is a provision operated by Mrs Jude on a daily basis. This provides a space for students to access whenever they wish, where they can speak to staff, peer mentors and visit with friends. The popularity of this room is evident throughout lunchtimes, when students visit in large numbers to play games, meet with friends and spend time in this bespoke, calm environment providing support and nurture.

As a whole school community, we are proactive and relentless in our anti-bullying work and discuss the issue regularly with students via assemblies, form time sessions and as part of our APEX curriculum. We know that 'pupils are happy at the school and say that it feels safe', telling us that 'if bullying happens, it is quickly dealt with' (OFSTED), but we are never complacent regarding bullying and strongly urge students and parents to contact us should any concerns arise.

This year, we are very pleased to be working alongside the Anti Bullying Alliance. The ABA is a national coalition of organisations that are united against bullying. We are pleased to be working alongside them to further develop our anti-bullying work and ensure that we remain proactive in our fight against bullying in any forms. We are also excited to be working alongside our Peer Mentors to develop the 'Driffield School Pledge', a promise that we will invite all of our students and staff to make, demonstrating our shared commitment to eradicate bullying. I look forward to sharing this with you when the Peer Mentors and other students have finalised the pledge for the school community. Finally, we look forward to being involved in national anti-bullying week in November, which presents students with an opportunity to 'Make a noise about bullying!', ensuring no one ever feels silenced or that they cannot speak out when they see something not right.





# PASTORAL

## TEAL BE WELL PROGRAMME

As you will be aware, we are extremely fortunate to benefit from The Education Alliance (TEAL) Be Well programme.

This is a unique and totally bespoke programme to provide additional mental health and well-being support for our all people within our school communities, including students, parents/carers and staff. More information about the programme can be found on our website [here](#).

Driffield School users benefit from:

### **HULL AND EAST YORKSHIRE (HEY) MIND WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH**



Sally Mulligan from HEY Mind is based with Driffield School for two days per week (Monday and Tuesday). Students are supported through a range of activities, including a listening service, pupil resilience training, student Well-Being Ambassador training and more intensive support through the Big Umbrella programme. During the academic year 2022-23, just short of 3000 people were supported through this programme, with the majority coming from Driffield School.

We will shortly be starting our programme of workshops that aim to build resilience and skills for life with all students from Year 7 to Year 11. More information can be found on the link above on the website.



The Mind Whole School Approach supports school staff to effectively support students within the school by providing a high quality training programme. As part of this programme, 50 members of staff volunteered to undertake training to become Youth Mental Health First Aiders. These members of staff wear green lanyards, so they are easily identifiable for students.

Parents' are also able to seek support from Mind by either speaking to Sally during parent's evenings or contacting her directly on [smulligan@hey mind.org.uk](mailto:smulligan@hey mind.org.uk). She can provide a listening ear or signposting service depending on individual need.

# PASTORAL

## **SOCIAL MEDIATION AND SELF-HELP (SMASH)**

The SMASH programme supports young people that have emotional and mental health difficulties and is an evidence based intervention that offers 1:1 support, therapeutic group work and family outreach. Last academic year, 50 students benefited from SMASH support by either attending group intervention (Key Stage 3) or individual sessions (usually Key Stage 4). At Driffield School we are supported by two SMASH practitioners, who between them provide cover for the full week.



The unique provision possible due to the Be Well programme compliments the work that we already do through our APEX curriculum and in-school pastoral interventions. However, without the Be Well support it is very likely that students at Driffield School would have had to wait a considerable time for the specialist support they require from external services.

In a recent survey, students have told us the school encourages an open conversation about mental health and wellbeing and feel that school staff have a good understanding of mental health. The majority of young people who completed the survey felt that they would be confident speaking to someone in school about mental health. In the same survey, the majority of parents who completed the survey felt that the school helped their child achieve good mental health and wellbeing.

If you would like to find out more about the interventions available in school or the Be Well programme specifically, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance.



# PASTORAL

## SAFETY FIRST

At Driffield School and Sixth Form, we pride ourselves on putting students at the heart of everything we do. Student safety and wellbeing is our first priority and we all work hard to ensure that students are safe and feel safe, feel cared for and receive the support they need to be the best they can be. We encourage students to talk to us and tell us how they feel and we actively listen to their ideas, worries and concerns to make our school community a better place for all of us.

As always staff at Driffield School and Sixth form received their annual safeguarding update on the September training to ensure they are fully up to speed with our processes, policies, local and national issues and the statutory guidance in Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2023. More information about this can be found on our website [here](#).



For your information, two areas that have changes in this year's Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance are around the monitoring and filtering systems within schools and children absent from school. Whilst all schools have monitoring and filtering systems in place to keep children working online safe, schools are asked to ensure that they can evidence that the systems are regularly checked to ensure they are fit for purpose. This is something we have firmly in place at Driffield. The second area around student absence fits nicely with our key priority to ensure students fully attend school wherever possible. If students are not in school, we cannot carry out our duties to ensure they are safe.

Although keeping children safe is the responsibility of every member of staff in school, we do have a core team that are able to take a lead with specific child protection concerns. More information about this team can be found on the school website at the above link, along with a copy of our Child Protection Policy.



# PASTORAL

## ONE SCHOOL – ONE TEAM

It has been a pleasure to see the majority of our students taking responsibility and wearing our school uniform with pride as they return to school this term. Our uniform helps students develop a sense of belonging and reinforces our feelings of community within the school. Experience shows that students who come to school dressed properly and prepared for school are more likely to focus on their work and perform better academically. It also helps students prepare for the world of work, where they may have to adhere to different dress codes depending on their chosen occupations.

Students are regularly reminded about school uniform requirements during form time and assemblies and are fully aware that if full uniform is not worn, it will be challenged by staff in school. This does include piercings, jewellery that is not covered in the policy, false eyelashes and false nails. Students that are unwilling to comply with our dress code will receive sanctions in line with the Behaviour for Learning Policy.

If you require more information about our dress code, the School Uniform Policy can be found [here](#). Please be mindful when purchasing new items of school clothing that clothes labelled as school wear in high street shops are not necessarily compliant with our dress code.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding school uniform, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance.



# PASTORAL

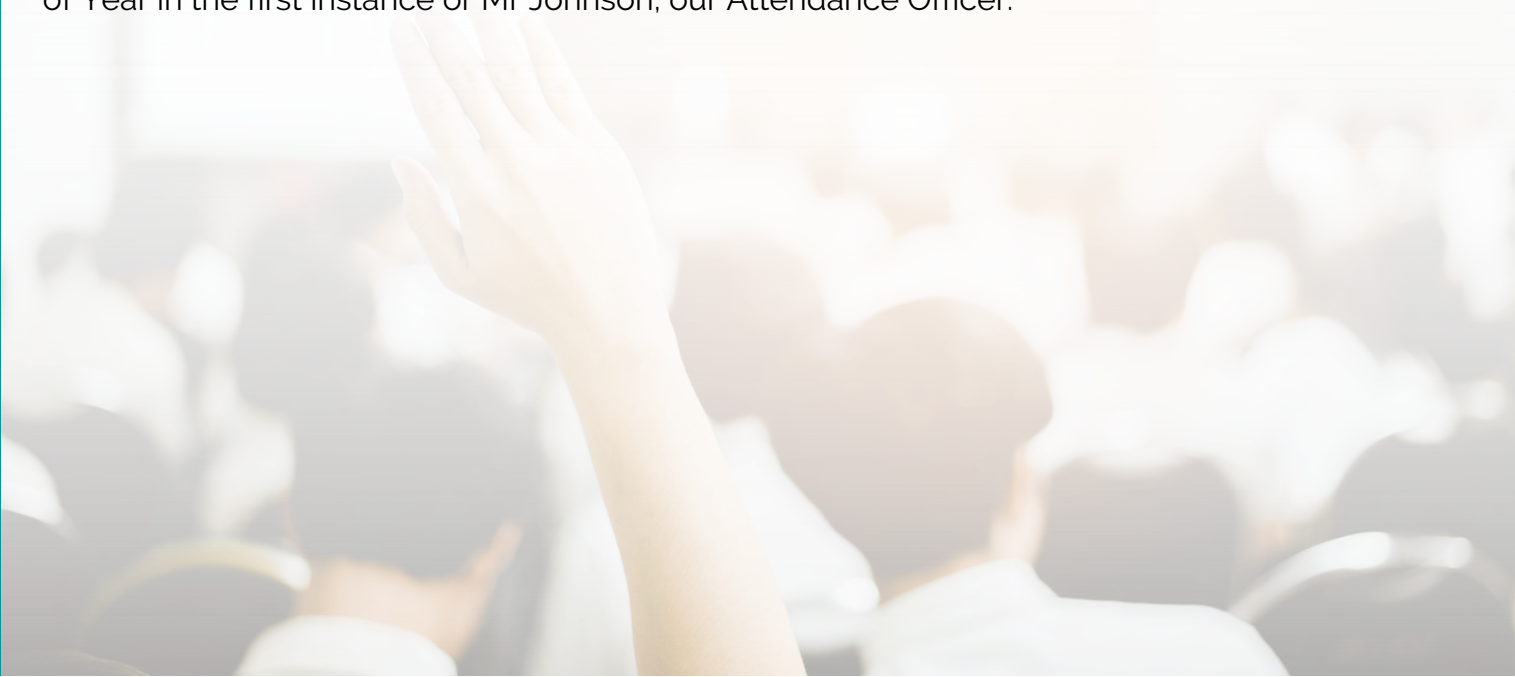
## **GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE – EVERY DAY REALLY DOES COUNT!**

One of our key priorities again this year to ensure that all students know how important good school attendance is. Our statistics clearly show that students who attend school over 95% of the time achieve at least one grade higher across all subjects than students that attend school less than 90% of the time. This could make a huge difference to individual students' future choices. Therefore, we will be talking about good school attendance regularly through the school year.

We are aware that sometimes children are too unwell to attend school and understand this is unavoidable. We do our best to support them to catch up on missed learning, when they are able to return to school. However, we have noticed a slight change in the pattern of absence post-covid, whereby some children are demonstrating less resilience and are more likely to be absent with low level concerns than they were pre-pandemic. This is a pattern that we are keen to improve and we would be grateful for your support with this. If your child has a medical appointment that cannot be made out of school hours, please can we ask that they only miss school for the time of the appointment. We would welcome them in school before or after the appointment as appropriate. Also if your child has been absent at the start of the week, but improves as the week goes along, please encourage them back in, even if it is for one day. Friday is just as important as Monday.

We are aware that, on some occasions, parents request an absence for exceptional circumstances during school time. Please be aware that we use the East Riding of Yorkshire Local Authority criteria for authorising such absences and again we ask parents to, where possible, please avoid requesting absence during term time.

If you have concerns about your child's school attendance, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance or Mr Johnson, our Attendance Officer.





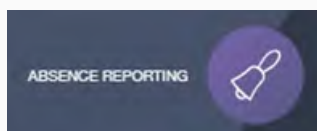
# PASTORAL

## RECORDING SCHOOL ABSENCE VIA EDULINK

If your child is absent from school, we ask that you contact the school on the morning of every day of absence.

We are always looking at ways to make systems easier for parents and we are aware that our phone system can sometimes be a barrier for parents trying to inform us of a student absence from school. With this in mind, we have developed a new and hopefully easier system for alerting us when your child is absent from school. Parents and carers are now encouraged to log student absences via EduLink. This can be done as follows:

1. Log in to EduLink
2. Click on Absence Reporting



3. Complete the form as below:

A screenshot of the Absence Reporting form. It has a light blue background. At the top, there is a 'From \*' field with a calendar icon and the text 'Select start date and time'. Below it is a 'To \*' field with a clock icon and the text 'Select end time and time'. Underneath is a 'Reason for Absence \*' field with a large text area. At the bottom left is a paperclip icon for attachments. At the bottom right are two buttons: a green 'SEND' button and a grey 'CANCEL' button.

- Select date of absence
- Select time of absence (e.g. all day in illness, 8.45 if am appointment or select time if student needs to leave during the day to attend an appointment)
- Add absence reason. Please give full details, for example:
  - If sickness absence please state details e.g. headache and sore throat rather than 'illness'
  - If absent for an appointment, please state details of the appointment and signing out information where applicable e.g. Hospital appointment at 2pm at Hull Royal Infirmary. Student to sign out at 1pm and meet mum in the car park.
- Attach evidence where applicable e.g. hospital letter, dental appointment card
- Press send

Please note, absences can be recorded up to 5 days in advance for medical appointments.

We hope you find this a helpful and efficient way of communicating with us.

# STUDENT ENGAGEMENT TEAM

## SET INTRODUCTIONS

I'm Ellis Short and I form part of the Student Engagement Team and will be supporting Bronte house this year. I currently teach physics at Driffield School and Sixth Form.

I spent my childhood in Bradford, before undertaking a physics degree at the University of Manchester. Here, I was lectured by the BBC presenter Professor Brian Cox, along with his colleague Professor Jeff Forshaw, with whom he has co-authored several books.

After my degree, I moved to the East Riding of Yorkshire where I have lived for several years. I enjoy travelling to different countries to experience their culture and cuisine. I also have a passion for several sports including running and football. My love of sports is also extended to my other, slightly more controversial, hobby of supporting Leeds United.

Last academic year, I worked alongside the Raising Standards Team to set up some great opportunities for our Key Stage 3 students.

I am excited to be in a new role as part of the Student Engagement Team this year and I look forward to building a strong community in Bronte house. My aim is to support my students to enable them to get the most out of school so that they enjoy school and reach their full potential with us.



Hello, I'm Holly Ganley and I form part of the Student Engagement Team and will be supporting Mr Hunt and Johnson house this academic year.

I am from Bridlington and studied my GCSEs and A Levels at Headlands School. I studied English Language and Literature, Media Studies and Health and Social Care before going on to complete a Social Care degree, unsure of whether to progress down the teaching or social work route.

I haven't always had my head in a book; I am quite an adventurous person and took the plunge to travel to various countries such as Asia and Australia with little more than a backpack and a dream.

I am now into my fifth year teaching English and Media here at Driffield School

I have worked alongside the Raising Standards team for the last three years and supported a Year 11 form group with interventions to help them achieve academically and personally. I am looking forward to extending my role and pastoral responsibility beyond the support of Year 11 and working alongside Mr Hunt and the Johnson house. We want to continue developing a culture that builds resilience and means students feel confident in taking responsibility for their learning and development, recognising barriers and seeking support wherever they need it to ensure they care to push themselves to the best of their ability and achieve great things.



## SET INTRODUCTIONS

I'm Louisa Pattison and I will be working with Mr McDonald and Mortimer House as part of my role within the Student Engagement Team.

I'm from Hull but grew up and went to school in Market Weighton, where I studied for my GCSEs and A Levels. I decided whilst studying for my A Levels that university wasn't the right pathway for me at the time. I instead, decided to study Beauty Therapy, eventually working at a day spa. I thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of the job, especially meeting and interacting with so many different people.

After having my daughter, I decided that it was finally the right time for me to attend university and I attended The University of Hull, where I completed a degree in history, followed by my teaching degree.

Now in my sixth year of teaching at Driffield School, where I teach history and enterprise and marketing, I've just seen through my Year 11 form, all the way from Year 7. It was amazing to watch the students grow into young adults and I couldn't be prouder of them!

I am now looking forward to this new challenge working within the Student Engagement Team to help students achieve their potential. We recognise that some students may see barriers when it comes to schooling, but we as a team, hope to break these and ensure support is given, so that every student will succeed.



I'm Jon Nicholls. I form part of the Student Engagement Team and will be supporting Holtby house this year and will be working closely with students in Years 7-11.

I am originally from Barnsley in South Yorkshire and completed GCSEs at Kirk Balk Secondary School. I studied BTEC Sport at Barnsley College and completed both my degree and PGCE at Leeds Metropolitan University.

I am passionate about all sports and encouraging our students to become as active as possible; this is the main reason why I wanted to become a PE Teacher. From my past experiences I have seen the positive impact sport can have on people, in particular being part of a 'team' and how it can bring out the best characteristics. I have certainly learnt a lot about resilience, effort and perseverance when playing sport.

I have taught PE at Driffield School for ten years and have previously been Head of Fawcett House. I have worked closely with the Raising Standards Team over the past two years, with a specific focus on supporting our Year 11 students in their final year at school. I am looking forward to this new role and working with students from all year groups in helping them achieve the best possible outcomes.

# PASTORAL

## STUDENT LEADERS REVIEW OF 2022/23

The academic year 2022-2023 saw the launch of the new student leadership team. This consists of 2 House Captains per house, 2 Vice Captains per house and around another 50 students from all year groups.

The Student Leadership Group replaced the old school council and part of the relaunch was establishing some new committees based around the issues students feel are important to them. The committees chosen by the students were as follows:

- Environment Group
- Charity Group
- Equality, Diversity and Identity (EDI) Group
- Mental Health Group
- Sport Group.

Throughout the year the students in the leadership group were involved in a number of events including parents evenings and open evenings, staff panels during interviews, and running our school stand at Drifffield show.

Each group also worked on their own projects to help improve the school community, details of which are below.



### Environment Group

- Elected Eco Monitors to ensure lights are turned out in classrooms each day.
- Elected Recycling monitors who will direct students to use the correct bins when our new system is launched this year.
- Took part in the Eco Schools travel to school national scheme securing free bikes for students, funding for future eco travel to school and helping improve student journeys to school.

### Charity Group

- Researched local charities we could support and produced posters to promote their work to staff and students.
- Visited a care home at Christmas to sing carols – to become a yearly event.
- Made plans to visit care homes each term to read, chat and sing to residents during the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Made plans for a 24 hour event for academic year 2023-2024.



# PASTORAL

## STUDENT LEADERS REVIEW OF 2022/23

### EDI Group

- Worked with Miss Charlton to help design lessons to educate people about different groups in APEX.
- Produced posters and PowerPoints to help inform students what each group in the LGBTQ+ community represents.
- Made plans for 2023-2024 to have a Pride event in school.

### Mental Health Group

- Students worked with Miss Charlton to help design APEX lessons to educate students in how to maintain good mental health.
- Produced Posters and PowerPoint presentations to help inform students how to maintain good mental health.
- Made plans to deliver messages in assemblies to further remove the stigma around talking about mental health.
- Made plans for Mental health awareness event in 2023-2024.

### Sport Group

- Researched local sports teams and clubs and promoted them during form time, in assemblies and posters in the PE department.
- Worked with the PE department to review the current provision and what other sports could be taught/put on for extra curricular activities.
- Made plans to work with the charity committee to raise funds to buy new team strips for teams competing against other schools.
- Shared ideas with other students about how to keep fit at home.

### Future Plans

During the coming academic year the student leadership will be involved in the following, as well as many other projects:

- The Student Leaders will have a growing influence and impact in different areas of school and the community.
- They will listen to their peers and represent their ideas in meetings.
- They will continue to represent the school on interview panels, showing visitors around the school, during school events, and during parents evenings.
- Start to work with other leadership groups in other trust schools to share ideas.
- Work with the transition team to start to promote student leadership in feeder schools and train students in Year 6.

# PASTORAL

## BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

This year we continue to build on our commitment to ensure that students in our school are able to enjoy high quality lessons in an environment free from disruption. To achieve this aim, we listened carefully to feedback from students, parents/carers and staff and last year we were able to further refine our robust Behaviour for Learning Policy. The policy and processes proved very successful and as result we haven't had to make any further tweaks this year. A reminder of some of the key points of our policy are as follows:

- We have explicitly linked our expectations to the 4 Cornerstones, Care, Respect, Perseverance and Responsibility to help students understand why our expectations are relevant and important.
- We explicitly teach key routines in the classroom and around school to ensure students understand what is expected of them.
- We ensure that students who continuously work hard to do the right thing are consistently recognised and rewarded for their hard work, effort and achievement.

Students are regularly reminded about our expectations and key routines through tutor time, assemblies, lessons and visual reminders around the school site.

More information about the Behaviour for Learning Policy can be found in the student planner or [here](#).





# PASTORAL

## DRIFFIELD STUDENTS CHAIR NATIONAL SUMMIT

On Friday 15 September, thousands of students from across the country attended the first ever national summit around sexual harm in schools and society. The Educational Alliance was part of this summit along with eight other multi-academy trusts nationwide. Over the past eighteen months, students from Driffield School have been part of the journey listening to students' experiences and testimonies of sexual harassment. During the national summit, students joined together to meet with some key national and regional decision makers to bring about urgent change. These included: Sophie Linden - Deputy Mayor of London, Mandy McGregor - Head of Transport Police at Transport for London, Tracy Brabin - Mayor of West Yorkshire, Jess Philips MP - Shadow Minister for Safeguarding and Domestic Violence, MP for Birmingham Yardley.



Students challenged politicians, mayors and transport executives to meet with them to discuss three areas of concern in society: consent, inappropriate behaviour and misogyny. Over the coming weeks, representatives from Driffield School will be attending meetings with these key decision makers to ensure positive changes are made.

A big thank you to Year 10 students, Betsy Fenton and Oliver Copeland who chaired the national summit.

***citizens*uk**

# CAREERS UPDATE

Congratulations to all our past Year 11 students who moved successfully on to new destinations. The destinations covered a varied range including college (BTECs and the new T Levels), apprenticeships, and Sixth Form provision. Holly Robinson our Careers Advice Lead is now concentrating on working with our new Year 11s. She is doing one-to-one advice meetings. All appointments are shown on the form programme. Careers drop ins are available every lunchtime Monday-Thursday. Students can email Holly Robinson direct on [holly.robinson@driffieldschool.org.uk](mailto:holly.robinson@driffieldschool.org.uk) to arrange an appointment. Every student will access an appointment on a rotation.

Every department in school has appointed a member of staff to be their 'Careers Champion'. As a school we need to ensure we are fulfilling the Gatsby Benchmarks. This year we are working closely with staff to ensure we are focusing on linking curriculum learning to students' future careers so their learning is more relevant to their futures. The new Careers Champions will ensure every subject has a focus on careers. Careers Champions will also access additional teacher experiences in the workplace so they know what jobs are available that link to their subject area. Our DT Careers Champion has already visited the multinational company Cranswick.



# CAREERS UPDATE

All students, including the Sixth Form, are having a Careers assembly in October. This will highlight our careers provision in school, our online virtual provision and careers support in the LRC. It will emphasise why careers education is important, why students need to research and understand future potential training opportunities and labour market information. There are very close links with our careers education, our APEX programme and our new focus on character education.

Ruth Mortimer, Co-ordinator of CEIAG, and Holly Robinson, Careers Advice Lead, are donning their steel toe capped boots and visiting Reds10 in October. We are very keen to develop links with highly successful local businesses as we would like to promote potential future employment, Sixth Form work experience opportunities, apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships. Holly is also visiting BAE Systems to learn more about this multinational business. James Hardstaff from BAE Systems is our new Enterprise Adviser. This working connection will drive forward and continually help to make our careers programme effective and of a high standard for our students.



**BAE SYSTEMS**

This term we are visiting the Health Expo at the Hilton Hotel with Years 12 and 13 students and the Apprenticeship Event at Bishop Burton College again with Sixth Formers. We have Bishop Burton College coming in to talk to specific students about their range of courses from foundation learning to degree level courses. DT students are visiting the Science and Engineering STEM Week at Scarborough.

We encourage all Year 11 students to look on [www.logonmoveon.org.uk](http://www.logonmoveon.org.uk) to access the open events for all Sixth Form providers, colleges and apprenticeship providers. We advise that you book onto these in advance.





# CAREERS UPDATE

Driffield School's Sixth Form Open Evening is on 19 October from 6-8 pm.

All parents/carers and students can meet all the Sixth Form teachers and the Head of Sixth Form, Darren Andrews. If you have any questions about Sixth Form then please email Darren Andrews on [darren.andrews@driffieldschool.org.uk](mailto:darren.andrews@driffieldschool.org.uk)



## DRIFFIELD SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

19TH OCTOBER 2023  
6PM



DRIFFIELD  
GRADUATE

MORE THAN AN EDUCATION