



DRIFFIELD
SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM

CORNERSTONES

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
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SPOTLIGHT ON...

MR JENKINSON - HEAD OF BRONTE HOUSE

It is a huge honour to be Head of Bronte. It has been an ambition of mine to become a Head of House ever since I became a teacher. As someone who lives in Driffield and a former student of Driffield School, I know the importance and the impact that a great school can have on individuals and the local community.

I owe a lot to my former teachers (some of whom are now my colleagues) for the time invested in me as a student, and to the school as a whole for the experiences and opportunities that I had whilst a student. It is my hope that I can instil the same belief in our students that my teachers did for me.

I believe this is a really exciting time to join the pastoral team and I'm looking forward to playing my part in helping our students navigate their way through the happy and (sometimes) challenging part of their teenage years.

My door will always be open to you, unless you support Liverpool or Man City, then you can go see Mr McDonald.

I look forward to seeing you around school.



ONE DRIFFIELD

SAVE THE DATE



The Year 11 Prom will be taking place at the Lazaat Hotel in Cottingham on Thursday 10th July! This is a fantastic occasion in the school calendar and an opportunity for our fantastic students to celebrate! We have already spoken to the students about the prom and are enjoying hearing their ideas for the night!

All students have been made aware that attendance at the school prom is a privilege and, in order to be eligible to attend, students are expected to have a good behaviour record, good attendance at school and have engaged well in lessons.

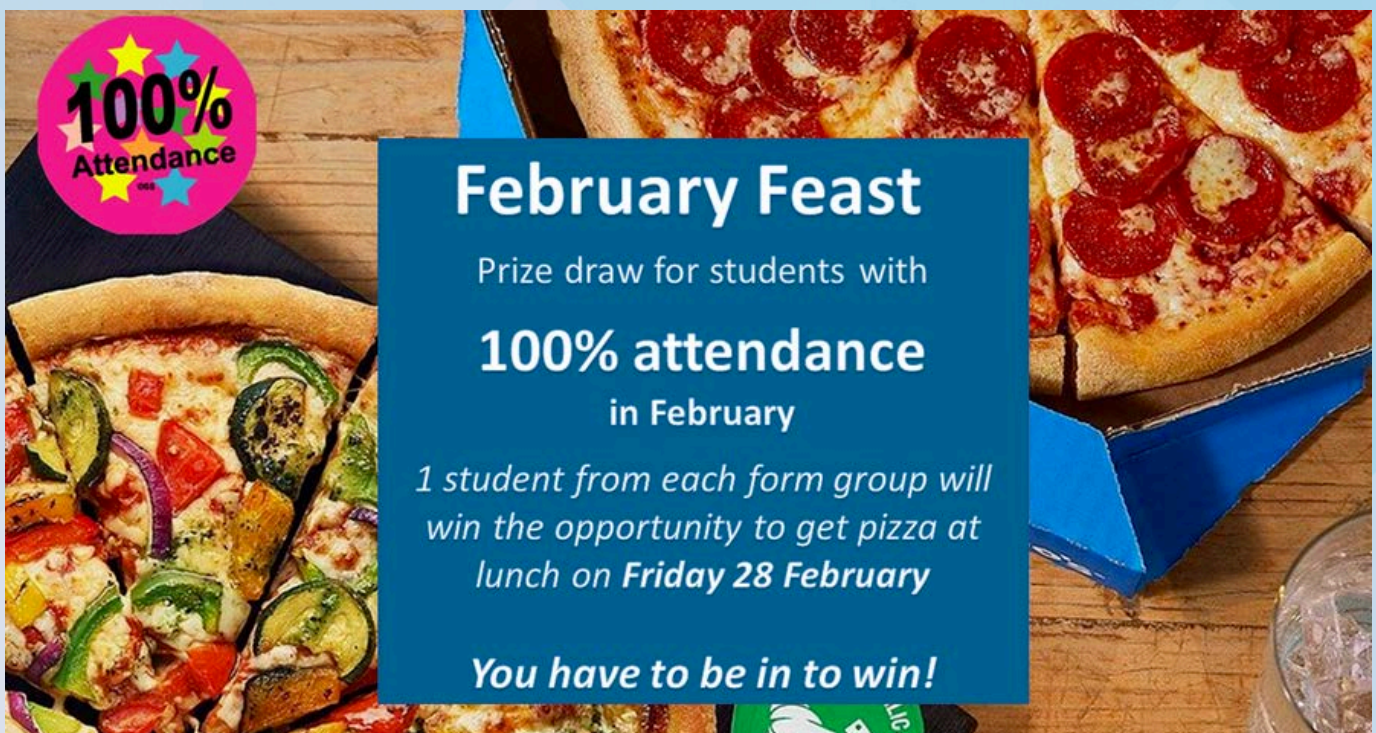
We look forward to an excellent event on Thursday 10 July. If you have any questions about the school prom please do not hesitate to contact the pastoral team at office@driffieldschool.org.uk



ONE DRIFFIELD

BE HERE - FEBRUARY FEAST

Attendance to school really does count. To help students recognise the importance of great school attendance we are launching our February Feast attendance campaign. Students who have 100% attendance in February will be entered into a prize draw to win the chance to be part of a group of students who will get Dominoes pizza on the last day in February (Friday 28).



100% Attendance

February Feast

Prize draw for students with

100% attendance

in February

1 student from each form group will win the opportunity to get pizza at lunch on Friday 28 February

You have to be in to win!

In December, we ran our Remember December campaign. Students won tickets for each week they were present in December, which were then entered into a prize draw. Each week, over 800 students won tickets and were entered into the draw. On the last day of term, we live-streamed our prize draw to classrooms, revealing the student from each year group who had won a chocolate gift box, as well as one student from KS3 and one student from KS4 who had also won a £25 Amazon voucher.

The year group winners of the chocolate gift were:

- Isabel Moulds – Year 7
- Reuben Bentley – Year 8
- Isla Hartley – Year 9
- Sebastian Daniels – Year 10
- Megan Botterill – Year 11

The winners of the Amazon vouchers were:

- Joseph Buckley – Year 7
- Archie Gibson – Year 10

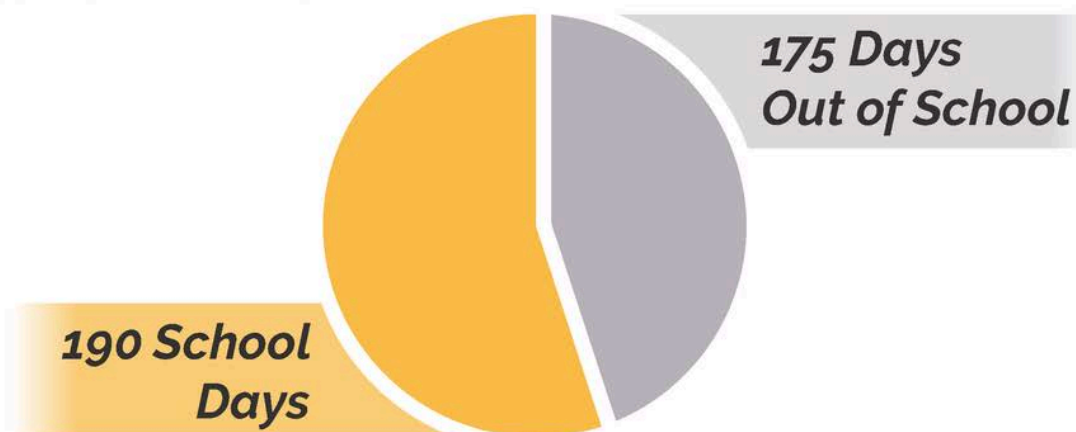
ONE DRIFFIELD

BE HERE

Your Attendance and Punctuality

Attending school every day and being on time gives the **best chance of success**

In One Year...



Medical Appointments

When possible, book them outside of school hours



Illness

Unless it is serious, bring your child to school and we will keep an eye on them throughout the day



Family Holidays

There are 175 days of the year when pupils aren't in school

95% Attendance

equates to a full 10 days of absence, or 50 lessons lost

Being late 5 minutes each day

over a year adds up to 3 days lost

90% Attendance

or less has a serious impact on education and reduces life chances

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HEALTH & FITNESS APPS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Physical wellbeing apps are useful tools for monitoring and improving our health. They allow us to balance nutrition, set goals, track our activities and sleep patterns, and motivate us to exercise. Nonetheless, there have been some reported drawbacks; this guide outlines some of these concerns and explains how to use fitness apps safely.

LACK OF PERSONALISATION

Many apps take a one-size-fits-all approach, failing to account for the varying ages and abilities of children: a 16-year-old, for example, will have different physical needs to a child of 10. This can create unrealistic expectations and set exercises which may be too advanced for younger children or too simple for older ones.

NOT DEVELOPED BY EXPERTS

Some fitness and wellbeing apps are developed by experts in the field – but a concerning number of them aren't. As such, these platforms may contain inaccurate information. They may present safety concerns by giving incorrect advice regarding physical activities or might include age-inappropriate content which would clearly cause more harm than good.

REDUCED INTERACTION WITH OTHERS

Physical wellbeing apps can remove the social and interactive elements which physical exercise can offer – for instance, meeting people at fitness classes, at the gym or during any other such activities. Research has found that young people generally dislike this aspect of fitness apps, suggesting that they would rather exercise in the company of friends or other like-minded individuals.

DATA AND PRIVACY CONCERNS

Fitness and wellbeing apps tend to collect a lot of personal information from their users, including name, location, date of birth, details of their physical health and more. It's worth keeping in mind that some of these apps may sell this data to third parties. We'd advise that any apps young people download should have the correct legislation in place to protect their safety and privacy while using the service.

ADDITIONAL COSTS

While many fitness apps are free to download, the initial content is quite basic. Users will only receive more helpful content (such as new workouts, nutrition advice or a personalised plan) by signing up to a subscription or paying for extra features. This can incentivise users to spend money on the service – a cost which can quickly mount up.

DEPENDENCY ON THE APP

While physical wellbeing apps can help motivate young users to manage their fitness, there's a possibility that – without being sent frequent rewards and reminders – children could start to lose their natural drive to be active. Young people may also become obsessed with tracking their exercise, health and eating habits: this can have negative effects on their mental and emotional wellbeing.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EXERCISE AND SOCIALISE

Highlight the importance of children enjoying fitness activities with family and friends, rather than always exercising alone. Emphasise the fun they can have by interacting with others rather than solely relying on an app to maintain their regime. Remind them of the importance of staying active, as well as the benefits of doing so with company.

PROMOTE POSITIVE BODY IMAGE

While we want children to be active and healthy, we must also ensure they don't become fixated on how they look and begin take things too far. During childhood and adolescence, the body is still growing and changing. It's vitally important for young people's wellbeing that we promote a positive body image and a healthy relationship with food, empowering them to make informed decisions about their diet and lifestyle.

REVIEW THE APP FIRST

Before allowing someone under 18 to install a fitness and wellbeing app, check its age rating, read its reviews and scroll through its data policy, to ensure its suitability for younger users. You could also try it yourself, to see if it's appropriate for the child's particular needs and decide if you're comfortable with them using it. Ensure that any privacy-compromising features – such as location tracking – are disabled.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

As with all apps, it's important for parents to familiarise themselves with any controls on the app and to use these on a child's account. The specific settings vary between platforms but – most commonly – these will relate to screen-time limits, disabling or capping in-app purchases, and managing social aspects or features which aren't age appropriate. By utilising these controls, you can help to ensure a child is getting a safe experience.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/wellbeing-fitness-apps>



DRIFFIELD SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

NEWSLETTER

HALF TERM 3

What will pupils be studying in APEX this half term?

Year 7:

Relationships

Students will learn about different relationships and how to communicate effectively and positively within these. This unit has a heavy emphasis on positive relationships.

Year 8:

Relationships

Students will learn about the importance of consent in all types of relationships. They will discuss stigmas and pressures surrounding this unit.



Year 9:

Relationships

Students will learn about the importance of consent and safety in all types of relationships. They will learn how and where to access support if they are in a situation that is unsafe.

Year 10:

APEX: Healthy Living

Students will learn how to take care of their own health and well-being. This unit will focus on alcohol and binge drinking, drug abuse and self-harm.

RS: Harm no living thing

Students explore religious and non-religious views about animal rights, whether we should be stewards of the earth and why some people choose to be vegan and vegetarian.

Year 11:

APEX: Relationships

Students will further develop their knowledge on how to stay safe in relationships as well as choices around pregnancy and parenting.

RS: Are Religious Laws Outdated?

Students develop their 'worldview' by understanding whether men and women are equal in religion, reflect on whether LGBTQIA+ individuals are equal in religion and how wearing the hijab is a choice for Muslim women.



Upcoming Events in APEX this half term

This half term we are welcoming The Road Safety team from Humberside Fire and Rescue into Driffield School. They will be delivering assemblies to all students explaining the importance of driver and passenger safety. Students will develop this knowledge further when they study this topic in APEX in the next half term. They will look at the impact of phones, alcohol and driving in a dangerous manner when behind the wheel.

Throughout last year several groups of Year 7 pupils visited the sixth form at Kingsmill School. They explored the classrooms and worked alongside Kingsmill staff to understand the daily routines and day to day life of the students. They worked in groups and took part in activities that gave them an insight into how a disability affects a person's everyday life. We are fortunate to be continuing this relationship with Kingsmill School and will be working with them again with our current Year 7 cohort. Students will be visiting the Kingsmill building on our site during APEX lessons throughout this half term.



SPOTLIGHT ON...

ALICE HICKEY - ATTENDANCE IMPROVEMENT OFFICER

Hello, my name is Alice Hickey, and I am thrilled to join the school as your new Attendance Improvement Officer. As a former student of this school, it's incredibly special for me to return and be a part of a community that has meant so much to me.

In my role, I'll be focusing on helping students and families understand just how important regular attendance is. I truly believe that consistent attendance lays the foundation for future success - whether that's in school, work or life in general. My goal is to support students in overcoming any challenges they face in getting to school and to help them see how every school day contributes to their aspirations.

I'm excited to meet you all! Let's work together to make attendance a priority and set all students up for a bright future!



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's Following feed only displays videos from familiar creators, For You is a collection based on a user's previously watched clips. Most of these videos will probably be inoffensive, but the app *could* potentially show something unsuitable. If children then engage with this content, more like it will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of uploads means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

According to Ofcom, most online harms for teens are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body shaming and so on) and dangerous stunts for boys. Both are prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of the latter was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; while that may not sound appealing, the app still generated £7.9 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birth date.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With more than 1.5 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and enables anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, clips can still influence impressionable minds in a negative way. Not only is there plenty of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source – so you should be wary of misogynistic, racist or conspiracy-themed material shaping how they see the world.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young brains. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the app: that's twice as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The instantly skippable nature of bite-size videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – sometimes without even realising.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.

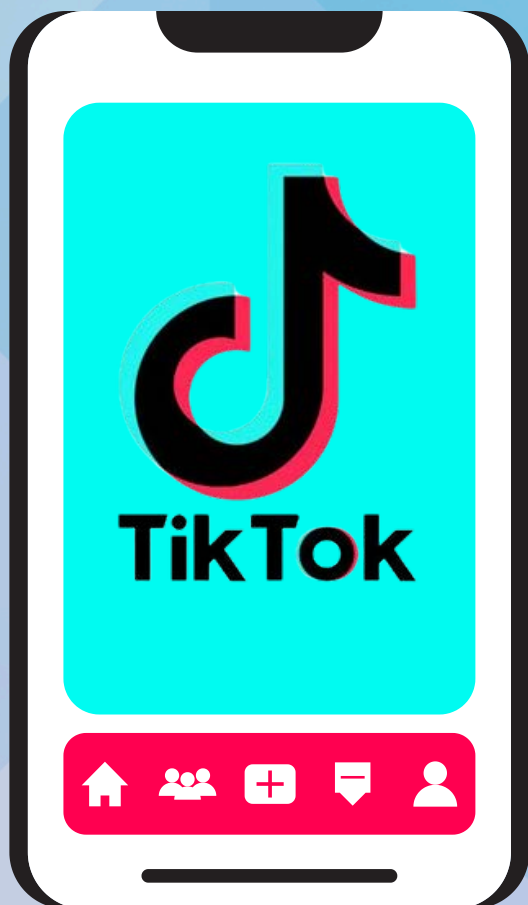


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SPOTLIGHT ON...

SOCIAL MEDIA - TIKTOK



A useful podcast about 'What parents need to know to about TikTok' can be found using this link

CAREERS

We're entering an exciting time of year as our Year 11 and Year 13 students prepare for their next steps. With National Apprenticeship Week taking place from 10th–16th February, there are plenty of opportunities for students to explore different career paths and plan for their futures.

Year 11: Planning for the Future

This is a busy period for our Year 11 students as they attend taster days and open evenings to help them decide on their next steps. We encourage all students to research and visit their potential destinations to ensure they are choosing the right courses to match their interests and future ambitions.

It's important that students check the entry requirements for their chosen courses, as some subjects—such as Maths, Sciences, and Psychology at A-level, as well as certain T-levels—have specific grade expectations. Additionally, students who do not achieve a Grade 4 or above in Maths or English will need to continue studying these subjects at college, Sixth Form, or alongside an apprenticeship.

One-to-One Careers Appointments

Every Year 11 student will have a personal appointment with Holly Robinson, our Careers Advisor. These sessions are a valuable opportunity to discuss future plans, explore career pathways, and receive expert guidance on the next steps.

Appointments are scheduled through the form programme, and students can also drop in to see Holly during break and lunchtime from Monday to Thursday in her office next to West Canteen.



CAREERS

Upcoming Open Events

Attending open events is a great way for students to experience different learning environments and make informed decisions about their future. We encourage families to book onto these events in advance via www.logonmoveon.co.uk.

- Bishop Burton College – 8th February & 29th March
- York College – 10th February
- HETA – 17th February
- Hull College – 25th February

Choosing the right next step is a big decision, and we encourage families to explore options together. It's important to consider both academic and pastoral support, as well as practical aspects such as travel arrangements and attendance expectations.

Exciting STEM Partnership with BAE Systems

BAE SYSTEMS

We are thrilled to have been selected as one of five schools to work with BAE Systems and Create Education on an innovative STEM and digital skills programme. As part of this partnership, the school will receive a Bambu Lab X1 Carbon Combo 3D printer, which will be integrated into our Year 8 curriculum.

Three of our Design Technology staff will receive specialist training at BAE Systems' site in Brough to ensure they can make full use of this cutting-edge technology. This opportunity will give students hands-on experience with 3D printing, developing skills that will be invaluable in the workplace.

A huge thank you to BAE Systems for funding the training and donating the 3D printer—this will bring long-lasting benefits to our students.

National Apprenticeship Week (10th–15th February)

We have a fantastic range of events planned for National Apprenticeship Week to help students explore apprenticeship pathways and understand the exciting opportunities available.

CAREERS

NYBEP Apprenticeship Talks for Year 10

We're delighted to welcome NYBEP into school to introduce our Year 10 students to apprenticeships. These talks will explain how apprenticeships combine earning and learning, offering a valuable alternative to traditional education routes. We encourage students to explore further at www.apprenticeships.gov.uk.

Sixth Form Talks with Tim Pick MBE

We're excited to welcome back former student Tim Pick MBE, who has had a hugely successful career in the offshore wind industry. Tim studied at Pembroke College, Oxford and was awarded an MBE in 2023 for his contributions to energy security and offshore wind development.

With over 25 years' experience working internationally in major law firms and advising on large-scale energy projects, Tim will share insights into career opportunities in law, renewable energy, and global industries. His journey is truly inspiring, and we look forward to hearing his advice for students aiming for high-level careers.



BAE Systems & RAF STEM Roadshow

Our Year 7 and 8 students will take part in an interactive STEM event funded by BAE Systems, with this year's focus being Artificial Intelligence (AI). Students will explore how AI is revolutionising different industries and shaping the future of technology.

Opportunities for High-Achieving Students

Talks with King's College, Cambridge

We are committed to supporting our highest-achieving students in reaching their full potential. Our Oxbridge Group at Sixth Form helps students prepare for the academic rigour of studying at Oxford or Cambridge.

This term, we will be hosting a talk from King's College, Cambridge, where students will learn about study opportunities, enrichment activities, and the support available to help them succeed.

According to the Complete University Guide, Cambridge is currently ranked the number one university in the UK—this is a fantastic chance for students to gain insight into applying to one of the world's top institutions.

CAREERS

Nestlé Apprenticeship Workshop (10th February)

We are delighted to offer students the chance to participate in an apprenticeship workshop led by Nestlé. This workshop is open to Year 10, 11, 12, and 13 students and will be an excellent opportunity to gain first-hand insights into apprenticeship routes.

Four Nestlé employees, including three current apprentices and one former apprentice (who is also an ex-Drifffield student), will share their experiences. The workshop will cover:

- How to find the right apprenticeship
- Application tips and guidance
- Interview preparation and mock interview practice

With degree apprenticeships becoming increasingly popular, this is a fantastic opportunity for students to explore alternative pathways into successful careers.

Workshop Schedule (ACE 1 & 2):

- Year 10: 9:05 am–10:10 am
- Year 12 & 13: 11:35 am–12:35 pm
- Year 11: 12.25 pm–13.35 pm

Students must be booked onto the event in advance.



Support for Parents & Carers

We understand that navigating careers and apprenticeship options can be complex. The Amazing Apprenticeships website provides excellent resources for parents and carers to support their child's decision-making.

✦ Visit: www.amazingapprenticeships.com/zones/parent

For video insights from real apprentices across different industries, check out BBC Bitesize Careers:

✦ Careers - [BBC Bitesize](#)





BELIEVE · ACHIEVE
ONE DRIFFIELD