



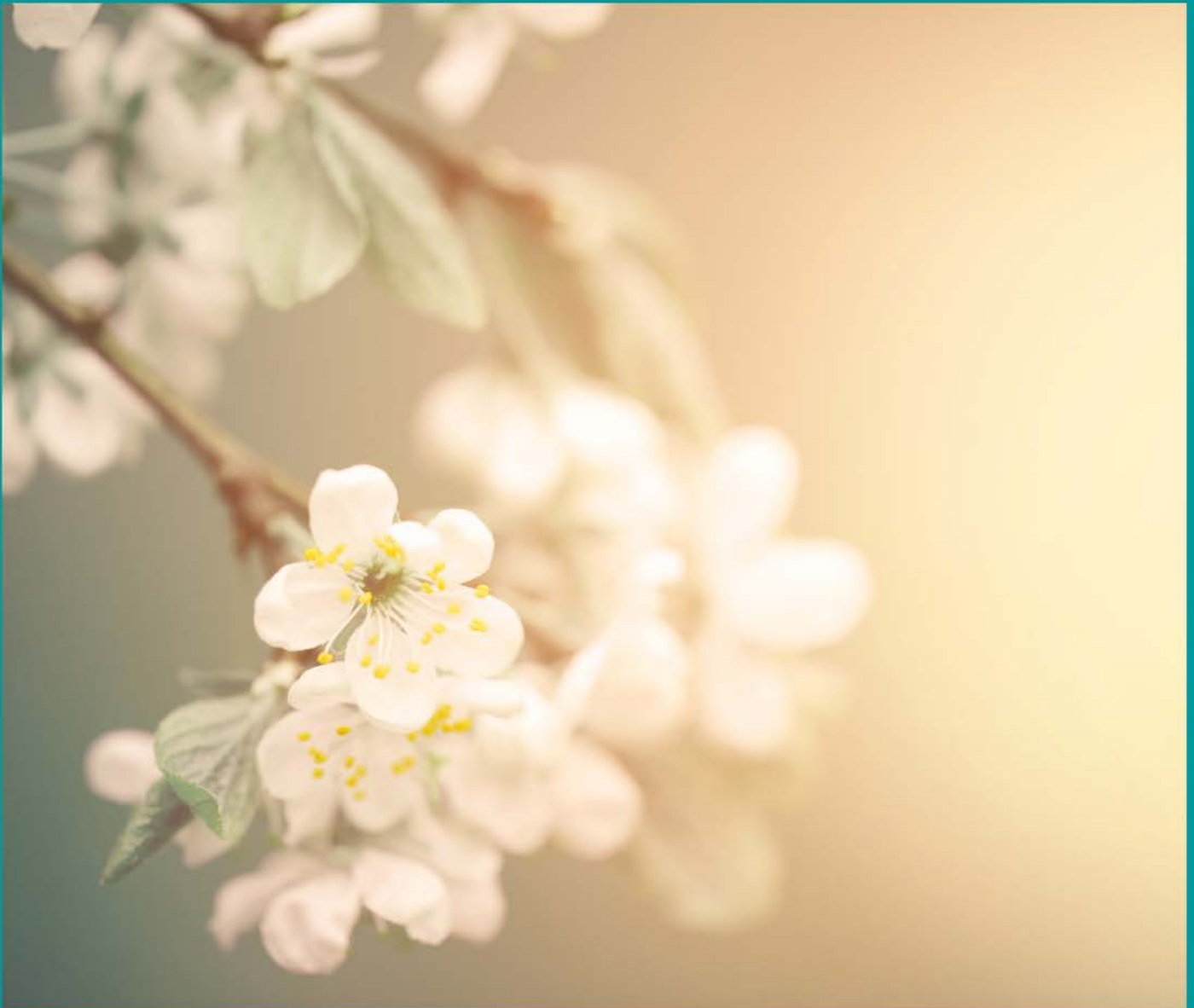
DRIFFIELD
SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM

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
-



ONE DRIFFIELD

YEAR 7 CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 March 2025 were the first formal celebration events at Driffield School and Sixth form this academic year. The events were to recognise and reward the fantastic efforts of our current Year 7 cohort. We understand the challenge of our 246 students, across 20 feeder primary schools, have transitioning to a large secondary and we felt it appropriate to celebrate their efforts after nearly 6 months with us.

There were three main awards across the events. Firstly, two students from each form were nominated by their Form Tutor and our tutors were able to be present at the event to articulate why they had nominated their students before handing them a certificate. Our second set of awards were based around our cornerstones. Each Head of House could nominate a student based on care, respect, responsibility and perseverance. Our House Captains then presented the awards, after describing what each cornerstone meant to them. Students were presented with a certificate and cornerstone badge. Finally, our One Driffield award was based our new 'Be Here, Be Yourself, Be Your Best' initiative. One student per house was selected based on a combination of good overall attendance, the number of stamps they have received as well as feedback from teaching and pastoral staff. Students were presented with a certificate by the Headteacher. This is the first celebration event of our school year and we are looking forward to recognising the efforts of our other students in the summer term.



SPOTLIGHT ON...

MEL LYON

Hello, my name is Melanie and I am the new Mind in Education Practitioner at Driffield School. I have been with Hull and East Yorkshire Mind for almost 3 years working with children and young people. I have many years' experience working with children, young people and their families in a variety of settings supporting them to achieve better mental health and wellbeing.

I currently work in 3 different schools, providing support and education around looking after your mental health and wellbeing through 1-2-1 sessions, small group work, whole year groups as well as supporting staff and parents. This work includes reducing the stigma and discrimination around mental health. As a Mind in Education Practitioner, I know that for a person to believe in themselves and achieve their goals everyone deserves support with their mental health and wellbeing with support to identifying causes of poor mental health and find ways to keep everyone well.

I am keen to embrace the ambition of Driffield School that every child should have access to support with their mental health and wellbeing and look forward to working with the pupils, staff and families at Driffield School.



ONE DRIFFIELD

PARENTAL PODCASTS FROM THE NATIONAL COLLEGE

Emotional Resilience



On this week's episode of the Wake Up Wednesday Podcast we're providing expert advice on how to nurture self-esteem in children and young people and help them to effectively process difficult feelings.

Facing unpleasant feelings can be a challenge, even for adults – let alone for children and young people, whose minds are still developing. To many youngsters, a mistake in an exam, a hurtful word or even losing in a game can sometimes feel like the worst thing in the world, causing them to react accordingly.



However, this isn't always an effective way to deal with difficult emotions or life's setbacks, so it's important that parents and educators are able to impress a healthy approach to these feelings on the children in their care. This week's episode of the Wake Up Wednesday podcast offers you expert tips on how to instil emotional resilience in young people, helping them to learn from unexpected feelings and situations – and to process them in a mature, effective manner.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BUILD EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

With increasing societal pressures, many children struggle with managing emotions, facing challenges and processing failure in a healthy way. This is why building emotional resilience in young people is vital for their mental health and personal success. This guide provides practical strategies for parents and educators to help children develop resilience and foster confidence, adaptability and a positive mindset.

1 ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Regularly engaging children in open dialogue fosters trust and emotional expression. Encourage them to share their thoughts and feelings freely without judgment. Set aside time daily, perhaps during dinner, to ask open-ended questions such as, "What's made you happy today?". This encourages children to express themselves openly.

2 MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Children often learn how to manage emotions by observing adults. By modelling calm and positive responses to challenges, you can teach them valuable emotional management skills. If you've had a difficult day, verbalise how you're feeling and explain how you plan to handle it, such as "I'm a bit worked-up, so I'm going for a walk to clear my mind."

3 TEACH PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

Helping children break down challenges into manageable steps encourages a proactive mindset. Explain that every problem has a solution, even if it's not immediately obvious. For example, if a child is stuck on homework, support them in breaking the task into smaller steps, saying things like "Let's focus on just this first question for now."

4 FOSTER A GROWTH MINDSET

Encourage young people to view mistakes as learning opportunities. A growth mindset helps them see setbacks as part of the process, rather than something to be upset about. After a child loses a game or performs poorly on a test, for example, ask them what they've learned from the experience. This reinforces the idea that effort – and even failure – leads to improvement.

5 PROMOTE SELF-CARE PRACTICES

Teaching children about self-care helps them understand the importance of balancing work with relaxation to maintain emotional wellbeing. Parents and carers could start a screen-free hour before bedtime where the family engages in relaxing activities like reading, setting an example to the child for how to unwind.

6 BUILD HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Strong relationships with peers and adults provide a support system that enhances resilience. Encourage positive, respectful interactions to develop social skills. Playdates or group activities can be instrumental in teaching children how to resolve conflicts with friends by modelling and practicing calm communication.

7 SUPPORT EMOTIONAL AWARENESS

Helping children to identify and name their emotions allows them to manage those feelings more effectively. When a child's upset, encourage them to talk to you about what they're feeling in an empathetic and supportive manner, and ask them why they might be experiencing these emotions.

8 ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENCE

Giving children opportunities to make their own decisions boosts confidence and problem-solving skills. A good example of this would be letting children choose and pack their own lunches for school, guiding them with options but allowing them to assume responsibility for the task to help them take ownership.

9 DEVELOP COPING STRATEGIES

Teaching children techniques like mindfulness, deep breathing or journaling can help them to manage stress. Show them how to perform breathing exercises when they're feeling anxious, and practise this regularly. Reinforcing this behaviour in young people will make it easier for them to use these techniques of their own accord during stressful moments.

10 CELEBRATE SMALL WINS

Recognising effort, no matter how small, reinforces perseverance and encourages children to keep trying. After a child completes a difficult task, makes progress on a project or reaches another type of personal goal, praise their efforts. Emphasise the hard work they've put in and be sure to let them know how proud you are!

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, which works with schools on improving their mental health provisions.



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ONE DRIFFIELD

PARENTAL PODCASTS FROM THE NATIONAL COLLEGE

**What Parents and Educators
Need to Know About WhatsApp**



On this episode of the Wake Up Wednesday Podcast we're detailing the risks associated with popular messaging app WhatsApp, and letting you know how to safeguard younger users.



WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps available and, as of 2024, has been made accessible to users as young as thirteen. With end-to-end encryption preventing even the platform itself from viewing any messages that users send on it, this app has been regularly utilised by those looking to keep their conversations private.

Unfortunately, the service poses several risks to its younger users – from misinformation and bullying to potential criminal exploitation – and it's vital that parents and educators understand these concerns and how to address them. This week's episode of the Wake Up Wednesday Podcast delves into the online safety risks of WhatsApp and offers expert advice on how to safeguard any young people who use the platform.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION

13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

WhatsApp is a free messaging service owned by Meta which allows users to send text and voice messages, make video calls, share multimedia – such as images, videos, documents and polls – and have group chats. WhatsApp messages are encrypted, meaning only you and the recipient can view what is sent. While this privacy may sound attractive on paper, this app unfortunately comes with several risks that must be considered – especially for younger users.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency' and even cons where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then, posing as WhatsApp, call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access to your private messages and personal information.

CHANNELS

Channels let users follow interests without sharing their phone numbers or sending direct messages, allowing only votes on polls and reacting to posts with emojis. However, fraudulent channels can impersonate legitimate organizations, tricking people into sharing personal data and even spreading misinformation or hate speech. Additionally, WhatsApp may collect details about followed channels and sell this information to third parties, raising data privacy concerns.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

CHAT LOCK

Another new feature named 'Chat Lock' allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. While this usually functions as intended, it can potentially be exploited by younger users to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of – such as the sharing of age-inappropriate material.

DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Disappearing messages are useful for sharing personal or sensitive information, but young people may have a false sense of privacy regarding the content they share. These messages disappear after anywhere from 24 hours to 90 days – depending on the user's preference – or can even be set to be viewed one time only. However, the recipient can 'keep' the message by bookmarking or screenshotting it, making them not as private as they may first appear.

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safety on the way home, for example. However, children are able to share their location with anyone in their contacts list or a mutual group – potentially letting strangers identify their live location.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution. Get them to consider, for example, whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. To do this, go to Privacy, then Groups. You can give permission to My Contacts or My Contacts Except ... Additionally, if the child needs to use Live Location, emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content sent to one user to then be shared more widely, and even publicly on social media. Encourage them to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence. Real-life friendships are far more important than likes, after all.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Have a conversation with youngsters about how they're using WhatsApp, emphasising that it's for their own safety. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of messages that are in there, who they're with and why a child might want to hide them. Also, if a young user has sent any 'view once' content, discuss their reasons for using this feature.

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.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/whatsapp-2025>

ONE DRIFFIELD

KINSHIP CARE

A kinship carer is a friend or family member who steps in to raise a child when their parents are unable to. Kinship, the leading national charity for kinship families, offers free online and in-person workshops, as well as peer support groups to help support kinship carers. These services are for all kinship carers, regardless of legal order.

If you're a kinship carer, or know someone who is, visit the [Kinship website](#) to find out more about the support available.



For family or friends who
step up to raise a child.



Free
support for
Kinship
Carers

care, connect and learn together

ONE DRIFFIELD

BE HERE

**MOMENTS
MATTER,**

**ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Punctuality Matters

- Students should arrive on site by 8.40am each morning and be in form time by 8.45am.
- Being 'late on the gate' in the morning will result in a lunchtime detention.
- Being late after the register has closed (after gam) means your child/ren will be recorded as an unauthorised absence - U code

Did you know...

Unauthorised absences can lead to the following:

- A meeting with an Education Welfare Officer
- A fixed penalty notice can be issued - £60 per parent per child



Reporting Absences

Parents or carers must notify the school of the reason for the absence on the first day of an unplanned absence by 8.30am, or as soon as practically possible.

Student absence can be reported in the following ways:

Email: office@driffieldschool.org.uk
Telephone: 01377 253631

Full details can be found on the attendance page on the [school website](#)

ONE DRIFFIELD

BE HERE

When students have a medical appointment (e.g. doctors, dentist, orthodontist) we can authorise this absence from school where evidence of the appointment is shared with us (e.g. screenshot of appointment). If we do not receive evidence, we may not be able to authorise the absence.

If students are absent from school for illness for several days, we may contact you to discuss the illness. Extended periods of absence from school for illness (i.e. over a week) may not be authorised without suitable medical evidence.

ATTENDANCE
WHY IT MATTERS

Persistently absent secondary school pupils could earn

£10,000
LESS ON AVERAGE

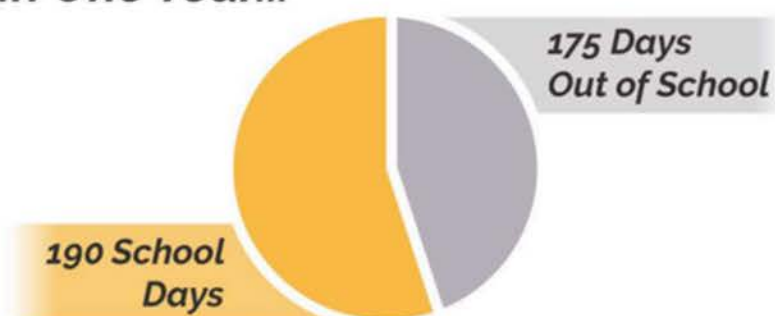
at age 28 compared to pupils with near-perfect attendance



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

SPOTLIGHT ON...

CHARLOTTE BIRD - SOCIAL PRESCRIBER

I am a Children and Young People's Social Prescriber covering the Goole and Driffield areas.

With a background in residential children's homes, I have supported young people facing a range of challenges.

I'm passionate about helping young people recognise their strengths and build self-belief.

Outside of work, enjoy being in nature, whether it's taking long walks with my dog or exploring new places in my campervan.





DRIFFIELD SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

NEWSLETTER

HALF TERM 4

What will pupils be studying in APEX this half term?

Year 7:

Risk and Safety

In APEX, students will learn how to interact effectively with others by exploring all types of social media and how to keep safe when using these.

Year 8:

Risk and Safety

In APEX, students will learn how to interact effectively with others by exploring all types of social media and how to keep safe when using these.



Year 9:

Risk and Safety

In APEX, students will learn how to manage difficult situations they may encounter in life. This unit will have a big focus on types of exploitation.

Year 10:

Relationships and Sex Education

In APEX, students will learn about what behaviours are acceptable and unacceptable in a relationship. This unit will explore consent, harassment and domestic violence.

Year 11:

Healthy Lifestyles

In APEX, students will learn how to take care of their own health through lessons on cancer prevention and screening as well as learning about blood, stem cell and organ donation.



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 safety, even when you are a passenger. 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 half term 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. Some of our students have been learning sign language so they are able to communicate with the pupils. Over the next few weeks students from Driffield School will visit the main Kingsmill School site too. This opportunity to develop links between the two schools has been hugely rewarding and we look forward to working on more projects together in the future.

We also have drug awareness charities visiting APEX lessons to provide workshops and in upcoming assemblies. We have dog safety awareness sessions for Year 7 and Year 8 students.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

We would like to introduce to the latest edition to our lunchtime team. She is a beautiful peregrine cross and is coming to help encourage the seagulls to find somewhere else to go over the lunchtime period. Unfortunately, she doesn't have a name yet.



CAREERS

Sixth Form Talks with Tim Pick MBE

Our Sixth Form students enjoyed a dynamic and inspirational talk with ex-student Tim Pick MBE. Tim was very successful at school and then went on to study at Pembroke College, Oxford. Tim was awarded his MBE in December 2023 for services to offshore wind energy. Tim was appointed as the UK's first Offshore Wind Champion in April 2022, co-chairing the Offshore Wind Acceleration Taskforce (OWAT) established by the British Energy Security Strategy. Students learnt about opportunities in the wind industry, in law and how to aim high in their studies and in their future career.



Year 11 Application Time

Holly Robinson, our Careers Guidance Lead is busy conducting one-to-one interviews with all year 11s in preparation for next September. All students must attend these appointments. Drop in careers chats are at break time and lunchtime Monday to Thursday.

We advise students who are going to college, onto an apprenticeship or to a scholarship to attend a taster day or evening ready for the next academic year. It is essential to know the course content and expectations of the course.



CAREERS

BAE SYSTEMS

BAE Systems and Create Education 3D Printer Partnership with School

Students have been busy using the new 3D printer in Year 8 classes and during an extra-curricular club. Students have printed 3D rockets and have experimented with these in their DT classes. All computers in DT have been upgraded with the new software to ensure staff and students can make the most of this excellent new resource.

BAE Systems, Royal Airforce and Royal Navy Roadshow

Students watched a fantastic theatre production all about artificial intelligence and potential careers of the future in STEM.



Students had the opportunity to work with a robotic dog, Lexi and see how it can complete tasks. Students made music and a music video using artificial intelligence. Students learnt about different industries using artificial intelligence. Artificial intelligence can help us to work smarter, more accurately and more efficiently but we need also to be aware of the dangers of AI and how we safeguard ourselves and others.

CAREERS

Open Events Locally

- Bishops Burton College 29 March and 13 May
- York College 1 April
- HETA 27 March
- East Riding College Bridlington Campus 20 March and 11 June
- East Riding College Beverley Campus 12 June
- Hull College 17 May

It is really important to book onto the taster events prior to visiting. Please visit www.logonmoveon.co.uk for more information about open evenings and taster events.

Please choose carefully your child's next destination together. It needs to meet their academic and pastoral needs. They need to be able to travel there and back safely and independently and have excellent attendance to be successful.

East Riding College Interviews at Driffield School and Sixth Form

We have an excellent working relationship with all colleges and apprenticeship providers in the area. We are welcoming two staff from East Riding College to complete in person student interviews in school on Monday 17 March.

873 (Driffield) Squadron Open Evening on Tuesday 18 March at 7:15 pm with Flight Lieutenant RAFAC Sean White

Potential new recruits, as well as parents/carers, are most welcome to find out more about the benefits and opportunities available to young people when they join the Royal Air Force Air Cadets.

Students can find out about some of the benefits of joining the RAF Air Cadets at <https://www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets/>

Parents/carers/students need to register their interest to receive a formal invite to the open evening, please email: oc.873@rafac.mod.gov.uk

Please note, although potential recruits need to be aged 12 and in Year 8 before they can join, we encourage pupils in Year 7 who may be interested to also attend, as the next intake for this group will be at the end of July 2025.



CAREERS

Archer K9 Assemblies and Workshops Wednesday 26th March and Thursday 27th March

We are looking forward to welcoming Archer K9 specialist dog training company into school. Year 7s and 8s are taking part in an interactive assembly linked to keeping safe around dogs, dog behaviour and communication. Two groups of Year 10 students interested in a future career in animal management, dog handling and dog training are taking part in a hands-on workshop.

Stemettes Girls STEAM Day Wednesday 26 March

15 girls are taking part in the Science, technology, engineering, art and Maths work shop run by Stemettes and East Coast Skills. This is a unique opportunity for girls and non-binary students to see how STEAM can open doors to a future amazing career.



Save the Date! Countryside Careers Fair Thursday 22 May at the Driffield Showground



This is an excellent careers fair and starts at 4 pm until 8 pm. It is free entry and free parking. There are over 40 exhibitors with links to careers specifically in the countryside such as law, accountancy, agronomy and much more. It is a great event and is suitable for all years and also for parents/carers looking for a new career/an apprenticeship or training.



CAREERS

Free Lectures at The University of Hull 26 March and 28 May – Please Book in Advance

The free lectures are suitable for parents/carers and Sixth Formers. Places are limited so please book in if interested.

Event: Christopher Macallister, Higher Education in 'Interesting Times'

Date: Wednesday 26 March 2025

Location: Middleton Hall, University of Hull, HU6 7RX

Time: 5 pm

Title: Higher Education in 'Interesting Times': drawing inspiration from the social sciences, Ulrich Beck, Paul Virilio and Carl von Clausewitz.

This lecture will consider some of the formidable challenges all of us in Higher Education face today. Economic, political, and cultural challenges mean the role of the university in society is questioned as never before. In the face of what seems like a relentless structural assault, where can we turn for renewal and inspiration?

Christopher Macallister will argue that we should return to our academic roots, have faith in our intellectual traditions, and draw on the thinkers whose ideas underpin the education we create. As an educator shaped by the humanities and social sciences, he will look at three thinkers who have shaped his understanding of society: Ulrich Beck, Paul Virilio, and Carl von Clausewitz. Christopher will present key elements in their thinking, and consider what their ideas can offer us, as we collectively lead Higher Education into this 'interesting' future.

[Book tickets here](#)

Event: Professor Kevin Pimblet - Inaugural Lecture

Date: Wednesday 28 May 2025

Location: Middleton Hall, University of Hull, HU6 7RX

Time: 5 pm

Title: The Evolution of Galaxies

In this lecture, Professor Kevin Pimblet will take us on a tour of how the study of space and astronomy has evolved during his career. He will showcase some of his contributions investigating galaxy evolution, black holes, cosmology, and allied fields over this time period and how technology (including machine learning) has evolved in tandem with our knowledge. He will address fundamental questions such as why are some galaxies red or blue, and how they change over time through some of the most dramatic and energetic interactions in history.

[Book tickets here](#)





DRIFFIELD
SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM

BELIEVE · ACHIEVE
ONE DRIFFIELD