



DRIFFIELD SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM BELIEVE · ACHIEVE ONE DRIFFIELD

AUTUMN 2025 - EDITION 1

CARE
PERSEVERANCE
RESPECT
RESPONSIBILITY

Personal Development at Driffield School

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



DRIFFIELD SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM NEWSLETTER

What will pupils be studying in APEX this half term?

Years 7-9:

Students will focus on Identity and Diversity, exploring how British Values apply in daily life. They will reflect on their own core values, consider stereotypes, rights and equality, and learn how to recognise and challenge prejudice, discrimination and hate crimes. Later, they will explore the character traits that shape who they are, gaining a deeper understanding of diversity, respect and inclusion.

Years 10 and 11:

In RS, students will explore big questions about religion, belief and society. Topics include how the media portrays religion, whether religion causes conflict, different beliefs about life after death, and how people make moral decisions, applying these ideas to issues such as animal testing. Pupils will develop skills to analyse beliefs, compare worldviews and evaluate the influence of religion in today's world.

Enrichment opportunities

This half term, selected classes will also benefit from a Yorkshire Building Society workshop on Lifestyle Learning, helping students make smart choices about money and understand the impact of their spending in line with their upcoming Finance and Careers topic.



Y11 PROM

SAVE THE DATE!

We will be holding our Year 11 Prom on 2 July 2026 at Lazaat hotel in Cottingham. This is always an excellent evening and a great opportunity for our Year 11 students to let their hair down after exams.

We delivered an assembly on Monday 13 October to remind our students that to be eligible they will need to have good attendance, good behaviour and attend revision sessions.

More information about this can be found in the planner on page 21.





BE HERE

We know that the autumn term can often bring colds and bugs, and it's not always easy deciding whether a child is well enough for school. While we encourage students to rest and recover when genuinely unwell, we also value the importance of perseverance - pushing through the small challenges, like a sniffle or a tired morning, to build resilience and a positive attitude to learning. Together, let's help students find that balance between looking after themselves and showing determination to keep going when they can.



HOW DOES YOUR ATTENDANCE IMPACT YOUR FUTURE?

100%

82%Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

Over 95%

77%
Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

Data released by the UK
Department for Education shows that the
lower your attendance, the less likely
you are to achieve in
your GCSEs.

92-93%

53%

Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

Below 90%

43%

Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

Research shows
that for every 17 days
you miss across your school
career, your GCSE results go down
by one whole grade!



Achieving 5 or more GCSEs at Grade 5+ has shown to increase your lifetime earnings by 41%

There are

365 are
in a year

175
are not spent in school!

That gives you plenty of time for holidays, TV, shopping and video games.

BE WELL



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 the following services:

Hull and East Yorkshire (HEY) Mind Whole School Approach

Mel Lyon from HEY Mind is based with Driffield School for two days per week (Monday and Wednesday). 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.

We have already started 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, over 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 Mel during parent's evenings or contacting her directly on MLyon@heymind.org.uk. She can provide a listening ear or signposting service depending on individual need.



BE WELL



LISTEN LOUD

Listen Loud is a specialist programme supporting young people experiencing social, emotional or mental health difficulties. Our students can access support through small group work or on a one to one basis. Areas covered include: apologising, boundaries, communication, resolving conflict, tolerance and acceptance, social cues, personal space, manners, social skills, negative thoughts.

Our practitioner is Kerry Giblin and she is based in school every Tuesday and Friday.

Access to this service is through referral from your child's Head of Year.



SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Last year we also secured the services of Youth Social Prescribing through the Be Well programme. Charlotte Bird, our Youth Social Prescriber, is based in school every Monday and Wednesday. She is able to support young people with develop strategies to support anxiety or low-level depression without the need for medication. She is also able to support young people who are struggling to attend school through anxiety-based issues.

Referrals for this service can come directly from a young person, through the pastoral team or directly from the child's GP.



BE WELL

BE WELL

Other Services

In addition to the services provided by the Be Well programme we have other supportive services that we are able to access in school. These include:

- Interventions provided school staff, such as bereavement support, ELSA (emotional literacy), anger management, behaviour management, resilience and anxiety support.
- School Nurse appointments every Tuesday.
- Target Group Support from CAMHS.
- Family Help from our School and Community practitioner Sharon White.
- Blue Door a specialist service for young people who have experienced sexual harm.

If you would like any more information about the Be Well programme or other forms of support or intervention, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance.

FAMILY HELP SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES - SHARON WHITE

It was lovely visiting Driffield school again recently having seen three of my own children go through the school and achieve great success as a result. I have worked in schools and taught across several counties for many years, more recently working within the Early Help offer. The Family Help Schools and Community team will be signposting and supporting schools and families across the North area of the East Riding and I am looking forward to working closely and in partnership with schools in the area, signposting and arranging community support for families to ensure better outcomes for children and young people.

I will be the link worker for Driffield school and there will be a 'Parent Pop in' offer where you are welcome to come along and discuss any challenges you may have parenting your child and any circumstances that may be impacting your family. Dates and venue will be available, so please pop in and see me.

There is also a parent course group offer. This group runs for 10 weeks – 2hr sessions and is designed to support parenting by explaining brain development, factors that impact this and 'understanding your child's behaviour. This will be a 'book on to' only course and staff will be able to book you onto this and give you further information shortly.

I look forward to meeting some of you and developing an affective working relationship with Driffield school staff.

If you would like more information about this service, please contact your Child's Head of Year.

TEAL Annual Snapshot

Academic Year 2024/25



Working together to create healthy school environments.





Schools involved in the delivery of Mind in Education.



4,365

Individual students were supported as part of the programme.



2,851

Individual sessions took place with students in 2023/24.



179

Parent and carers supported through 1-1 support and quick chats.



Staff members received support and quidance.



Students attended a drop-in session within the school.



102

Student Wellbeing Ambassadors were trained in 2023/24.



69

Students completed our 6 week pupil resilience programme.



Students completed Biq Umbrella sessions to manage anxiety and low mood.

⁶⁶It has really helped me believe in myself more®

Feedback from a student

[™]This really helped my confidence[®] Feedback from a student

[™]I think the workshop is really good because it helped me learn lots of different techniques to calm myself down when I am angry. Thank you ! 199

Feedback from a student

BE SAFE

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 day 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 2025'. More information about this can be found on our website here.

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.

CHILD PROTECTION & SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Who are the Safeguarding team at Driffield School and Sixth Form?



MRS D DALTON **Designated Safeguarding Lead**



MS J WEATHERILL Safeguarding Officer

<u>julie.weatherill@driffieldschool.org.uk</u>





darren.andrews@driffieldschool.org.uk



MR T FISHER **Deputy DSL** (APEX & relational practice)

tom.fisher@driffieldschool.org.uk



michael.evans@driffieldschool.org.uk



MR J DAVISON **Deputy DSL** (Pastoral Director)

MRS B WILKINSON **Designated Safeguarding**



jack.davison@driffieldschool.org.uk

BE SAFE

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK - WATCH THIS SPACE!

Monday 10 to Friday 14 November is Anti-Bullying week. This year's theme is 'Power for Good' and the week will kick off with odd socks day on Monday 10 November. Everyone will be encouraged to wear odd socks for the day to celebrate the fact we are all unique.

A number of activities will take place in preparation for this week, including completing the Pledge for 2025, antibullying week assemblies and a re-launch of our peer support programme.

More information useful information for parents and carers can be found <u>here</u>.



ONLINE SAFETY

With lots of information about AI and the use of Chat GPT this handy parent guide might be useful:

https://www.commonsensemedia.org/articles/guide-to-chatgpt-for-parents-and-caregivers

Another great tool to help you keep your child safe on line is our Online Safety hub, which you can <u>access here.</u> This hub contains lots of helpful information, advice and guidance on keeping your child safe online, including how to ensure security settings are secure and where to report concerns. There are sections for social, media, smartphones, gaming and online bullying, which are all worth exploring to ensure you are able to keep your child safe online.

GEN-AI & SAFEGUARDING RISKS





Fake Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM)

Gen-AI can create CSAM, posing serious risks to children e.g. exploitation, grooming, bullying etc.



Emotional Impact of 'relationships' with Al Companions

People can form very strong bonds, raising concerns about reliance and how healthy and positive these relationships become.



Adult Content via Chatbots

Chatbots can engage children in explicit adult conversations and make adult imagery available.



Bias Reinforcing Harmful Stereotypes

Gen-Al text and images can deepen stereotypes and reinforcing harmful biases.



Inappropriate Advice

Chatbots can give harmful or inappropriate advice e.g. mental health, dieting, physical appearance



Risks of Sharing Personal Data Online

Sharing personal info with Al risks children's exposure to cyber crime.



Exposure to Harmful or Fake Content

Fake or harmful messages promoting false ideals and narratives.

Gen-Al is
embedded in many
websites/apps
(some very familiar)
& easily available to
anyone. Many
children are already
using Gen-Al

Find out more at genai.lgfl.net



ONE DRIFFIELD

BEHAVE AND BE READY

This school 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. We continue to listen carefully to feedback from students, parents/carers and staff and strive to improve. This year we have further refined our already robust Behaviour for Learning policy to ensure everyone fully understands what is required. Further information about the policy can be found in the student planner on pages 16-17 or here.

A summary 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.
- We have renamed written warnings to resets. This better describes what we would like to happen at this stage.

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





OUR REWARDS



PRAISE & ENCOURAGEMENT STAMPS

SUPER SIX AWARD

POSTCARDS HOME CERTIFICATES

ATTENDANCE DRAWS

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

AWARD CEREMONIES

END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES



BEHAVIOUR IN LESSON

VERBAL REMINDER
Student asked to place planne

Student asked to place planner on teacher's desk

RESET CODE 1

Member of staff writes in planner

RESET CODE 2
Member of staff writes in planner and lunchtime detention issued

RESET CODE 3
On call used and student escorted to Subject Remove Reset Room
next day

WHO CAN I TALK TO?

FORM TUTOR
TEACHER
TEACHING ASSISTANT

ANTI-BULLYING
COORDINATOR
ATTENDANCE OFFICER
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

HEAD OF YEAR SAFEGUAR
HEAD OF HOUSE

SCHOOL NURSE



PEER MENTORS



ONE DRIFFIELD

ONE TEAM - ONE UNIFORM

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 that 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 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 <u>here.</u>

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.

REWARDS

LATEST REWARDS TOTALS

At Driffield School, we place great importance on recognising the effort our students show each and every day. In every lesson, students are rewarded for the effort they put into their learning through the allocation of reward stamps. These stamps not only acknowledge their commitment in the classroom but also contribute towards their individual and house achievements.

Alongside lesson-based rewards. students can also receive additional recognition consistently for demonstrating our four Cornerstones: respect, responsibility perseverance. By living out these students values. gain further opportunities to be celebrated for their positive contributions to school life.

All house points earned feed into the wider house competition, where totals are revealed at the end of the year. The winning house is celebrated with special recognition, ensuring that every student's daily effort plays a part in the collective success of their house.



SPOTLIGHT ON...



THE SIXTH FORM TEAM

MR ANDREWS-HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

I have worked as the Head of Sixth Form for the last 12 years, after previously working as a Head of House. I have worked at Driffield School and Sixth Form for the last 24 years, teaching mostly in the Geography department over that time, alongside my leadership role. Currently I teach two subjects in the Sixth Form: Geography and more recently Politics

I have always passionately believed that the students at Driffield School and Sixth Form are as good as any students found nationally and, as such, should be seeking to aspire to the best jobs, apprenticeships and university courses.



I am so proud of the achievement of our students, who year on year prove this aspiration to be true. I always feel that students are most likely to achieve when they feel part of a community that challenges and encourages them to be the best that they can be, through personalised support and guidance, and that is what I strive to create here.

MRS AMERS-DEPUTY HEAD OF SIXTH FORM



I have been working at Driffield School and Sixth Form for the past 15 years and recently have picked up the role of Deputy Head of Sixth Form.

I have always enjoyed working with the students in key stage 5 and I've been fortunate enough to teach them academically, as a maths and psychology teacher, as well as having the chance to be a form tutor for 12 and 13H.

My new role allows me to get even more involved, both on a pastoral and academic level, and I am loving the varied opportunities this presents. The students in Year 12 and 13 really are a credit to the school and I feel really proud to be working with them on a daily basis.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



THE SIXTH FORM TEAM

MISS BATEMAN-PROFESSIONAL TUTOR

Hello I am Miss Bateman, Sixth Form Professional Tutor. I have worked at Driffield Sixth Form for 20 years in a pastoral capacity supporting young people with the challenges they face inside and outside of the classroom during this often worrying but exciting time in their education.

I am passionate about working with our young people who face mental health or emotional wellbeing challenges and seeing them overcome these to continue on their journey after the Sixth Form.



TUTOR WARCUP-STUDY COORDINATOR



I've had the absolute pleasure of working within the Sixth Form at Driffield School for 7 years.

My role sees me wearing many hats, but students will know me mostly for being the face of the Study Area and Assessment Centre.

I have a background in the creative arts which enables me to assist students with their own projects, both musically and artistically. There is no idea too wild when it comes to encouraging Driffield students to realise their potential.



CAREERS UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2025

Congratulations to all our past Year 11 students who all moved successfully on to new destinations. The destinations covered a varied range including college, sports scholarships, (BTECs and the new T Levels), apprenticeships and Sixth Form provision. Holly Robinson, our Careers Advice Lead, is now concentrating on working with all our new Year 11s. She is doing one-to-one advice meetings in our career's office located next to West Canteen. All appointments are shown on the form programme slide that the form tutors show every morning. Careers drop-ins are available every lunchtime throughout the week. Students can also email Holly Robinson directly on holly.robinson@driffieldschool.org.uk to arrange an appointment. Every student will access an appointment on a rotation.

Year 11 parents/carers should ensure that their child/children attend relevant open evenings/taster days for Sixth Forms/colleges and apprenticeship providers.

OPEN EVENTS FOR YEAR 11S

We encourage all Year 11 students to look on <u>www.logonmoveon.org.uk</u> to access the open events at all Sixth Form providers, colleges and apprenticeship providers. We advise that you book onto these in advance.

All students interested in a career in construction had the opportunity to attend the highly interactive 'Foundations Live' at Bishop Burton College on Thursday 16 October. This event was sponsored by Hobson and Porter. It highlighted the varied careers in construction and the associated trades. This is a particular growth area in our region.

This term all students will be able to use the excellent online careers portal, Unifrog. They will be able to complete quizzes to analyse their strengths and weaknesses. They can log their extracurricular activities and research jobs associated with their school subjects and hobbies and interests. Parents/carers are encouraged to go on to Unifrog with their children and learn about potential future careers. This will help build awareness about future opportunities.

Our Sixth Form 'Successful Apprenticeship Preparation' group has started. This helps prepare our students to find, apply and gain a suitable apprenticeship for their needs. Past students have achieved apprenticeships at JCB, Dentons, Rolls Royce and many more. Students will work with Holly Robinson and work through a detailed programme. Students will also get to speak to inspirational apprenticeship providers and find out how to successfully apply for an apprenticeship. They will work with past students who have successfully gained an apprenticeship and will practise writing an effective application and their interview technique. They will learn about each individual industry sector and the sector's demand, brushing up on the technical and soft skills that are required and networking with professionals in their specific field. This pre-apprenticeship training will give students the competitive edge over others.

CAREERS UPDATE

TOP APPRENTICESHIP PROVIDERS IN THE UK FOR 2025

The UK offers numerous excellent apprenticeship providers across various industries. Here are some of the top providers:

The British Army: Ranked as the number one apprenticeship employer in 2024, offering over 40 apprenticeship options in fields such as engineering, healthcare, and construction.

BT: Provides apprenticeships in tech, customer service, engineering, and cybersecurity, with opportunities to work on real projects and gain industry-recognized certifications.

Royal Navy: Offers apprenticeships in areas like engineering, aviation, and healthcare, with a focus on hands-on training and development.

BAE Systems: Provides apprenticeships in software engineering, electrical engineering, and mechanical engineering, among other fields, with opportunities to work on cutting-edge projects.

PwC: Offers apprenticeships in accounting, auditing, and consulting, with a focus on professional development and career growth.

TOP APPRENTICESHIP EMPLOYERS

Finance

- Santander: Offers an Economic Crime Apprenticeship with a salary of £26,000 and opportunities to work in exciting departments.
- Tesco: Provides a Finance Apprenticeship with a salary of £23,000 and training in business operations and financial reporting.

Technology

- Softcat: A tech company offering apprenticeships with a focus on teamwork and professional development.
- BP: Provides a Software Development Apprenticeship with a salary of £20,000 and a £3,000 sign-on bonus.

Real Estate:

- Savills: Offers real estate apprenticeships with training and experience in property management and sales.
- Inspire ATA: Provides real estate apprenticeships with short-term placement opportunities and flexible recruitment solutions.

CAREERS UPDATE

OTHER NOTABLE PROVIDERS

Mitchells & Butlers: Offers apprenticeships in hospitality, retail, and management, with opportunities to develop skills and gain industry experience.

Department of Work and Pensions: Provides higher and degree-level apprenticeships in areas like education, healthcare, and policy.

RSM: Offers apprenticeships in accounting, auditing, and consulting, with opportunities to fast-track careers in business.

TO FIND LOCAL APPRENTICESHIPS

Please go onto https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeships to access local apprenticeships.

