



Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your support and understanding during the recent industrial action. We tried to make the days as meaningful as possible and I would like to thank parents for supporting remote learning. Students completing the Century Tech activities have been doing extremely well and benefited from the AI driven diagnostics, please encourage students to continue to go on through the year and complete the work it suggests.

Why We Are Using Century Tech

It uses the latest research in cognitive science to support learning, firstly by diagnosing the areas a student needs to work on and setting a task to help. Secondly, by planning revision tasks that support long term learning. It really is the next best thing to having a teacher tutoring a student.

Personal Development Curriculum and Offer

We have developed and enhanced our personal development offer for all students across the school. We are keen to make parents aware of this new offer and explain what personal development means at Horsforth School.

Personal Development is the main driver for educating the 'whole child.' It has a vital role in preparing children and young people to negotiate the challenges and opportunities of an increasingly complex world. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. Personal Development occurs through PSHCE, RS and other planned lessons. It supports pupils to be healthy (mentally and physically), safe (online and offline) and equipped to thrive in their relationships and careers. It helps equip our young people with the skills and knowledge needed for the wider world now and later into adult life. Personal Development occurs through planned experiences and opportunities such as trips, visits, super curricular events, themed weeks or drop-down day's and activities.

It goes beyond the academic, technical or vocational, it occurs within and beyond the classroom, on and off school site.

We divide our Personal Development offer into 8 strands. Each strand is delivered to each year group 7-13. The diagram explains the content of these 8 strands.

The 8 strands ensure breadth and depth of our offer throughout the key stages.

'Opportunity and achievement for all'



To see what is taught in each strand, please click on the relevant year group link below which will take you to more detail on our website.

Year 7:

<https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/looking-after-you-year-7/#pd>

Year 8:

<https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/looking-after-you-year-8/#pd>

Year 9:

<https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/looking-after-you-year-9/#pd>

Year 10:

<https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/looking-after-you-year-10/#pd>

Year 11:

<https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/looking-after-you-year-11/#pd>

Scholastic Book Fair

Our Scholastic Book Fair was a massive success last week. Thank you to Mrs Brown for organising everything!



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Year 7 Poetry Slam

Leeds, City of Culture funded 14 schools to have a visit from a poet to work with up to 90 Year 7s on a poetry slam. It involved a full day in school with poet Rob Bradley to prepare Year 7 students for the final. The final will be held on the evening of March 23rd.

Uniform Standards

With the second term near to its close, some students have begun to push the boundaries around school uniform and are very quickly building up comments, jewellery confiscations, or high-level sanctions by not adhering fully to school policy. To prevent this from happening any further and so we can resume our focus on teaching and learning, we please ask that you ensure your child is dressed according to the policy, taking note of our main concerns below.

We thank you in advance of your continued support. Full details of the policy can be found on our website.

- Students must wear black shoes. No pumps, trainers or boots. The only exemption to not wearing shoes would be to submit a medical note from a GP or other professional with a time frame.
- Students are not allowed to wear leggings or jeans.
- Students must wear full length trousers and not 3/4 length trousers.
- Students must have only 1 pair of studs in their ears, lower lobe. No other piercings are permitted on health and safety grounds. Students will be withdrawn to the inclusion room if this rule is not followed.
- Students can wear 1 plain ring only. No other jewellery. Bracelets of any kind, necklaces and other rings will be confiscated and returned at the end of this term. If jewellery is confiscated after Easter, it will not be returned till May half term.
- Students are not permitted to wear nail varnish, excessive make up, false eyelashes, have eyelash extensions or unnatural hair colours/dye.
- Tramlines, complete shaven heads and mohawk-like hairstyles are not permitted.

Mandarin Singing

Early this year, through our partnership with the Leeds University Confucius Institute, we entered some of our Year 7 students for the singing competition called the 'The Learn Chinese & Sing for Childhood Programme'. It is organised by the University of International Business and Economics, China, to celebrate International Chinese Day.

Below is the link to one of the videos we filmed if you are interested in seeing what our wonderful students have produced.

[Two tigers with Chinese subtitle.mp4](#)

Vacancies

Please look at our website where you can find the latest vacancies. We are currently looking to fill a variety of positions. If you are interested in these roles please click on this link:

<https://www.horsforthschool.org/vacancies/> or call 0113 2265454 for further details.

First Aid Policy

We update our first aid policy annually. Please click on the link to familiarise yourself with the most up to date version which can be found on our website: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/wp->

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Sports Fixtures

Netball Success

On Tuesday the girls did exceptionally well – third in the group. Unfortunately, they lost to the tournament finalists but they beat GSAL 6-3 and had a very close game with Woodhouse Grove and narrowly lost 10-7. They beat Woodhouse B team 15-1. The Player of the Tournament was Eloise, and the Teacher's player of the Tournament was Alex.

The Yorkshire Bowl Final

The Yorkshire Bowl final at West Park Bramhope is taking place tonight.

Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Auschwitz Trip

This Wednesday saw 6 sixth formers visit Auschwitz on a day trip through the Holocaust Educational Trust. A mammoth 18 hours on the go from 4 in the morning at the airport until they were picked up back outside the airport at around half 10 tonight is a monumental effort under any circumstances, but especially considering the nature of the trip.

All 6 were an absolute credit to the school, they were brilliant in displaying their empathy, respect, and understanding of what they were seeing and hearing as we went through the day. They handled some very tough settings, stories and displays across the camps incredibly maturely and the educator from the Trust commented on how superb they were as a group in their reflective thinking. Whilst the camp is very difficult to bear witness to, it is a fantastic opportunity for students to reflect and take those lessons from Auschwitz forward in their futures.



Thank you, as always, for your support.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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