



Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

19th May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to congratulate our Year 11 and 13 students for a really positive start to the exams. This is often an incredibly stressful time for students (and parents!) so well done on showing such positivity and resilience! The first one is always the hardest.

I look forward to celebrating their success in August and would also like to thank you for the support you are providing them.

MindMate Friendly Status – Mental Health Accreditation

We are so very pleased to announce that we have just received the Accreditation of MindMate Friendly Status for the school and this will last for 3 years. This celebrates and validates our work on mental health for our students and staff across the school.

We were inspected on the 6th May and received a glowing report on the work we have done for all students, targeted students and for staff wellbeing. If you would like to read the full report it is on the news page of our website: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Mindmate-Friendly-Status.pdf>

Excerpts from the report include:

- Support for SEMH in this school is outstanding. There is a strong whole school holistic approach which is well led and managed by Sarah Nowell, Deputy Headteacher and lead for Safeguarding, Emily Gledhill, PSHE lead and Daisy Bellis, Mental Health Strategy Lead. The needs of students are well met and managed, using a well embedded whole school approach which all staff are committed to supporting
- The Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, which includes teaching about mental health and well-being, is extremely well led and managed.
- There is a tiered, waved approach to the targeted offer which is carefully mapped out.
- There is a robust, consistent whole school approach to behaviour, underpinned by an excellent policy, which all students understand. The policy is strength based and credits students in every lesson for being ready and doing the right thing. Other credits can be earned, through the 'purple slips' system, which act as a currency for purchasing rewards. Students were positive about this system, commenting on the fact that it is a fair and consistent system. Sanctions are clear and are

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also well understood. Students commented that staff are quick to act where unacceptable behaviour occurs.

- Students reported feeling safe and confident to speak to any member of staff, in particular pastoral staff, if they need support and advice at any time. They understand why it is important to ask for help and who to go to for support.
- Relationships within school are strong – student to student, staff to student, staff to staff.
- Parents were overwhelmingly positive about the wellbeing needs of their children being met.

Quotes from the assessment visit with Students:

- “We can speak to any of the staff, you can talk to whoever you trust.”
- “Everyone here is very welcoming, other students are friendly.”
- “If I needed help, I know lots of things I could do, speak to a teacher, a School MindMate Ambassador or use the Help Me button on the website.”
- “The teachers are supportive; you can talk to them.”
- “If there is a problem it does get dealt with. I think it’s fair here, we all feel safe.”
- “Staff have different roles in school, but we know who to go to for what we need.”
- “The curriculum covers mental health; it gets more specific as you move up school.”
- “School is preparing us well for university.”



Health & Wellbeing Beacon School

Due to the work we have done to achieve MindMate Status for the school, I am even more delighted to share the good news that we have achieved **beacon status** for the work we have done for health and wellbeing.

Over the years since Covid, we have worked hard to prioritise student and staff health and wellbeing. The Health & Wellbeing service would like to acknowledge and give recognition to these schools and the beacon status does this.

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Through the service's work with us, they have recognised our dedication and commitment we have shown to the following areas: ➤ Curriculum ➤ Practice ➤ Provision ➤ Policies ➤ Pupil voice and participation ➤ Parental engagement. All of which enhance the health and wellbeing outcomes for their pupils.



Uniform Standards

With the half 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 and full details of the policy are found on our website.

- Students must wear black shoes, no pumps, trainers or boots. Medical notes from a GP or other professional with a time frame would be the only exemption to not wearing shoes.
- 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 maw hawk-like hairstyles are not permitted.

It is essential that students wear their tie to school. If they borrow a school tie, it must be returned that day or they will incur sanctions.

Year 11 Exam Timetable 2023 on Instagram

A quick and easy way to access the exam and revision timetable is via Horsforth School Instagram highlights - <https://www.instagram.com/horsforthschool/>

Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Staff VS Year 13 Football Match

A huge well done to everyone who played and supported in the Staff Vs Year 13 Football match this week! It was a really good atmosphere and great to have our annual match with the Year 13s before they leave in a week.

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Unfortunately the staff lost on penalties after drawing 2-2 in the game. The player of the match was Mr Wilson, absolutely running the show in midfield and scoring both goals. Thank you to Mr Harrison for organising it!



Year 13 Exam Timetable 2023 on Instagram

A quick and easy way to access the exam and revision timetable is via Sixth Form at Horsforth Instagram highlights - https://www.instagram.com/sixthform_athorsforth/

Find Out What Goes on at the Sixth Form at Horsforth

Connect with us:



[Sixth Form at Horsforth](#)



[@sixthform_athorsforth](#)

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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