



### Message from the Principal

Welcome to our final newsletter of the term. We have had an incredible few months with students working hard, playing hard and achieving well. Please do take a few minutes to follow the link below to see a snapshot of the outstanding activities this term - <https://youtu.be/sAoBKnnCe8I>

Today, I would like to share our goal for all students as we move into the final term of the school year.

***'Every student to have higher attendance by the end of the school year than they have at present.'***



To provide a clear measure of your child's improvements and to support discussions both at home and in school, we have banded attendance as seen in the table below. The challenge for all students is to move into a higher band. By providing these small, incremental steps we hope that all students can feel success in this achievable goal.

#### ***What is my child's attendance figure?***

Please refer to the Arbor App to view your child's current attendance figure and then compare it to this chart to see which band they currently fall into. The challenge is to now work towards the next band and beyond! The banding towards the higher percentage attendance is in smaller increments as it is more difficult to move up the bands here, where attendance is already very good.

Nevertheless, moving up the bands is crucial, as evidenced in the following facts from The Department for Education's March 2025 report, "The Impact of School Absence on Lifetime Earnings":

- Students with 100% attendance (band 22) in Year 11 have a 75% chance of securing a Grade 5 or above in English and Maths GCSEs. This likelihood drops to 50% for those with 90-95% attendance (bands 18-20) and to 25% for attendance rates between 80-85% (bands 16-17).
- Pupils who attend 95-100% of the time are twice as likely to achieve Maths and English GCSE Grade 5 than pupils who attend 90-95% of the time.
- Missing more than 10% of school sessions significantly diminishes the likelihood of achieving strong GCSE results, thereby affecting future earnings potential.
- Children who have an attendance of under 90% have just a 5% chance of obtaining 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 and above.

Thank you for your ongoing support with attendance and we look forward to celebrating all students' achievements in this area as they strive to improve their attendance.

I hope you all have time for some rest and relaxation with your families over the Easter break and we look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday 22 April 2025.

**Mrs K M Heaton**

Attendance Band	Attendance %	Days missed during an academic year (taken from mid-point of band)
1	0-5%	177
2	6-10%	168
3	11-15%	159
4	16-20%	150
5	21-25%	141
6	26-30%	131
7	31-35%	122
8	35-40%	113
9	41-45%	104
10	46-50%	95
11	51-55%	86
12	56-60%	77
13	61-65%	68
14	66-70%	59
15	71-75%	50
16	76-80%	40
17	81-85%	31
18	86-90%	22
19	91-93%	13
20	94-96%	9
21	97-98%	4
22	99-100%	0.5



Students engaged in discussions on a range of topics. They shared their opinions of political leaders such as Donald Trump, Nigel Farage and Kier Starmer. They discussed their ideas on democracy – what is good about it and the flaws. Students gave their views on social media and the information that is created and shared on streaming platforms. They also discussed the role of identity, community, and belonging in their lives and the key economic and social concerns for their generation.

This was an amazing opportunity for students to share their views. Their voices were heard without judgement. The information gathered from our students along with other students from across the UK, will be used to inform the government and political leaders. The think tank will suggest strategies and policy that address some of the issues that are concerning young people today.

Before leaving, Shuab caught up with some of his former teachers whom he remembered fondly from his time at WHGS – he thanked his Religious Studies teacher Mr Swales and our Deputy Head of Sixth Form Miss Smith, who both inspired and challenged Shuab throughout his time at WHGS.

## Sixth Form Focus

It has been a fantastic Spring Term in the Sixth Form.

Our students have been using the Uplearn platform and we are seeing their progress improve in lessons due to this - well done to all students. The engagement with this has been outstanding from an average of 300 hours to an amazing 1,500.

Our Year 13 students are now well prepared for their final A-level examinations, whilst Year 12 students are busy preparing for their summer exams and their UCAS days.

We have hosted a Sixth Form Football Match and our Model United Nations students are busy preparing for their first debate. Our highlight of the term, however, has been our Sixth Form Iftar. This event was organised by our amazing Year 13 students who paid such special attention to detail to ensure a fantastic evening was enjoyed by all. Seeing our students lead in prayer, break their fast and then still offer to tidy away before they had eaten really shows the testament of their character and the way they embody all three of our school values. With over 150 attendees, the event exemplified the power of community engagement, interfaith connection, and cultural appreciation. Students and staff shared the highlights of the evening and commented, “the evening was filled with warmth, connection, and shared learning.”

Thanks to our Assistant Principal for Personal Development, Mr Akeim Mundell, we were able to gain funding which ensured we could buy in some fantastic outside catering. In addition to this, students brought their own culturally diverse dishes, some of which they had made themselves. We all enjoyed traditional Nasheed performances and engaging activities which created a vibrant and enriching experience for all present. The highlight of the evening was watching the Year 13 students lead the powerful moment of Maghrib prayer, made even more special with the kind donation of prayer mats from Adnaan UK. These prayer mats will now be used in our daily prayer facility, leaving a lasting positive and meaningful impact beyond this event. This event really showed the best of William Hulme's Sixth Form in that we really are a diverse community with a family feel. Many non-Muslims attended to learn more about Ramadan, fostering a deeper sense of cultural appreciation and interfaith understanding across the school community.

Huge thanks to the students and staff that made this possible.





## Key Dates and Events

Date	Activity / Event	Time(s)
03/04/2025	Rhetoric By Heart Competition	9.00am-1.05pm
03/04/2025	End of Term Rewards Event	1.55pm-3.10pm
<b>04/04/2025</b>	<b>End of Term</b>	<b>2.00pm</b>
<b>07/04/2025-21/04/2025</b>	<b>School Holidays</b>	
<b>22/04/2025</b>	<b>Summer Term 1 Starts</b>	
23/04/2025-24/04/2025	Community Languages Speaking Exams	All Day(s)
23/04/2025	Y11 Parents' Event	5.30pm-6.30pm
24/04/2025	Y8 Parents' Evening (Online)	4.00pm-7.00pm
25/04/2025	Y12 UK Universities Fair (Lancaster University)	9.00am-3.10pm
26/04/2025	GCSE Arabic Speaking Exams	All Day
29/04/2025-30/04/2025	Y11 GCSE Photography Exam	All Day(s)
01/05/2025-02/05/2025	Y11 GCSE Art Exam	All Day(s)
<b>05/05/2025</b>	<b>Bank Holiday (School Closed for All Students)</b>	
06/05/2025-08/05/2025	A-Level Art/Photography Exam	All Day(s)
06/05/2025-08/05/2025	Y11 GCSE Spanish Speaking Exams	All Day(s)
06/05/2025	Henshaws community event	11.00am-2.30pm
06/05/2025	Y13 Musical Showcase	3.45pm-4.45pm
<b>08/05/2025-18/06/2025</b>	<b>GCSE / A-Level Examinations</b>	<b>All Day(s)</b>
09/05/2025	Y9 Maths Trip (Leeds)	All Day
09/05/2025	Y13 Leavers' Assembly	11.50am-3.10pm
12/05/2025-16/05/2025	Y10 Work Experience Week	
13/05/2025	KS3 Careers Drop Down Day	9.00am-1.05pm
13/05/2025	Y7 Master Chef Competition	3.15pm-5.30pm
<b>19/05/2025-23/05/2025</b>	<b>KS3 Internal Examinations</b>	<b>All Day(s)</b>
20/05/2025	School Show	6.00pm-7.00pm
23/05/2025	WOW/Culture Day	All Day
23/05/2025	Y11 Leavers' Assembly	10.35am-1.05pm
<b>23/05/2025</b>	<b>End of Half Term</b>	<b>3.10pm</b>
<b>26/05/2025-30/05/2025</b>	<b>School Holidays</b>	