

Withernsea High School

Headteacher: Mr M R Crofts

Hull Road, Withernsea, East Riding of Yorkshire, HU19 2EQ

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24 Hour Attendance Line: 01964 611523



13th July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Arrangements for the end of term and the start of the new academic year

As we approach the end of another successful academic year, I would like to thank you for your continued support in helping us create a school community where our values are lived every day.

Throughout the year, we have worked together to embed our core values of being ambitious, respectful, responsible and kind into the culture of our school. Increasingly, these values can be seen in every aspect of school life: in the calm and purposeful environment across the site, in the respectful relationships between students and staff, and in the ambition and commitment shown in classrooms each day.

This has been particularly evident during the recent examination period, where our students demonstrated maturity, respect and responsibility by helping to maintain the quiet and focused environment needed for those sitting external and internal examinations. Their conduct is something of which they, and our wider school community, can be proud.

As we move towards the end of term, we are keen to maintain these high standards while also reflecting on and celebrating the achievements of the past academic year. Students will continue to attend their normal timetabled lessons, alongside a range of planned activities that recognise achievement and enrich their learning.

Celebration assemblies will recognise the many students who have demonstrated our school values and achieved success throughout the year. In addition, students will have the opportunity to take part in a range of enrichment activities, including educational visits to Yorkshire Wildlife Park with links to Geography, Art and Photography; Design and Technology workshops; the annual WHS Staff and Student Bake Off; the Year 7 Residential, and sporting competitions at Costello Stadium.

We appreciate your ongoing support in ensuring that students attend every day, arrive punctually, wear the correct uniform and come to school fully equipped. Finishing the year with the same ambition, respect, responsibility and kindness with which we have approached it will ensure a positive end to the year for everyone.

The information below outlines the arrangements for the last day of term and the start of the new academic year.

Friday 17th July – Arrangements for the last day of term, including early finish

The arrangements for Friday, 17th July, the last day of term, are as follows:

- Students should attend in full school uniform.
- Students will follow their normal timetable until the end of **Period 2**, with formal lessons finishing at **12.05pm**.
- From **12.05pm to 12.45pm**, there will be a **single lunchtime for all students**, replacing our usual staggered lunchtime arrangements.

Deputy Headteacher
Mrs R Pindar

Assistant Headteacher
Mrs A Mackenzie

Assistant Headteacher
Mr M Burnitt

Assistant Headteacher
Mr C Martin

Assistant Headteacher
Ms C Mills

Business Manager
Miss S Crook

Inspiring confident young people to thrive in a changing world

- As the school day finishes at **12.05pm**, all students may leave the school site at this time provided they have suitable home transport arrangements.
 - Students who are travelling home using the school buses or taxis will need to remain on site until departure at 1.00pm.
 - Please note that, due to the earlier school finish, the EYMS 75 service will not enter the school site at this time. Students who normally travel on the EYMS 75 service via Burstwick should catch the 12:32 departure from Waxholme Road, boarding at either the Arthur Street stop (opposite the lighthouse) or the main stop on Pier Road. If you have any concerns about this arrangement, please contact the school. Timetables for the EYMS 75 service are available here: <https://www.eastyorkshirebuses.co.uk/services/EY/75?date=2026-07-17&direction=inbound>
- Please note:
 - Once a student has left the school site, they will not be permitted to re-enter the building.
 - School buses will depart **promptly at 1.00pm**.

Getting ready for September

We can confirm that the following arrangements will apply for a staggered start on the return to school in September:

DATE	STUDENTS IN SCHOOL
Monday 7 th and Tuesday 8 th September	TRAINING DAYS - SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL STUDENTS
Wednesday 9 th September	Year 7 only
Thursday 10 th September	Years 7, 10 and 11 only
Friday 11 th September	All years

Uniform: Students are required to wear a plain black blazer with the school logo, plain black formal trousers with side pockets, and a plain white collared shirt that must be tucked in at all times. Polo shirts and other non-collared tops are not permitted. A school tie must also be worn and can be purchased from the school office or the school's uniform provider.

Footwear should consist of plain black shoes or flat-heeled ankle boots that can be polished. Sandals, plimsolls, mules, suede, canvas, and other non-polishable materials are not allowed. If ankle boots are worn, trousers must cover the tops of the boots.

Students may also wear the optional black Withernsea High School V-neck jumper with the school logo, but it must be worn underneath the school blazer and cannot replace it. No other black jumpers are permitted. Students are encouraged to bring a coat to wear outside during break and lunchtime; however, coats must not be worn inside the school building.

Equipment: Students must attend school every day with the following equipment: Student handbook (provided by the school) and a pencil case containing at least a pen, pencil, ruler, highlighter and eraser. These should be carried in a suitable bag. Please ensure your child is ready with this equipment for September.

Attendance: Our aim for every student is that they attend 100% of their lessons. Gaps in learning caused by days off school are a drag on any student's achievement and, whilst we understand that there are some circumstances where absence is unavoidable, you should do everything to ensure your child's attendance is as close to 100% as possible.

Changes to Free School Meals from September 2026

The Government has introduced changes to the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals (FSM) from the start of the 2026/27 academic year. As these changes may affect a number of our families, we wanted to ensure you are aware of the new arrangements.

What has changed?
From September 2026, all children living in households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to Free School Meals, regardless of household earnings. Applications under the new criteria are open now.
Important information for current Free School Meal recipients
From the start of the 2026/27 academic year, the transitional protection arrangements for Free School Meals will end. This means that households must meet the current national eligibility criteria to continue receiving Free School Meals. Eligibility will be rechecked to ensure that families receive the support to which they are entitled and that schools receive the appropriate funding to support eligible students.
Who may be eligible?
Free School Meals are available to pupils whose parent or carer receives: • Universal Credit; • Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; • Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA); or • The Guarantee Credit element of Pension Credit. Please note that a child is only entitled to receive Free School Meals once an application has been made and their eligibility has been confirmed by the Local Authority.
Please apply now
If you think your family may now be eligible, we encourage you to submit an application as soon as possible to ensure support is in place for the new academic year. Even if your child has not qualified previously, you may now be entitled under the revised criteria. Did you know that if your child is eligible for Free School Meals and you register them for this, the school may be eligible to receive extra funding called Pupil Premium? We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school. If your child is eligible for Free School Meals but you would prefer them to bring a packed lunch, you should still register, as the school may receive funding which can support your child in other ways. Further information, including details of how to apply, is available on the ERYC website: https://www.eastriding.gov.uk/learning/schools-colleges-and-academies/school-meals/free-school-meals/ If you require any further information or support with an application, please contact the school office.

Contact over the summer holiday

During the summer holiday period, there will be a reduced number of staff on site.

If you need to contact the school, please email whstc@wscampus.net. As the school office will only be open on a limited basis throughout the summer, email is the best way to get in touch. We will respond to enquiries as soon as possible, although response times may be longer than usual.

The office will fully reopen at 8:00am on Monday, 7th September. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Finally, all that remains for me to say is thank you for your continuing support. I hope you have an enjoyable summer and I look forward to welcoming students back in September, refreshed, re-energised and ready for the new academic year ahead.

Yours faithfully,



Mr M R Crofts
Headteacher