

Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

This year we were delighted to celebrate the many achievements of our outgoing Year 11 students. Amongst the many students achieving excellent results were Rachael Hattan, whose 11 GCSEs were all graded 9. Together Grace Pawson, Scarlet Wild, Mollie Wright and Jonathan Levy, celebrated 35 grades at 7-9 between them. All of these students have been excellent role models for their peers and great ambassadors for the school.

We are so very proud of all the work and achievements of our students, especially after such a difficult and disrupted year. They have worked with commitment and determination both in school and online during periods of school closure. Many of our young people have faced their own unique challenges, with health, family circumstances and facing uncertainty but they have shown strength of character and resilience. Almost 50% of our students achieved at least one Grade 7-9. What a fantastic achievement! Students and their families should be immensely proud of all they have achieved. Our whole staff team has worked tirelessly to ensure students are all able to progress onto further education and study, and we look forward to seeing what they will achieve in the future.

It was also another year of successful collaboration and partnership with Number 6 studio and local crafts professionals leading to all of our GCSE Art Craft and Design students achieving excellent results, learning new skills they wouldn't have accessed at school and having the opportunity to work with professional print artists, metal workers and ceramicists. The work they have produced is gallery standard.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher



Behaviour Policy

It has been great to welcome students back to school this week and to see so many students being rewarded with Classcharts points and remembering our key expectations of **Ready, Respectful and Safe**. By the end of Thursday students had already achieved 1140 positive points. An excellent achievement given that three year groups had only been in school for 1 day!

Our Behaviour Policy has been updated for this academic year reflecting our continued development of restorative practice and our guiding principle of kindness. [Please follow this link to read the updated policy.](#)

Wellbeing

[Please click here to see 'An Alternative Guide to help your child with Mental Health' by Nadia Mendoza, the founder of Self Esteem Team.](#)

**Mrs Kay
Director of
Learning,
Wellbeing**

Mobile Phones

During last academic year, as part of our reconnection work, we relaxed some of our rules around mobile phone use during social time. As we begin our new academic year, we will now be returning to our original mobile phone policy, which requires all phones to be switched off and away from sight at all times. All students have been updated about this policy this week. As so many of our young people travel on buses and have commitments immediately after school, we do not have any plans to put a complete ban in place.

On arrival at school, students should switch off their phones and put them away in their bag or blazer pocket. Students are not permitted to use their phone during the school day inside or outside unless they are given express permission from a member of staff. If a mobile phone is being used without permission, the student will be given the opportunity to hand in their phone for the remainder of the lesson or session without receiving a classcharts negative. Further details are available in the [Behaviour Policy](#).

We would be grateful for your support with this policy. Please do not contact your child directly via their mobile phone during school hours. Please contact school directly if you need your child to receive a message during the school day. If you do need to speak to your child urgently, we will always accommodate this.

Covid Updates - Testing and isolation

Thank you for the support you have given to the on site LFD testing this week. All students should now have been issued with home testing kits and instructions for use. Please complete these tests twice weekly on Sunday / Wednesday evening or Monday / Thursday morning and continue to log the results using this link <https://forms.office.com/r/KZrid9TWVF> **If the test is positive, please also email admin@nidderdale.n-yorks.sch.uk**

Anyone who tests positive for Covid via LFT should isolate and get a PCR test to confirm the result, if this is also positive then isolation must be completed as advised by NHS Test and Trace. If it is negative then isolation can end.

The Local Authority and Public Health continue to advise that schools should send home any individual displaying Covid symptoms. Please do not send your child to school if they have any Covid symptoms and please do all that you can to arrange collection of your child should they need to go home.

As you will be aware, the rules for close contact isolation have now changed. If your child is identified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, they will be advised to take a PCR test but can continue to attend school. Although this is not compulsory, we would be grateful if you could also complete regular LFT tests at home, especially if the close contact is a member of the household.

Covid Updates - Measures in school

Although most of the significant control measures have now been lifted, we are still asking students to sanitise their hands regularly and leaving windows open to increase ventilation. Some measures around entry to lunch, use of designated toilets and movement on staircases have also been retained to ease congestion. Students have been updated about these measures this week.

We are delighted to have Finish with a Flourish fully established as part of our curriculum offer for Years 7-10. This year we look forward to extending the range of opportunities as we are able to run some mixed year group activities and as the year progresses we will also be inviting volunteers to support different activities. The link to select activities can be found on your child's Classcharts account. Please ensure that choices are made by the end of **Friday 10th September**.

Autumn Term Activities

Thursday 23rd October –
Open Evening – Year 6 families
only by appointment via
<https://forms.office.com/r/UxA5c522FP>

Thursday 14th October – Y7
Pastoral Evening

Thursday 21st October Y11
Parent' Evening – Online.

Congratulations

to Freddie Howard who took an extra GCSE in Spanish a year early and achieved Grade 7.

Land-use in the Uplands – the case for change

Please see the flyer below advertising an event organised by the Royal Geographical Society to be held in school on Monday 4th October at 7p.m.

Please share further if possible.

Royal
Geographical
Society
with IBG

Land-use in the Uplands – the case for change

A Question Time-style panel event organised by the Royal Geographical Society



Join the discussion about the future of land-use in Nidderdale and beyond

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| • Biodiversity loss, rewilding, climate change | • Environmental, economic and policy contexts |
| • Intensive and/or nature friendly farming | • Moorland management |
| • Government subsidy regimes | • Sustainable rural livelihoods |

Please submit questions for consideration in advance

Dr Julia Aglionby: Chair of the Uplands Alliance, Chair of the Cumbria Inquiry of the Food, Farming & Countryside Commission, Executive director of the Foundation for Common Land

Professor Tim Benton: Chair of the 'Innovative Farmers' research network, adviser to the Food, Farming & Countryside Commission, Leader of the Energy, Environment and Resources programme at Chatham House

Dr Steve Carver: Senior Lecturer at the University of Leeds, Director of the Wildland Research Institute, Joint Chair of the IUCN CEM Task Force on Rewilding

Chris Clark: former Dales farmer and member of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, author of the Hill Farm Profitability report commissioned by the RSPB, Wildlife Trusts and National Trust

Tom Orde-Powlett: Vice-Chair of the Moorland Association, owns and runs the Castle Bolton estate in Wensleydale, active member of The British Trust for Ornithology, The Countryside Alliance and the RSPB

To submit questions, or for more information, contact Paul Howard: tatandpaul@hotmail.com

Nidderdale High School and Community College, Low Wath Rd, Pateley Bridge, Harrogate HG3 5HL

Date: Monday, 4th October 2021

Start time: 7pm (doors open 6.45pm)