Rufforth Primary School
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Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust

School Newsletter

19.12.25

A message from Miss Richards...

As we reach the end of a busy and vibrant autumn term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on everything we have achieved together and to share my sincere gratitude with our school community.

On a personal note, I want to express my deepest thanks to the entire staff team for their incredible support and hard work during my absence earlier this term. It is during such times that the true spirit of the Rufforth Family shines through. The seamless way the school continued to thrive is a testament to the teamwork, dedication, and unwavering commitment of every single member of our staff. I feel very lucky to work alongside such a professional and caring group of people.

We are delighted to officially celebrate our Platinum School Games Mark! This is the highest possible achievement in the scheme, and as recently shared in the Pathfinder MAT newsletter, it recognizes our long-term commitment to physical activity, competitive sport, and healthy lifestyles. This award belongs to our pupils, who participate with such enthusiasm, and our staff, who go above and beyond to provide these opportunities. Use the following link to view the Pathfinder newsletter: https://pathfinder.academy/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Pathfinder-Newsletter-December-2025.pdf

The last few weeks have been filled with the joy of the Christmas season. From the wonderful performances and the sound of carols echoing through the halls to our festive crafts and parties, it has been a truly magical time. Seeing the children's faces light up during these activities is always the highlight of the year.

Finally, a huge thank you to our PTFA. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a committed and energetic set of families who work tirelessly to raise funds and organise events that enrich our children's school experience. Whether you served refreshments, donated a prize, or dressed up to join our school parties—thank you. Your support makes a tangible difference to our school.

Important Date Reminder:

Please note that Monday 5th January is a staff training day, and the school will be closed to pupils. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to start the new term on **Tuesday 6th January**.

Wishing you a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year,

Miss Richards

Class Sharing Assemblies

Class 4—Friday 16th January

Class 3— Friday 23rd January

Class 2— Friday 30th January

Class 1— Friday 6th February

Assemblies will begin at 2:50pm.

All families are welcome at every Celebration Assembly, every Friday afternoon.

Diary Dates

Don't forget to use Class Dojo's calendar to keep up to date with all school events!

ClassDojo

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Reindeer Rush

Our school playground full of reindeer last week as we took part in the St Leonard's Hospice Reindeer Rush! The atmosphere was electric during our whole-school assembly, where the children learned about the incredible work of the hospice before heading outside to find a magical snow machine waiting for them. Donning their festive reindeer antlers, the children dashed, hopped, and skipped laps around the playground to the sound of Christmas music . It was wonderful to see the whole school coming together with such high energy and festive spirit to support a cause so close to our hearts.

All the money raised from this event goes directly to St Leonard's Hospice, Since their care is provided free of charge to patients and their families—costing over £8 million a year to run—community fundraisers are vital.

Thank you to everyone who donated.

Carols for the Community

Our village came together this week for our "Carols for the Community" event. Building on the success of last year's gathering, the afternoon was well-attended by local residents and provided a wonderful opportunity for our school to connect with our neighbours. It was a fantastic way to strengthen our ties within the village and share some festive cheer.

The event preceded the outstanding service in church on Tuesday. One family, who recently moved to the village, fed back: "***What a lovely carol service! The children were great, singing and reading, and behaved so well. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. We both agreed that the closing 'meaning of Christmas' section was thoughtful, inclusive and sensitive, no mean achievement.*** We would like to thank the staff and community members for their support in making the afternoon a success.

Christmas at the Minster

Last week, a group of our KS2 children had the incredible privilege of taking part in the Archbishop Holgate's School Christmas service, held within the breath-taking surroundings of York Minster. It was a truly festive and beautiful occasion, filled with wonderful music and a sense of community as we joined together with other schools from across the Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust. Our pupils represented the school with pride, contributing to a magical atmosphere that captured the very best of the holiday spirit. We are so proud of everyone who participated in such a memorable and inspiring event!

Welcome back Miss Conning!

Next term, we welcome Miss Conning back to the After School Club team. Miss Conning previously worked with us 5 years.

She will replace Miss Mutzychuck (Iryna) who left in November.

Miss Conning will be a great addition to the team!

Please remember that bookings for wrap-around care need to be made by Thursday evening for the following week. Parents are also able to book further in advance.

Keeping our children safe

If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of a child at school please contact Miss Richards, Mrs Pollock or Mr Woolford-Mullen, our Safeguarding Leads.

Contact us

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Rufforth Primary School is part of Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust, an exempt charity
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Registered Office: Archbishop Holgate's School, Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA

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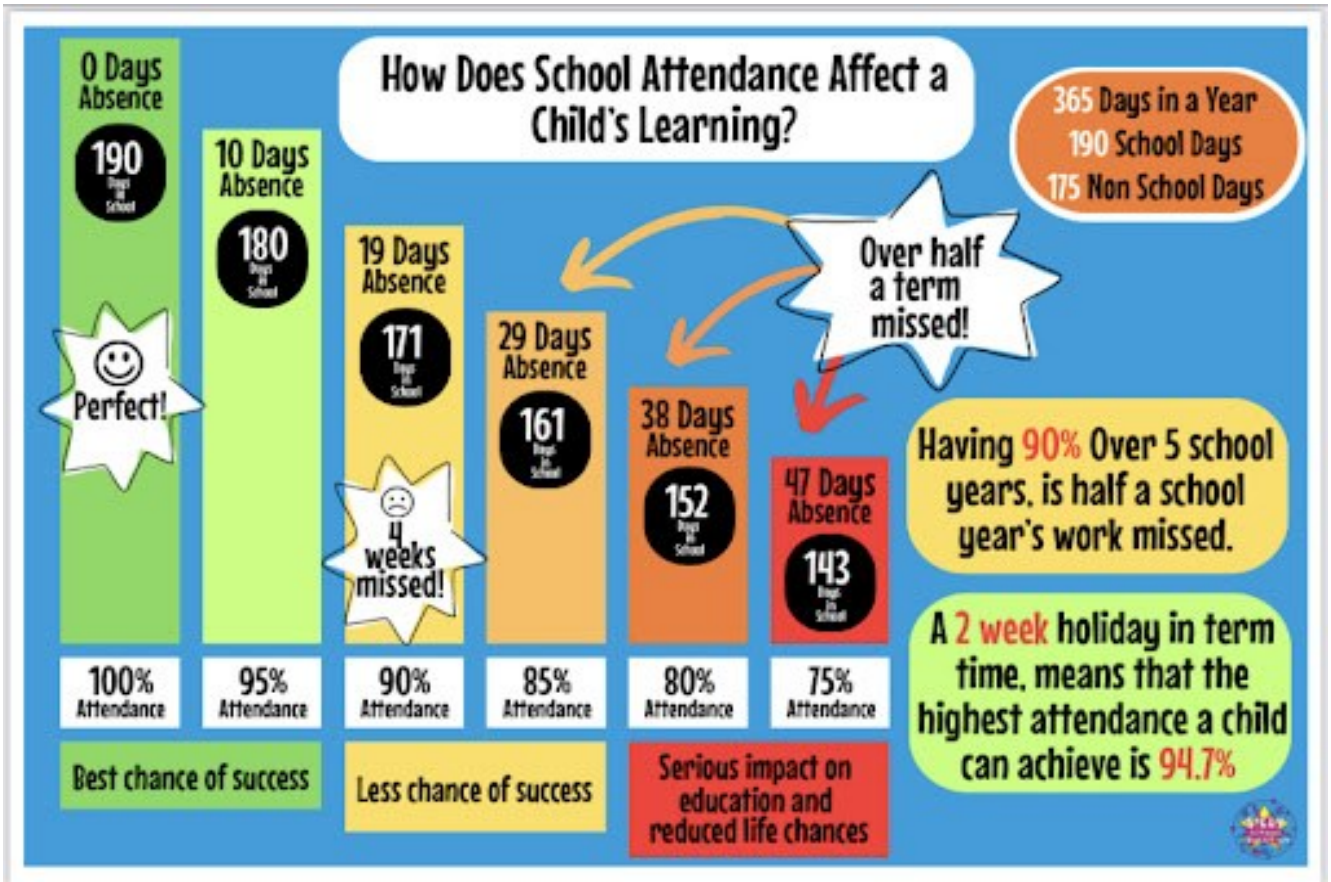
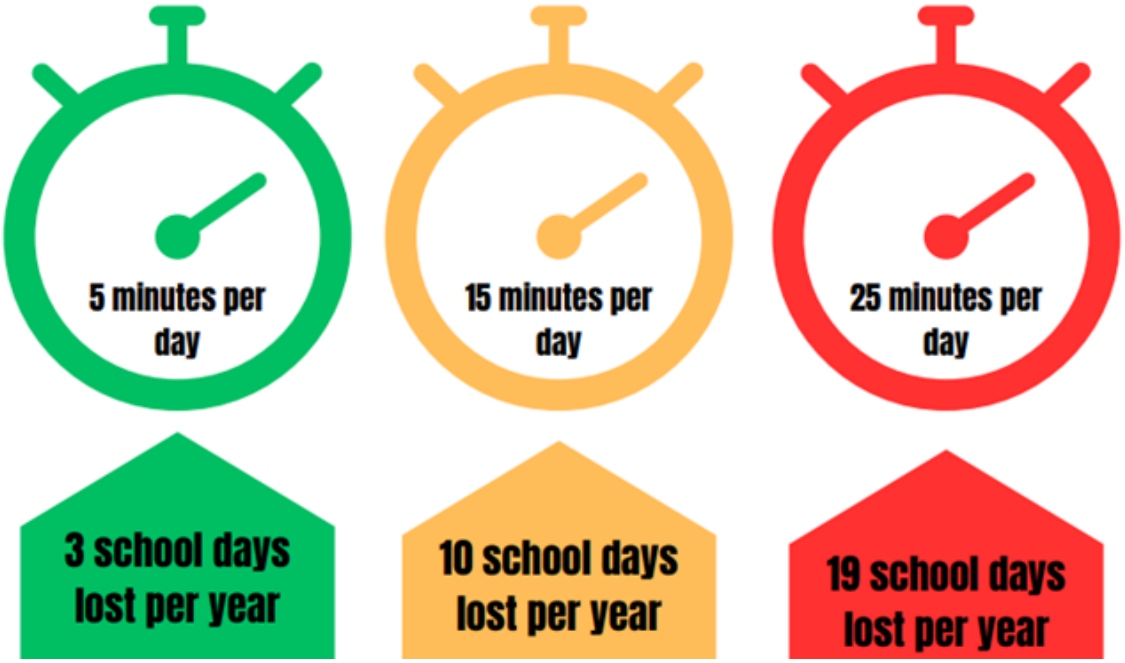


EVERYDAY MINUTE COUNTS



OUR SCHOOLS ARE RECRUITING

Support Staff Vacancies

For details and to apply, visit our website or scan the QR code

Job	Teaching Assistant Early Years
School	Poppleton Road Primary School
Details	29.25 hours Monday - Friday 8.30am to 3.15pm (including some lunch and break duties) TA2 Grade 4, level 1 –4 (£25,114 - £26,319 per annum, reduced pro rata)
Closes	Thursday 8th January at 12pm

Job	Breakfast & After School Club Assistant
School	Heworth CE Primary School
Details	Grade 3 Level 1-4 Full time equivalent starting salary = £24,483, reduced pro-rata. Hourly rate payable is £12.73. Permanent, Term Time Only
Closes	Monday 5th January 2026 at 09.00am

Job	Finance Officer
School	Archbishop Holgate's School—York
Details	Permanent Full Year (flexibility around hours/days for the right candidate) Hours of work: 14.8 hours per week Grade 9 Levels 1-4 (£38,212-£42,849 Pro Rata)
Closes	N/A

Job	Head of Year
School	Malton School
Details	NJC Payscale Grade H, Scale Points 18-23. 37 hours per week. Term time plus one week (incl. training days) £27,655—£30,195 per annum Actual Salary Based on £31,537—£34,434 per annum FTE Required ASAP
Closes	Monday 12th January 2026 at 09.00am

Job	Teaching Assistant
School	Hempland Primary School
Details	Grade 4 Level 1-4 (£25,114 to £26,319 per annum) reduced pro-rata Fixed Term Contract from 5th January 2026 Part Time: 31.25 Hours per week Monday—Friday (To include a 30 Minute lunch time duty per day) Term Time Only.
Closes	Wednesday 7th January at 12pm

Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust is an equal opportunities employer, committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Enhanced DBS check required.

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Support Staff Vacancies

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Job	MSA
School	Hempland Primary School
Details	Grade 2 Level 1-4 (24,309—24,399 pro Rata) 6.25 Hours a week—11.45—13.00 Permanent Term Time Only
Closes	N/A

Job	MSA
School	Rufforth Primary School
Details	Grade 2 Level 1 – 4 (24,309 pro rata) Fixed Term contract. 2 days a week, days to be discussed 12.00-1.00pm term time only Required week commencing 3rd November 2025.
Closes	N/A

Job	Exam Invigilator
School	Malton School
Details	£12.45 per hour. Casual Contract.
Closes	N/A

Job	Cleaning Assistant
School	Archbishop Holgate's School
Details	Currently £12.60 per hour Full Year or Term Time 20 hours per week, Monday-Friday, 3.30-7.30pm Salary paid monthly over 12 equal payments Required as soon as possible
Closes	N/A

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