



2025/26

**Exceptional**  
without  
exception





# Welcome to Bedale High School

Bedale High School is a high performing secondary school in the picturesque town of Bedale in North Yorkshire. We welcome students both locally and from far reaching locations across North Yorkshire. Families choose to send their children to our school not only because of our high focus on academic achievement, but also because of the exceptional opportunities that we offer to all young people in our school.

The behaviour and attitudes of our students are exceptional. As a school we set the very highest expectations of our young people, and they willingly rise to those expectations. Students are kind and welcoming, and they actively go out of their way to support each other. This seemingly small thing is sadly all too rare in schools these days, but further supports our belief that Bedale High School is a special place.

Members of staff in our school work tirelessly for the benefit of our students. Their loyalty to the school and its community is noteworthy. We value and invest in our staff because we know that to do so is to provide young people with stability and routine. Students know that their teachers and support professionals will be there for them throughout their journey through school.

By choosing to send your child to our school you can be assured that they will be well cared for and developed as an individual. Whilst our school is growing thanks to our popularity within the community, it also remains a size that means that we really do have the opportunity to get to know every child exceptionally well. As a school we place a great emphasis on pastoral support. This begins with our exceptional team of form tutors, but where needed, extends into wide ranging support including mentoring and even counselling. We know that the journey to becoming an adult is different for every child and we make sure that we invest in that journey in every possible way needed.

**Mr C Stokes**  
Headteacher





# Courage, Commitment and Compassion

Fortitudo, Committio et Pietas.

## Core Values

**Our Core Values are what define us.** We ask everyone in our school community to show Courage, Commitment, and above all, Compassion in their daily lives. We do this because we know that life is never straight forward, and to live and breathe our values, is to prepare yourself for the future.

## Values & Ethos

### Self-Disciplined

Our behaviour system, Positive Behaviour, is deliberately designed to allow students to manage their own behaviour. The planner provides a continuous visual representation of a students' behaviour during any given week. We want our students to learn from mistakes and take pride in their achievements.

### Tenacious Leadership

In our work we believe in the power of Diligence, Integrity, Rectitude, and Kindness. We do things well and never settle for second best. We deliver on our goal of 'exceptional without exception' by ensuring that we operate within a culture where it is widely understood that 'feedback is kind'. We do what is right for our students and our community and are never afraid to challenge to norm.

### Autonomous Learners

Both inside and outside of the classroom we seek for our students to be curious and interested in the world around them. We want our students to be resilient in their learning, taking additional opportunities to complete self-directed learning wherever possible.

### Student Centred

Everything that we do, we do for our students. We know that sometimes the decisions that we may make might not be 'popular', but they are always made with the best interests of young people at heart. We are committed to delivering the best education possible for all.

### Exceeding Expectations

In everything we do for our young people we seek to exceed expectations. We are clear on the importance of doing more than just what might be expected and seek every opportunity to enrich the curriculum and wider school experience for our young people.

## Courage

We know that life is about making mistakes but having the courage to continue. We believe in ourselves and help others to do the same. We show reliance in our actions and understand that the measure of a person is not how they behave when everything is going their way, but how they behave when times are tough.

## Commitment

We are committed and ambitious to become the best version of ourselves. We know and value the importance of education, attend school well, and are punctual. We understand that effort is the key ingredient to being successful and never seek to achieve less than we are capable of.

## Compassion

We are respectful, tolerant, and considerate to all. We recognise all the things that we are fortunate to have and seek to support those who are less fortunate than ourselves. We go out of our way to make people feel welcome and valued. We are kind and respectful to all members of our community.



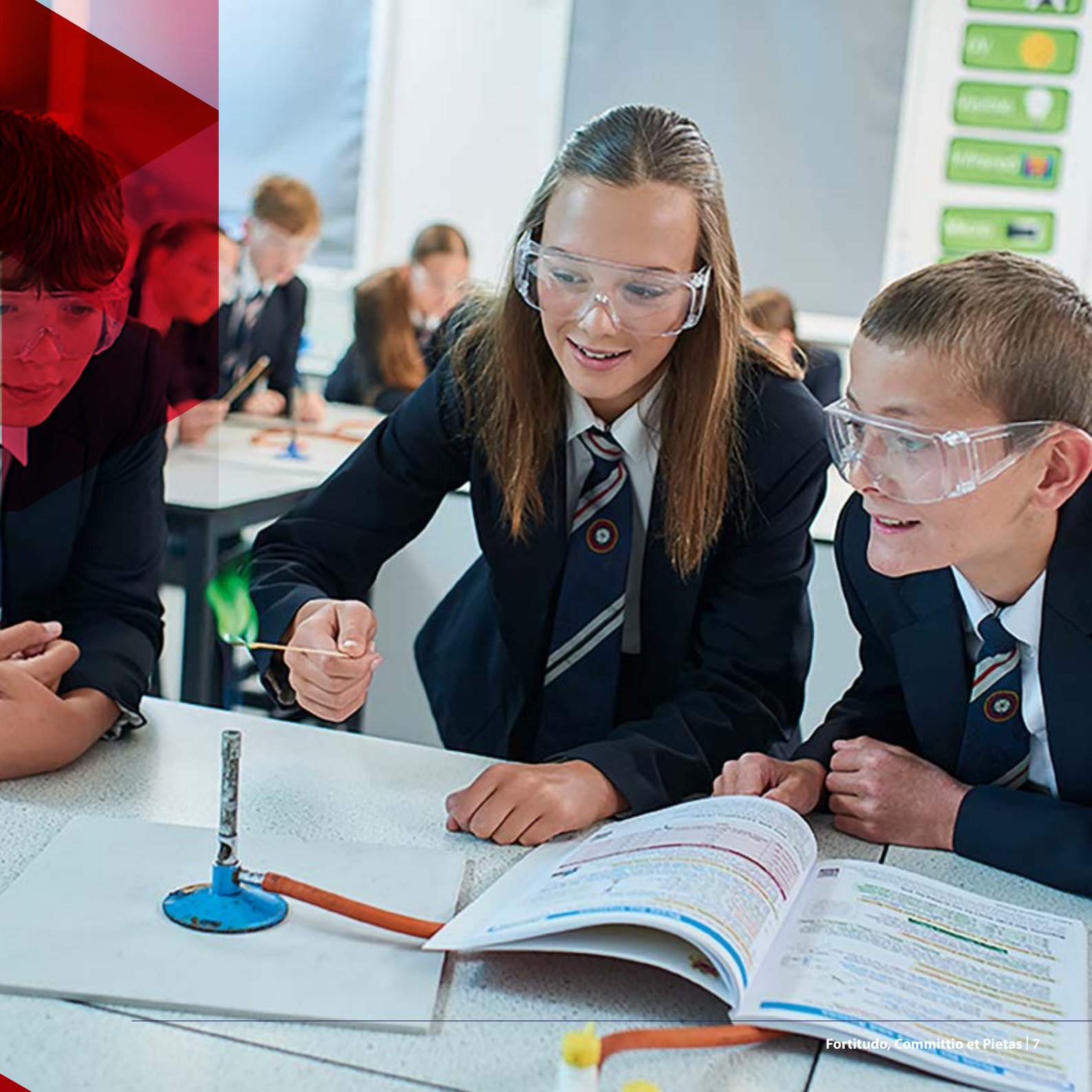
# — Our Curriculum

The curriculum on offer at Bedale High School is everything that you would expect from a high performing school. Students are exposed to a vast array of subjects during Key Stage 3 and then at Key Stage 4 they can go on to study in even more depth an equally impressive range of subjects. Our curriculum is deliberately designed to be wide and diverse so that students are exposed to new and exciting content, as well as have the opportunity to discover their passion.

Alongside English, Mathematics and Science, during Key Stage 3, students will study Art, Design Technology, Drama, French, Music, Physical Education, PSHE and Religious Education. At Key Stage 4, all students will continue to study English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and PSHE, but will then have the opportunity through our options process to select three additional subjects to study.

We know that the design of an exciting curriculum must be matched by its delivery. Our teachers are subject experts who skilfully and passionately deliver the curriculum. Within our classrooms curriculum content is alive and teachers seek to create 'awe and wonder' amongst our students. We firmly believe that the success that our students experience is without doubt directly linked to the passion and enthusiasm of our teachers.

“ Our teachers are subject experts who skilfully and passionately deliver the curriculum.”








“

At Bedale High School  
learning doesn't stop at the  
end of the lesson.”





# Teaching & Learning

At the very heart of all that happens at Bedale High School is teaching, and learning. Our skilled and experienced teachers are subject experts with a passion for the content that they deliver. We place no restrictions on how teachers teach, because we know that creativity will deliver the 'awe and wonder' that we seek to expose our students to every day.

We know that the most effective learning takes place when positive relationships exist in the classroom. Through the delivery of Positive Behaviour, our behaviour approach, teachers take every opportunity to acknowledge students' contributions in lessons. Additionally, thanks to our behaviour approach, low level disruption is extremely rare in our classrooms, thus allowing our teachers to teach, and our students to learn.

Alongside exemplary teaching, we place a high focus student feedback. We know that two-way dialogue is the best form of feedback and encourage our teachers to use a range of feedback

mechanisms to best suit the classes that they teach, whilst also providing students the opportunity to respond to their feedback through their 'green for growth' activities.

At Bedale High School learning doesn't stop at the end of the lesson. We believe that homework delivers enhanced learning opportunities that help students to develop resilience and rigour in their work. Students in all year groups are set weekly homework activities to complete that not only seek to reinforce what has taken place in lessons, but build on it also.

# Achievement

Securing excellent GCSE results are often viewed as a passport to a child's next steps. We agree with this, however, we also firmly believe that they are about securing the 'gift of choice' for the future. No one knows what the future may hold, but having an excellent set of GCSE results provides the security that if things change in the future, or if you decide to do something different, you will always know that you have the choice.

To secure the 'gift of choice' we ensure that all students are exposed to high quality teaching and learning, in a highly aspirational but nurturing environment. As students make their way through school, we assess their progress regularly and intervene where necessary to ensure that everyone remains on track to achieve their potential.

Within lessons, students are routinely required to grapple with challenging content within the 'Purple Zone'. Purple Zone activities are tasks that students complete independently of their peers and the teacher. They are designed to provide students with an examination experience and develop resilience so that when students do complete their examinations in year 11, they know how to handle difficult situations.

At Bedale High School students are banded into either T or S band based on their SATs results. T band is for students who are working toward completing triple science at the end of year 11, whilst S band is for students who are working toward completing

combined science. In T band, students are in larger classes that are set based on ability, whilst in S band, students will find themselves in smaller classes that are mixed ability. Our tried and tested approach is based on ensuring that the most able are appropriately stretched and challenged, whilst ensuring that there is no 'bottom set' that limits the progress of any student.

'Interim Assessments' take place throughout the school year and are used to inform data reporting. At the end of each school year students undertake 'Masters Assessments'. These assessments, which take place in our Examination Hall, are used to benchmark their progress and reassess banding. All assessments undertaken at Bedale High School are 'iterative' in nature. This means that they not only assess content completed this week, month, or even school year, but test all content learned up to this point in a child's educational journey. This approach is designed to help children know more and remember more.







“

We believe that excellent GCSE results provide the 'gift of choice.'”



# Extra-Curricular

Participation in extra-curricular activities expose young people to new experiences and opportunities. We firmly believe in the importance of life beyond the traditional curriculum and respond as such by offering a broad range of extra-curricular opportunities.

Students can participate in all the usual sporting clubs that you would expect, but also have the opportunity to join clubs such as our Military Students Club, Music Club, Art Club, or even our hugely popular Performing Arts Club where students work towards the delivery of our annual school production!

Running directly alongside our extra-curricular programme, we offer students the opportunity to enrol in The Duke of Edinburgh award. This hugely popular programme develops student's leadership and team building skills through expeditions and residential trips, as well as volunteering and fund raising. At the end of the programme, students receive their award which is highly recognised by educational establishments and employers alike.

In our pursuit of an exceptional student experience beyond what a comprehensive school might offer, we are delighted to announce the launch of the 'Bedale Rowing Club' and 'Bedale Karate Club' for April 2026. Rowing and Karate are often the reserve of private schools. We are seeking to 'level the playing field' and ensure that our students have the same opportunities as those who attend schools which cost parents / carers tens of thousands of pounds to attend.



# Attendance

At Bedale High School securing excellent student attendance is one of our most significant priorities. Where students have attendance above 97% (our attendance target), they routinely achieve outstanding GCSE results in our school.

To recognise and reward students who have excellent attendance habits we operate a number of a reward programmes in school that acknowledge excellent attendance.





# 100% Attendance Club

The 100% Attendance Club is an exclusive club in school that recognises those who maintain the very highest level of attendance. Students can join the 100% Attendance Club at October half term if they have maintained 100% Attendance for the duration of half term 1.

**Upon joining the club, students are presented with a wristband. This wristband is their 'passport' to access a range of incentives including:**

- A 5-minute early lunch pass **every day**.
- Access to the 100% Attendance Club Lounge at break and lunch.
- Automatic priority access to all Club Point trips and events.
- A variety of 'pop-up' reward events that take place during the school year.
- VIP Access to the end of year Bedale Festival.

Students will remain part of the 100% Attendance Club for as long as they maintain their 100% attendance. We do, however, recognise that there are some circumstances which are exceptional, and absence will be unavoidable.

**Permitted exceptional circumstances include:**

- To mark a religious observance, including attending the wedding of an immediate family member.
- To attend a specialist medical appointment related to a **lifelong medical condition**.
- To grieve for and attend a funeral of an immediate family member.
- Any other exceptional circumstance approved by the Headteacher.



# — Club Points

We recognise that not all students will be able to maintain 100% attendance for the full academic year and do not wish for these students to lose their motivation towards maintaining excellent attendance. As a result, our second attendance incentive known as 'Club Points' is accessible to all students, irrespective of their current attendance level.

Club Points are attendance currency at Bedale High School. For each week that students' attend school Monday to Friday, at least one Club Point will be added to their Club Point balance. Students keep track of these within their planner. Club Points can be spent on Prizes from our Prize Cabinets, or used to access reward trips including:

- **January Reward Trip** (12 Club Points)
- **Easter Reward Trip** (12 Club Points)
- **Bedale Summer Festival** (15 Club Points)

The locations for the reward trips are selected by students through our student voice activities, however, locations such as Go Karting, Lazer Quest, Cinema and Bowling, and Flamingo Land will be just some of the many options available to our students.

The Bedale Summer Festival is a full day off timetable in non-uniform at the end of the school year. Students will be able to access outdoor games, food and drink stalls, inflatables, and at least two fairground rides!







# Positive Behaviour (PB)

At Bedale High School we have the highest expectations of students when it comes to their behaviour and attitude in lessons and around school. We know that by coupling these high expectations with high levels of praise and recognition, students can learn in disruption free classrooms, and enjoy a school environment that is calm, orderly, and safe.

Positive Behaviour (PB) is the behaviour system that we use at Bedale High School. PB revolves around a student planner, which is issued to all students at the start of the school year. The student planner is designed to support students to self-regulate their behaviour by providing a visual representation of their behaviour, both positive and negative. Additionally, the planner is an important way for parents and carers to keep a check on how their child is behaving in school.

Within their planner, students will first and foremost receive stamps for effort and attitude, which lead to credits and commendations. Each stamp issued is a recognition of a positive

choice and should be celebrated. Negative comments are then issued for breaking school rules. On their own, negative comments are opportunities to learn and modify behaviour for the future, however, the more negative comments of the same type that are received, the higher the level of sanction that may be issued.

Where students earn their 'Pride of Bedale' Commendation by May half term, they will be invited to attend our annual PB Reward Trip to Alton Towers, which takes place in July. This special event is one of the highlights of the year for our students and seeks to recognise the hard work and attitude of our young people.





“

We are committed to supporting all students to make exceptional progress.”



# Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)

Bedale High School is committed to supporting all students to make exceptional progress, no matter their background or ability.

Our Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) team is overseen by an Assistant Headteacher with extensive knowledge and experience of supporting SEND students. The Assistant Headteacher monitors the learning environment to ensure that the needs of all students are met.

Our SEND students are supported by a team comprising an Assistant SENDCO, High Level Teaching Assistants, and General Teaching Assistants. Additionally, by providing high quality training throughout the year to all members of staff, our wider team are well placed to meet the needs of all young people.

Each SEND student in school has a 'Student Passport' that is used to provide guidance to all members of staff on how best to meet the needs of our SEND students, as well as maximise their progress in lessons. Whilst it is our intention to ensure that all needs are met within the classroom through 'quality first teaching', where it will provide additional benefit, SEND students may also access intervention groups run by SEND team or external agencies within our Learning Support Centre.



# Transition

We don't underestimate just how big the decision is when choosing a secondary school for your child. Hopefully after reading our prospectus and visiting our school for Open Evening, you decide that Bedale High School is the right choice for you.

For several year's now we have been fortunate to see our intake of year seven's grow. This year we have just 140 places available in our school. If you decide to make Bedale High School a preference school, please ensure that you meet the deadline of 31 October 2025 for your application.

When it comes to transition, we believe in leaving no stone unturned. The roadmap below outlines the steps that will be taken from Open Evening right through to your child starting in our school in September 2025.



We are passionate about ensuring that the move to secondary school is a time of celebration and that any worries and anxieties are kept to an absolute minimum.

To achieve this, **we visit all children in their Primary School before they join us for their transition day in July.** This will be the case even if your child is the only one joining us from their Primary School.

We believe that this approach provides all children with not only the opportunity to ask questions in an environment that they feel comfortable in, but also allows them to have at least one key person who they know ahead of attending their Transition Days.

## A bit more detail:

Once you have selected your preference(s) for a secondary school, North Yorkshire County Council will process your application. On the 2 March 2026 you will be told which secondary school your child has secured a place at for September 2026.

We will write to all successful families on 3 March 2026 to welcome you to our school and let you know a little bit more detail about what to expect next. Additionally, you will be requested to complete an online form. Within this form we will confirm your acceptance of your child's place and collect information such as contact details, medical / SEND information, and also ask you to let us know about any preferences for form groups.

In April, we will start to visit Primary Schools in order to fulfil our pledge to visit all students in their own setting ahead of our Transition Days. During this visit, we will talk to them about what to expect on Transition Days and also wider information about our school. There will be an opportunity during this visit for your child to ask any questions that they might have. These visits are expected to be completed in late June. Alongside the completion of these visits, we will be collecting information from Primary School teachers about your child.

In May we will write to all families again to provide your child's Personalised Transition Programme. This letter will provide key dates for you as a family to be aware of, as well as provide information about uniform and form tutors.

In July 2026, our transition days will commence. All new students will attend two transition days, with one further day being offered where Primary Schools identify that this will positively support transition. Typically, these additional days are offered to SEND students, and those who are anxious / vulnerable.

Following on from our transition days, parent / carers, and their child are invited to a 'Meet Us' event. This event is another opportunity to visit to school. During this visit, you will hear a presentation from the Headteacher and have the opportunity to speak to Form Tutors in a one to one setting. The school SENDCO, Designated Safeguarding Leader, and other Senior Leaders are also on hand to answer any questions that you might have during the evening.





**Mr C Stokes** – Headteacher

**Mrs J Reed & Mr S Ingram** – Chairs of Governors

**Bedale High School**

Fitzalan Road, Bedale, North Yorkshire DL8 2EQ

**Tel: 01677 422419**

