



Millthorpe  
School

Welcome to  
Millthorpe



Millthorpe  
School

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**EXCEL  
LEARNING  
TRUST**

#### PART OF EXCEL LEARNING TRUST

Millthorpe School was a founding school of Excel Learning Trust in 2016. The Trust now has seven schools within the Excel family who all work together to ensure all children have access to excellence in education every day. At Millthorpe, we work closely with all our feeder primary schools in York to ensure a highly effective transition to secondary school.

I am honoured and privileged to welcome you to our school.

# A warm welcome



I am delighted to welcome you to our wonderful school.

As a fellow parent, I fully understand the significance of the choices that lie ahead for you and your family. Deciding on the right education for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make. Not only do you need to be confident that your child will be happy, safe and supported at school, you of course want to ensure they have the best possible secondary education and outcomes. At Millthorpe we will do our utmost to provide both.

Millthorpe is a very special place to learn and to work. We have a culture of high expectations in which everyone – students, teachers, support staff and leaders – strives to do their best. Our commitment

to supporting and looking after one another is at the heart of everything we do; our academic success and personal development is founded on strong relationships of mutual respect.

Our school is truly inclusive and we work together to support learners of all abilities to fulfil their potential: those students who strive to achieve the highest academic successes at GCSE and those students who need some additional support to access the school curriculum.

We do our best to ensure that all students embrace our school motto – **To be the best that we can be** – and achieve this by working hard, persevering when things are challenging and working together to achieve success.

I feel very fortunate to be leading a dedicated team of people who will ensure that your children receive the best education and whole school experience possible. We would relish the opportunity to help shape your child's future.

Thank you for taking the time to find out about all that Millthorpe has to offer.

**Kavina Rothenburg**  
Acting Principal



# Our values

At Millthorpe, we encourage everyone in our school community to be the best that we can be.

We strive to ensure the best academic success for all students and to develop them as young people who will leave us as young adults in Year 11, equipped for the many challenges of a radically changing world and workforce. At Millthorpe we have three simple words that encapsulate everything we do and the behaviours we expect from our

staff and students. They are the cornerstones of our character:

- **Respectful**
- **Responsible**
- **Ready**

**RESPECTFUL** we are a distinctively warm and inclusive community that is built on relationships of mutual respect and kindness. We recognise and embrace

individuality and diversity. We insist on treating each other with dignity and respect and we work hard to ensure that everyone has the right to learn and to feel safe at all times. We understand the importance of happiness in our community and that everyone needs to feel cared for in order to be the best that we can be.

**RESPONSIBLE** the school is responsible for knowing all of our students and designing a broad and balanced curriculum, taught by specialists, that reflects the different needs of our learners. We work together to support our own success

and that of others to achieve our aspirational goals. We promote gold-standard learning, having high expectations for all by encouraging them to think and work hard. We know that being responsive to support and feedback enables us to become successful. We understand how important it is to be healthy physically and mentally. We strive to be resilient in the face of adversity and challenge and know that we have to be responsible to be the best that we can be.

**READY** we work together with staff, students and

parents to ensure that we are always creative thinkers, ready and able to learn. Students are ready for life beyond school through an extensive personal development programme and enrichment opportunities. We ensure that we are well organised, prepared and we are motivated to become successful. We recognise that this will involve perseverance and we understand that failure is part of our journey to success. We understand that we need to be engaged, motivated and aspirational to be the best that we can be.



**Our school day**  
The pattern of the school day is as follows:

08:30	School opens to students
08:40	Students need to be through the gates by this time to allow them to arrive at Form on time
08:45 – 09:10	<b>Registration and Form Time/Assemblies</b>
09:10 – 09:15	Movement time
09:15 – 10:10	<b>Lesson 1</b>
10:10 – 10:15	Movement time
10:15 – 11:15	<b>Lesson 2</b>
11:15 – 11:30	Break (Year 7 students break at 11:10)
11:30 – 11:35	Movement time
11:35 – 12:30	<b>Lesson 3</b>
12:30 – 12:35	Movement time
12:35 – 13:35	<b>Lesson 4</b>
13:35 – 14:15	Lunch
14:15 – 15:15	<b>Lesson 5</b>
15:15	The school day ends

# Our school

The wellbeing, safety and personal development of our students is at the heart of everything we do.

At Millthorpe we pride ourselves on our pastoral care and throughout their time at school our students are supported academically and pastorally by our team of experienced staff. We welcome more than 200 new students into Year 7 every year, from a large number of different primary schools. Students are allocated a form group and a form tutor, who will support and guide your child every day.

### Going for Gold

Going for Gold is how we articulate our goal for students to be the most effective learners they can be. Students are graded from 1 (Gold Standard) to 4 (Red Standard) across all subjects. The standards spell out to students

what they need to do to get the most out of their learning. If students 'go for gold' they will excel at Millthorpe and be prepared to be successful in whatever journey lies ahead for them after secondary school.

### A supportive environment

Our behaviour policy seeks to reward students and encourage a positive and supportive environment and sets out our expectations clearly. Reminders of our expectations (*right*) are also displayed around school for students.

### Staying in touch

We invest considerable time to develop strong relationships with parents and carers, and we hope you will get to

know your child's form tutor as well as other members of our professional team. In addition, we also use email (including our weekly email every Friday), text messages, letters and social media to ensure parents are kept up to date with all of the latest school developments.

### School uniform

All students at Millthorpe School are required to wear school uniform. Currently, specified school uniform, such as blazers, trousers, skirts and ties, is available from **Keal Teamwear**, (105 Walmgate, 01904 624497, [www.keal-teamwear.com](http://www.keal-teamwear.com)). Other items, such as shirts and socks, can be bought from any retailer. We also have an eco laundry in school that sells reconditioned uniform at greatly reduced prices (free for low income families).

Full details about uniform and equipment will be sent to you once your school place has been allocated.



Millthorpe School



**Inside the classroom, you are expected to:**

- ✓ Arrive on time with all your equipment
- ✓ Follow all instructions from adults
- ✓ Listen to learn
- ✓ Take pride in your work
- ✓ Aim to be a gold standard learner

RESPECTFUL | RESPONSIBLE | READY

 ALLOWING TEACHERS TO TEACH AND STUDENTS TO LEARN



Millthorpe School



**Outside the classroom, you are expected to:**

- ✓ Follow all instructions from adults
- ✓ Be polite and kind to everyone
- ✓ Be safe, calm & sensible
- ✓ Look after and care for our school
- ✓ Eat in dining spaces and tidy up after yourself

RESPECTFUL | RESPONSIBLE | READY

 CREATING A POSITIVE COMMUNITY FOR ALL

**MILLTHORPE'S TEN EXPECTATIONS:**  
You'll see reminders around school of our ten expectations to help keep you on track.



Always there for you...

### Additional support

Sometimes, students need additional support. Our special educational needs provision is of the highest quality and we work with students with a wide range of additional needs. Teams of staff work together to provide tailored support for those who need it.

### Pastoral and Inclusion Team

Our Pastoral and Inclusion Team is made up of specialist staff who know what to do when your child needs help. Form tutors are the first point of contact for any questions or concerns about your child and each year group has a Head of Year who is dedicated to supporting them. Two of our senior leaders, Mr Beever, Deputy Headteacher, and Mrs Norman, SENDCO, have roles dedicated to this aspect of our provision.



**Millthorpe students who achieved the Gold Standard in all of their subjects went on to achieve nearly a whole grade higher than expected in each of their GCSE qualifications.**



# Something for everyone

We aim to give all students a wide range of opportunities to learn and develop, both in and outside the classroom.

Millthorpe is a fun place to learn, offering a broad and balanced curriculum. We also offer a wealth of extra-curricular activities, sporting events and trips. Whilst we take academic achievement very seriously, we also believe that it is important for school to provide children with a breadth of experience.

There is a huge variety of activities and experiences on offer at Millthorpe and we would encourage students to

take full advantage, whatever their interests or passions.

Clubs at lunchtime or after school are a chance to make new friends, develop a skill or talent and maybe try something you've never tried before. If you like music, drama, sport, reading or being creative...there will be an activity to suit you.

We are very lucky that we are able to offer a lot of trips for you to enjoy. Some of the trips will be during school time, including Geography field trips to Bolton Abbey and Hornsea, a History trip exploring the city of York and various other trips planned by teachers.

We run a Year 9 residential trip to Carlton Lodge and invite all Year 10 and Year 11 students to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Our overseas trips are always popular, and students

have enjoyed a number of trips abroad including:

- A ski trip to Austria
- A GCSE Geography trip to Iceland
- A GCSE RE/History trip to Poland to study the events of the Second World War

The above trips, whether related to a particular subject, or designed to build personal skills like leadership or confidence, help to enrich students' experience and bring learning to life.

## Lunchtime and after-school clubs

We run a wide range of extra-curricular activities for students including:

- Art, computing, drama, films, games, languages
- Music, including jazz band, ukulele, and singing

- Sports clubs and teams, including: athletics, badminton, cricket, football, gymnastics, hockey, netball and rugby.

## Duke of Edinburgh Award

We have an excellent record of large numbers of Year 10 students taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and a proud history of raising money for and awareness of a variety of worthwhile local, national and global causes.

## Student Leadership

We believe that every student at Millthorpe has the potential to be a leader.

Our Student Leadership Programme encourages our students to realise their potential by offering the

opportunities to develop and hone the skills exhibited by outstanding leaders, such as independence, self-confidence, perseverance, communication, and organisation.

These skills are a huge part of the Going for Gold learning conduct at Millthorpe and are vital at school, in the workplace and in further education.

The programme encourages, recognises and celebrates our students' achievements, allowing our students to take ownership by investing and participating in their school.

There are many ways for students to become involved in Student Leadership. Students can consider roles as Students Leaders, School Councillors and Form Representatives, Sports Leaders, Student Librarians (LAUGH) and Paired Readers.



# Moving to Millthorpe

Millthorpe School has a designated catchment area owned and defined by Excel Learning Trust Admission Authority which is administered on our behalf by the Local Authority. City of York Council is committed to the principles of local schools for local people and all students living in this area are entitled to a place with us.

We are delighted to welcome all students within our immediate catchment and those from beyond. Students outside this area – and when the school is oversubscribed – are allocated places according to the local authority criteria.

- **First priority:** Children who are either currently or have previously been 'looked after' by a Local Authority
- **Second priority:** Children who live within the catchment area normally served by the preferred school, with a sibling at the preferred school at the time of admission
- **Third priority:** Children who live within the catchment area normally served by the preferred school
- **Fourth priority:** Children considered by the admission authority to have exceptional social or medical needs

which makes the preferred school the most suitable school for the child

- **Fifth priority:** Children with a sibling at the preferred school at the time of admission
- **Sixth priority:** Children who live closest to the preferred school using the nearest available safe walking route

Parents can access the secondary school 'guide for parents' online at [www.york.gov.uk/guideforparents](http://www.york.gov.uk/guideforparents). Parents need to make an online application or request a paper copy of the secondary common application form and return it to the local authority **by 31 October 2024**. These are available at [www.york.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.york.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

Further information is available from the Admissions Team at the City of York Council where council officers will also be able to offer advice to parents on low incomes on assistance with uniform purchase and entitlement to free school meals.



## Getting to know Millthorpe...

Pupils in Year 5 will have the opportunity to take part in a series of events and visits to Millthorpe, including a science afternoon, art workshops and our Café Français, an immersive languages event. In Year 6, pupils will take part in our Friendship Afternoon in May 2025 as well as attending our Transition Evening and Day in July. All Year 6 students joining Millthorpe also receive a Transition Guide which is packed with essential information for both students and their parents/carers.



Millthorpe School is a trading name of Excel Learning Trust a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 10067116 whose registered office is at Millthorpe School, Nunthorpe Avenue, York YO23 1WF