



Millthorpe
School

Welcome to
Millthorpe



Millthorpe
School

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**In 2025,
Millthorpe
students
celebrated
their best
set of GCSE
results to date.**



**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 which everyone – students, teachers, support

staff and leaders – strives to improve every day. 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.

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
Principal



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 Progress Leader who is dedicated to supporting them. Mr Beever, Deputy Headteacher, and Mrs Horsfall, SENCo, have roles dedicated to this aspect of our provision.

Our vision and values

At Millthorpe, our vision, **together, we achieve excellence**, is our commitment to helping every student reach their full potential, academically and personally.

Our Values

We have three simple values that encapsulate everything we do and the behaviours we expect from our staff and students. **They are the cornerstones of our character:**
FAIRNESS We play by the rules, treating everyone with respect and politeness, ensuring an inclusive environment for all.
HARD WORK We are positive, resilient and we do whatever it takes for as long as it takes to reach our full potential.
AMBITION We pursue knowledge with creativity,

curiosity, and an eagerness to learn so we can shape the future.

The Millthorpe Way

At Millthorpe all students strive to live their daily school life by **The Millthorpe Way**:
1 We attend every day, arriving on time to school and lessons.
2 We are ready to learn, with the right equipment and correct uniform.
3 We move round calmly and sensibly and look after our school.
4 We treat everyone with kindness and respect.

- 5** We are honest and do the right thing even when no one is watching.
- 6** We take pride in being part of the wider Millthorpe community.
- 7** We follow the Millthorpe routines so that everyone can learn.
- 8** We are proud of our learning and achievements.



Millthorpe School

THE MILLTHORPE WAY



We attend every day, arriving on time to school and lessons.



We take pride in being part of the wider Millthorpe community.



We are ready to learn, with the right equipment and correct uniform.



We follow the Millthorpe routines so that everyone can learn.



We strive to treat everyone with respect and kindness.



We are honest and do the right thing even when no one is watching.



We move round calmly and sensibly and look after our school.



We work hard and are proud of our learning and achievements.



Following the Millthorpe Way ensures that together, we achieve excellence.

FAIRNESS | HARD WORK | AMBITION

TRUSTED BY
 EXCEL LEARNING TRUST

99%
of parents would highly recommend Millthorpe School to another parent.

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

Our school

At Millthorpe, we are proud of our excellent pastoral care, which means we focus on supporting students' wellbeing as well as their academic progress. When students join in Year 7, they come from many different primary schools. To help them settle in, they are placed in a form group with a dedicated form tutor. Their tutor is there to support and guide your child on a daily basis throughout their time at the school.

Moving to Millthorpe

The school's transition process for new students is designed to help them feel comfortable and ready for secondary school. We believe that a strong sense of belonging helps students succeed. To build this, their transition process is more extensive than the typical one-day visit. We invite students as early as Year 4 into Millthorpe to give them a chance to get familiar with the facilities and staff, meet future classmates, and overcome any worries they may have about starting secondary school.

We also visit students at their own primary schools. This mixed approach helps them feel comfortable with our staff and our school's values long before they officially enrol.

Key events

Moving to Millthorpe

Evenings: At the end of Year 6, we host three evenings that combine important information with fun activities. These events prepare students for their full transition day.

Transition Day: In early July, students from all over the city spend a full day at the school to experience what it's like.

Enhanced Support: Students with additional needs receive extra, personalised support to ensure they are in the best position to succeed (see below).

Beyond the first year

The school's commitment to transition doesn't stop after the first year. We have introduced events like a Year 9 Graduation to recognise students' progress and make them feel valued throughout their five years

at the school. This ongoing support is what makes us believe our transition strategy is the strongest in the city.

Enhanced transition

At Millthorpe, we are committed to a smooth and supportive transition for all students. For a small number of students identified by their primary schools – often owing to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) – we offer an enhanced transition programme.

Our SENCo and Progress Leader work closely with the primary school's SENCo and Year 6 teacher to develop tailored support plans,

including pupil passports and appropriate provision for Year 7. As part of this process, selected students are invited to attend a series of transition visits to Millthorpe. These visits include engaging activities designed to help them become familiar with the school environment and begin building positive relationships with staff and peers.

We also invite parents and carers of these students to meet with our Inclusion Team. This provides an opportunity to discuss their child's individual needs and ensure a collaborative approach to supporting their transition.

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). 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.



Our school day

The pattern of the school day is as follows:

Time	Years 7 + 11	Years 8, 9 + 10	Time
08:25-08:40	School opens to students		08:25-08:40
08:40-09:00	Form Time		08:40-09:00
09:00-09:05	Movement time		09:00-09:05
09:05-10:00	Period 1		09:05-10:00
10:00-10:15	Break (15 mins)	Movement time	10:00-10:05
10:15-10:20	Movement time	Period 2	10:05-11:00
10:20-11:15			
		Break (15 mins)	11:00-11:15
11:15-11:20	Movement time		11:15-11:20
11:20-12:15	Period 3		11:20-12:15
12:15-12:45	Lunch (30 mins)	Movement time	12:15-12:20
12:45-12:50	Movement time	Period 4	12:20-13:15
12:50-13:45			
		Lunch (30 mins)	13:15-13:45
13:45-13:50	Movement time		13:45-13:50
13:50-14:45	Period 5		13:50-14:45
14:45-15:30	Enrichment		14:45-15:30



Our curriculum

We're dedicated to helping students achieve excellence through an engaging and ambitious curriculum.

Curriculum – academic and wider

At Millthorpe, we believe every student can achieve anything. Our engaging curriculum, combined with support and encouragement, inspires students to 'aim for excellence.' We focus on both academic success and building strong character, so students become fair, hard working, ambitious young people.

Through high-quality teaching and a wide range

of enrichment experiences, we equip students with the skills they need to be ready for the future. Our teachers use evidence-based approaches in the classroom and engage in regular coaching to improve their skills. This helps them create lessons that inspire students to be curious and ambitious.

Our guiding principles:

- 1** To provide a curriculum that is tailored to the needs of all our learners; ensuring that all learners are challenged and supported to excel.
- 2** To provide high-quality teaching through well planned, resourced and sequenced lessons.
- 3** To ensure that all our students develop strategies to commit their learning to memory and develop independence in their learning habits so that they are fully prepared for their examinations and lifelong learning beyond school.

- 4** To ensure that all our students benefit from a curriculum which ensures they secure the best possible academic outcomes at the end of Year 11.

- 5** To equip all our students with the necessary skills for their futures post-16. This is delivered through individual subjects but also includes the careers advice and guidance which is delivered through our Personal Development programme.

- 6** To promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

- 7** To enrich the taught curriculum with a range of extra curricular opportunities.

Key Stage 3

All students study the following subjects in Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9): English, Maths, Science,

Geography, French, History, RE, Music, Art, Design and Technology, Drama, PE and Computer Science.

Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11), students study Core subjects: English, Maths and Science plus non-examined Physical Education and Personal Development. Most students will follow an English Baccalaureate combination, studying French and History or Geography. In addition, students will pick from a range of optional subjects to complete their curriculum.

We are determined to leave no child behind and expect success for all our students. Our SENCo and Pastoral team work proactively with all our stakeholders to break down barriers to academic success and personal goals and where necessary make adaptations to our curriculum.

Homework

At Millthorpe, we believe that regular, high-quality homework is beneficial. It helps students become more independent, develop good study skills, and take control of their own learning. Homework tasks often involve practising what's been learned in class.

This repetition helps students remember things for the long term and accelerates their progress. We recognise that it's important students have enough time for other activities like sports, clubs, hobbies, socialising, and family time. Teachers are therefore careful to give students a reasonable amount of time to complete their homework.

To keep parents informed and involved, all homework assignments are posted on Google Classroom. This platform also includes links to any other online resources the student might need.

KEY STAGE 3 (YEARS 7, 8 AND 9)

The vast majority of Key Stage 3 homework tasks are automatically assessed using an online platform chosen by each department. Each subject will set homework that takes between 30 minutes to one hour per fortnight to complete.

KEY STAGE 4 (YEARS 10 AND 11)

At Key Stage 4 (KS4), students should expect a variety of homework tasks, some online and some not. All KS4 homework will be assessed either by the teacher, self, peer or automatic assessment, or used in the "due date" lesson.

All KS4 homework will be uploaded to Google Classroom as an Assignment, with links to other platforms where applicable.

Expected homework levels

- English, Maths and Science – one hour per week.
- All other GCSE subjects – one hour per fortnight.

An enriching experience

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

At Millthorpe, we are committed to giving every student a wide range of opportunities to learn, grow and thrive, both in and beyond the classroom. Our broad and balanced curriculum is complemented by an exciting programme of extracurricular and super-curricular activities designed to enrich students' education and help them develop as well-rounded individuals.

A GREAT START: In addition to our enrichment programme, we also run a Breakfast Club every day from 8.20–8.40am in the canteen which is open to all students.

Enrichment opportunities

Our enrichment programme runs every school day from 2.45–3.30pm and offers more than 40 clubs and activities each week. Whether your child enjoys music, drama, sport, reading, or creative activities, there will be something for everyone.

While not compulsory, we strongly encourage students to take part in activities that support their wellbeing, academic progress and personal development.

Students also have the opportunity to gain an additional qualification at GCSE through Further Maths and Statistics.

Student voice informs our enrichment programme and each term the offer is reviewed to include suggestions from our students.

■ For a full list of enrichment opportunities, visit: www.millthorpeschool.co.uk/clubs-and-activities/

Enriching experiences

Scan the QR code to find out more about our extensive programme of enrichment activities.



Super-curricular experiences

We believe that learning isn't just about what happens in the classroom. Our super-curricular offer includes a wide range of exciting and educational trips, such as:

- A Geography trip to Iceland
- Geography fieldwork at Bolton Abbey and Hornsea

- A History trip exploring the historic city of York
- A History and RE trip for Y10 and Y11 students to Poland to explore the impact of WW2
- Regular theatre trips
- University and college visits
- Visits to workplaces
- Author visits
- Co-Create Festival
- Ski trip to Austria
- Trip to Wimbledon
- Annual trip to Flamingo Land or Yorkshire Wildlife Park

These experiences support learning in the classroom, build confidence and develop important life skills.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is a programme for young people aged 14 to 24 that focuses on personal growth and helping the community. At Millthorpe, we introduce the Bronze Award to our Year 9 students. They complete activities in three areas: volunteering,

physical challenges, and developing a new skill.

Taking part helps students become more resilient and confident and improves their leadership skills, all while giving back to their community. We are proud of the large number of our students who participate in the DofE Award and our long history of raising money and awareness for important local, national, and global causes.

ISSP

At Millthorpe, we are proud to offer our students the opportunity to take part in the York Independent State School Partnership (ISSP). ISSP is an equal partnership of twelve secondary schools – nine state/academy schools and three independent schools.

The partnership offers master classes for the most able and interested students across the city, with the aim of providing academic challenge through a range of opportunities which schools cannot provide alone.



Every student can become a leader. Through our Student Leadership Programme, we help students develop vital skills to succeed and flourish.

A legacy of leaders

Student Leadership

We believe every student has the potential to be a leader. Through our Student Leadership programme, students can develop vital skills such as independence, confidence, communication and perseverance. These skills reflect Millthorpe's vision and values and are vital for success at school, in the workplace and in further education. The programme encourages, recognises and celebrates our students' achievements, allowing them to invest in their school. There are

- many ways for students to become involved in Student Leadership, including:
- Student Leaders
 - Form Representatives
 - Peer Mentors (Restorative Justice)
 - Sports Leaders
 - Student Librarians
 - Reading Mentors

A selection of our student and school achievements

- The percentage of positive entries on Class Charts is

consistently above 96%. This means that the vast majority of students are demonstrating positive behaviour the vast majority of the time.

- Almost 20% of our students hold some kind of leadership position.
- Every year group has a careers experience outside of the classroom, for example: Careers Fair, employment workshop, Wildhearts project or a workplace visit.
- All year groups have the opportunity to visit a university, college or listen to a presentation from alumni students or a presenter from Speakers

for Schools. We also run the Aspirations Programme to raise awareness of higher education options for students who may not otherwise have considered them.

- Almost 50% of Year 9 students complete Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award each year.
- Students have the opportunity to take part in the York Independent State School Partnership (ISSP). We also offer Further Maths.
- Each year, the school puts on ambitious and successful drama productions and music concerts and participates

in the Excel Learning Trust's annual ArtsFest.

- There are numerous sporting clubs and teams, with individuals and teams regularly achieving success locally and nationally. Students also take part in the Excel Learning Trust's annual SportsFest.
- We hold Centre of Excellence status for the Inclusion Quality Mark.
- We are the first secondary school in North Yorkshire to train Restorative Peer Mentors.
- We are the first school in York to achieve The Young Carers Award.

Millthorpe students achieve impressive GCSE results

In 2025, our students celebrated the best set of GCSE results in the school's history, and what's more, in several subjects, our results were way above the national average. Here are some highlights:

2025 GCSEs: Millthorpe School/ National results	Grade 5+		Grade 4+	
	Millthorpe (%)	National (%)	Millthorpe (%)	National (%)
Maths	67	55	84	58
English Language	68	54	82	60
English Literature	70	58	84	74
Biology	92	55	97	89
Chemistry	84	67	100	92
Physics	84	66	97	91
Combined Science	58	37	78	58



Millthorpe students develop a taste for success

Millthorpe has a strong working relationship with Middlethorpe Hall. During this academic year students in Years 9-11 will be liaising with the Managing Director and Banqueting manager of Middlethorpe Hall. Students will learn the process of organising an exclusive event at a high end hotel from making the invites and choosing the quest list, to making the canapes and decorating the room, to hosting the guests. This is a great way to learn about all the careers available in Hospitality and Catering.

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

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 2025**. These are available at 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 Enhanced Transition Programme. 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