

28 November 2025

[w/c 1 December – Week:2](#)



MESSAGE FROM..... MR STEVENSON, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Over the last two years we have seen vast increases in our students' attendance with the whole school figure increasing by over 4.5%. This large increase would not have been possible without the exceptional support and commitment of the families within our community. Whilst the journey of improvement is not yet finished, we want to put on record how thankful we are to the parents and carers who have been instrumental in prioritising their child's education.

Historical data suggests that the run up to the Christmas period can be one of the hardest times to maintain excellent attendance. The darker mornings and nights, colder weather and seasonal bugs can all play their part in reducing a child's motivation to attend school every day.

Therefore, we felt that it was the appropriate time to share with you [The NHS guidance: Is my child too ill for school?](#). We know that sometimes our students cannot come to school because they are really unwell – and that's the right thing to do for them and other students. Medical advice is clear however that children with mild illness will often be well enough to attend – for example if they have a headache, cough, or cold, without a temperature. If you are unsure about whether to send your child to school, the above guidance may help with your decision making.

It's also a good time to remind families that we are encouraging students to aim for an attendance of 95% or above. We've delivered assemblies recently reminding them that every day matters and if their attendance was to drop beneath 90% (19 days off across the whole year) they would be classified as Persistently Absent from school. Persistent absence has been shown to be the single biggest factor in academic underachievement.

Thank you for your continued support in prioritising your child's attendance in school and we hope to see everyone in school right up to the last day of term!

THEME AND WORD OF THE WEEK

for week commencing 1 December 2025

THEME – “Do you think Disabled people's stories are heard?”

WORD - Estimate

GENERAL NEWS/STORIES

Christmas Jumper Day - as a school are taking part in Christmas Jumper Day 2025 this year - it is on **11 December 2025** to support 'Save the Children'. This helps children in the UK and around the world to keep safe, healthy and learning. Students and staff can come in to school in their Christmas jumpers (students must still be wearing normal uniform with the exception of the jumper!!).

The link to donate is: [here](#).



Christmas Attendance Challenge

We are running a "Christmas Attendance Challenge" competition over the final three weeks of this term. All students who achieve 100% attendance across the week will go into a draw for a £10 Amazon Voucher. There will be one voucher per year group. This means that with three weeks to go there are three opportunities to win! Good luck!

Is your child a Young Carer? - Young carers are children and young people, age 17 and under, who provide unpaid care to a family member because of a disability, illness, mental health condition, or a drug and/or alcohol addiction.

Common tasks for a young carer may include practical tasks (e.g. cooking, housework, shopping and collecting prescriptions), personal care (e.g. bathing, dressing, helping with mobility). Some young carers also give emotional support.

If your child is a young carer, Miss Thetford is our Young Carer lead at school. She can help to look at any support your child may need and invite them to Hellesdon's Heroes, our Young Carer Group. Contact Miss Thetford at the school if you think your child may benefit from support.

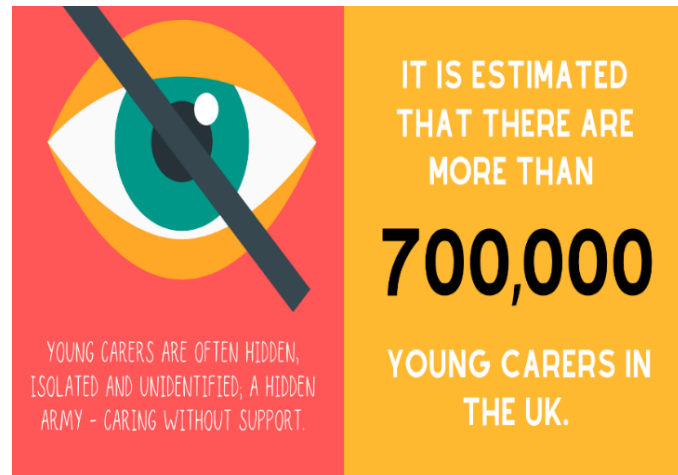
PTA Indoor Car Boot Sale – will be taking place early next year, to book email the PTA - pta@hellesdonhigh.norfolk.sch.uk.



HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE PRINCIPAL

On Thursday, 27 November Mr Earl met with some amazing students for Hot Chocolate!

Go to our [news story](#) to read more!



PE FIXTURES/RESULTS



PE FIXTURES RESULTS
w/c 24th November 2025

MONDAY 24th NOVEMBER 2025
 ⚽ Y11A Boys Football (National Cup Round 3): Thorpe 3-2 Hellesdon
 [Goals: N.Spanton, F.Penrose]

TUESDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2025
 ⚽ Y8B Boys Football (Smash Up Tournament): Played 4, Won 2, Lost 2

WEDNESDAY 26th NOVEMBER 2025
 ⚽ 6th Form Boys Football (National Cup Round 4): Hellesdon 5-1 Thomas Mills
 [Goals: A.Sprat, A.Derham, OG, M.Lincoln, J.Tink]

THURSDAY 27th NOVEMBER 2025
 🏉 Y7 Girls North Walsham Rugby Day: Alderman Peel 3-3 Hellesdon / Hellesdon 2-2 Flegg
 [Tries: P.Edridge 2, L.Gotts-Graham] [Tries: P.Edridge, E.Mutlu]

⚽ Y7B Boys Football (Smash Up Tournament): Hellesdon Reds - P5, W3, D2
 Hellesdon Maroons - P4, W1, D1, L2



PE FIXTURES & EVENTS
w/c 1st December 2025

THURSDAY 4th DECEMBER 2025
 🏉 Y7 Boys Rugby Day @ North Walsham Rugby Club [Leave: 9.15am / Start: 10am / Return: 2.30pm]

ATTACHMENTS

- Influenza Vaccination Winter Campaign Posters



NEWS FROM OUR SIXTH FORM

Apply To Hellesdon Sixth Form

Y11 students- we hope the recent PPEs have helped with making those course decisions when making your application to us? Please do not worry if you are still undecided, there is still time.

The application closing date is **12 December**, to apply please visit our website <https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/sixthform> and click on APPLY HERE.

If you need any course guidance or you have any questions about Sixth Form, please email us sixthform@hellesdon.net parent/carers are also welcome to call 01603 254344 to speak to a member of the Sixth Form Team.

Sixth Form Parents Evening

Thursday, 4 December - to book appointments please click here <https://hellesdon.parenteveningsystem.co.uk/>

Follow us on Instagram



@hellesdonsixthform




Hellesdon Sixth Form **APPLY NOW FOR 2026**
 YOUR NEXT STEP

OUR SIXTH FORM PROVISION HAS BEEN JUDGED 'GOOD' BY OFSTED
 JOIN ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SIXTH FORMS IN NORFOLK

For more information on what our Sixth Form has to offer go to www.wensumtrust.org.uk/sixthform

Attendance Matters



We're committed to working with parents and carers to ensure your child feels happy and safe in school. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office.

Call us: 01603 424711

Email us: principal@hellesdonhigh.norfolk.sch