

WKGS: BEYOND HORIZONS

[HTTPS://WKGS.ORG/](https://wkgs.org/)



January to April 2026

At WKGS, we believe that education goes far beyond the classroom. Beyond Horizons: The WKGS Development Programme is a unified approach to personal development that brings together all the enriching experiences and opportunities we offer our students beyond academic study.

From our thriving extra-curricular programme and outstanding sporting achievements, to leadership opportunities, global perspectives, pastoral care, and our forward-thinking careers curriculum, Beyond Horizons celebrates and connects everything we do to support the growth of confident, capable and compassionate young people.

This approach helps students (and families) see how each aspect of their WKGS journey contributes to their wider development; whether this is through form time, assemblies, student projects, personal development lessons, or our extensive WKGS Futures speaker programme.

We look forward to sharing this journey with you as we empower every student to grow, lead and thrive, beyond horizons.

Key pillars of the Beyond Horizons Programme

1. EXPLORE – Extra-curricular enrichment, sports, clubs, student-led initiatives
2. GROW – Personal development and global perspectives curriculum, pastoral care
3. LEAD – Student leadership at all key stages, project work
4. PREPARE – Careers education (Unifrog, WKGS Futures, work experience)




The Personal Development Curriculum - *looking ahead*

At WKGS, our Personal Development curriculum is a vital part of preparing students for life beyond the classroom. Based on the latest guidance from the PSHE Association, our programme is regularly updated to reflect current issues, ensuring that students receive relevant, age-appropriate and meaningful learning. Key topics include mental health, relationships, digital literacy, financial education, and personal safety. We are also proud to work with TalktheTalk, a trusted external provider, to deliver our Relationships and Sex Education units with expertise and sensitivity. Students engage with the curriculum through a range of assessments, including case studies, debates, multiple choice quizzes and extended response tasks, helping them to reflect deeply and apply their learning in real-world contexts.

Here is the content covered in Term 3.

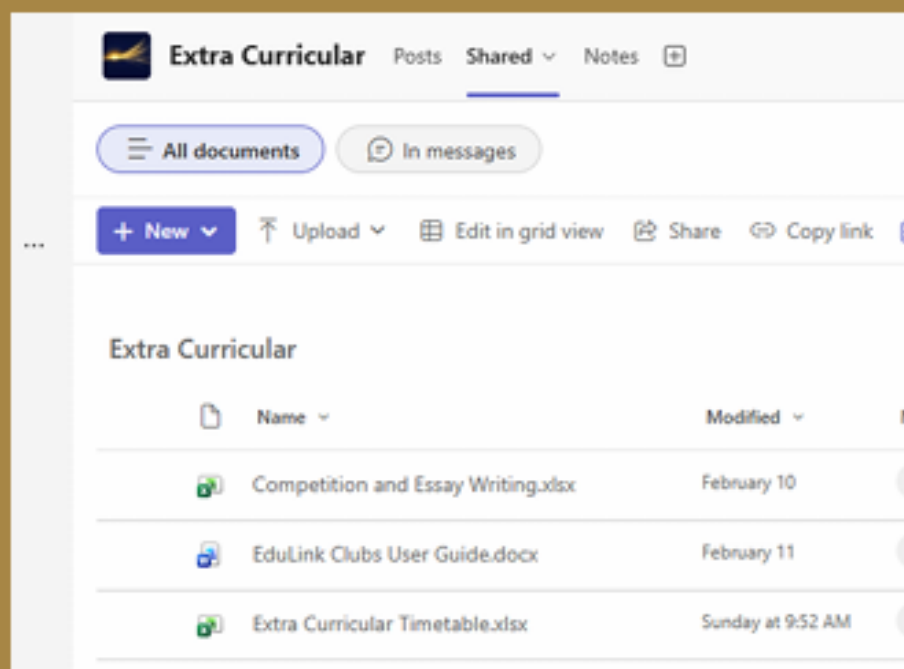
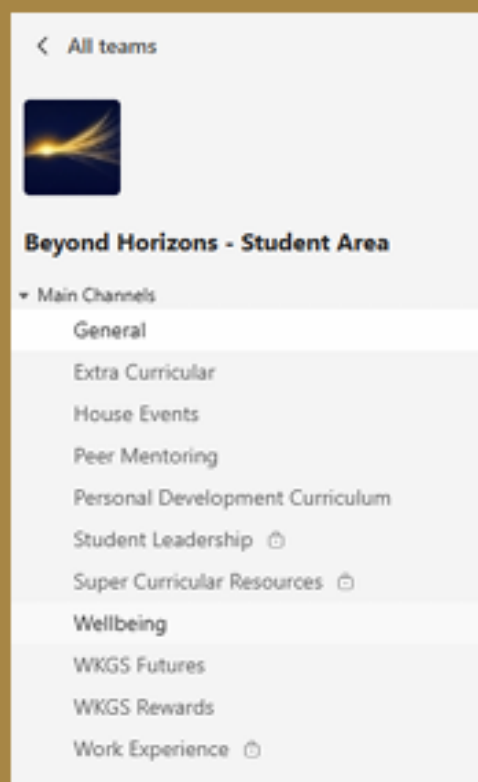
| | Summer 1 | Summer 2 |
|----|---|--|
| 7 | <p>Learning Skills Reviewing strengths and developments Targets and goals Revision strategies and timetable Independent revision Exam Week</p> <p>Curriculum Content Puberty and the menstrual cycle - Biology</p> | <p>Health and Wellbeing Managing mental health Work Life Balance Physical activity – benefits and influences Personal hygiene Nutrition Rest and Sleep</p> |
| 8 | <p>Learning Skills Self-Quizzing and Mind maps Revision timetable Top tips Exam Stress</p> | <p>Relationships Abuse and Discrimination The 9 Protected Characteristics Healthy relationships and gender bias Cyber Bullying FGM</p> |
| 9 | <p>Learning Skills Revision timetable Top tips Active Reading Flash Cards</p> | <p>Relationships Healthy relationships Consent Committed relationships - Rights and protections Equality Act/ Online relationships Gender, Sex and Orientation When relationships breakdown</p> |
| 10 | <p>Managing Risk Drugs and Alcohol – Assessing risks Managing influences Seeking Help</p> <p>Valuing Diversity The Importance of vaccinations – Biology lesson</p> | <p>Work Experience Placement</p> <p>Year 11 Summer Project</p> <p>Preparing for year 11 (Aspirations) Reflecting on my career journey</p> |
| 11 | <p>Learning skills Mind mapping in detail Managing Stress Seeking Help</p> | |



Beyond Horizons Microsoft Team Launch

In response to valuable feedback from both parents, carers and students, we are pleased to be launching a dedicated Microsoft Teams space to bring together all Beyond Horizons information in one accessible place for every student.

This platform will feature a range of channels, including access to Extra-Curricular and WKGS timetables, wellbeing and peer mentoring support, and a new hub highlighting national competitions that students can enter. It will also provide a central starting point for students looking to explore work experience opportunities and begin their super-curricular research, ensuring that key information and guidance is easier to find and make use of.





WKGS Futures

Since January, the WKGS Futures Programme has gone from strength to strength, thanks to the invaluable support of our parents, carers, alumni, and local employers. Students have benefitted from a wide range of engaging talks and experiences, including insights into careers in healthcare, engineering and finance, as well as sessions on apprenticeships, entrepreneurship and pathways into competitive industries. These opportunities have helped students to better understand the world of work and the many routes available to them after school.

We would also like to recognise and celebrate our own students who have contributed to the programme. Our outgoing Head Girl delivered an excellent talk offering super-curricular advice, helping students to think beyond the classroom and strengthen their university and career applications, while our Junior Prefects shared valuable hints and tips for effective exam preparation. Their leadership and willingness to support others have been fantastic to see.

We would like to remind students that they are expected to attend at least two Futures events each year. However, this requirement has been relaxed for Year 11 and Year 13 students, who only need to attend one event or provide evidence of alternative careers-related research or experience. We are extremely grateful to all those who have contributed their time and expertise—your continued support is making a real and lasting difference to our students' futures.

We are always keen to welcome new speakers, and we warmly invite any parents, carers, alumni, or local employers who would be willing to share their career journey and insights with our students to get in touch.

Looking ahead, we are excited to have three further talks scheduled after Easter, focusing on careers in Emergency Medicine, STEM, and working in Education, and we encourage all students to take advantage of these valuable opportunities.

Careers and Aspirations support

We are pleased to share that our careers information on the school website has recently been updated to provide more detailed and accessible guidance for parents, carers, students, teachers and employers. The refreshed content offers clearer pathways, resources, and support to help all members of our community better understand the wide range of post-16 and post-18 options available, as well as how we support students in making informed decisions about their futures.

We recognise the important role that parents and carers play in shaping conversations about careers and further education at home. To support these discussions, we would like to highlight a number of excellent external resources that offer practical advice, guidance, and conversation starters:

- Careers Advice for Parents | Youth Employment UK
- <https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/careers-advice-for-parents/>
- Careers Advice for Young People | WorldSkills UK
- <https://www.worldskillsuk.org/careers-advice/>
- Parents Advice for Career Conversations – Talking Futures
- <https://www.talkingfutures.org.uk/>

These resources provide useful insights into current career pathways, skills development, and how to support young people in exploring their interests and ambitions.



Personal Development Project Celebration

Alongside their Personal Development lessons before Christmas, all students completed a personal project, encouraging them to explore an area of individual interest and reflect on their own growth. The journey of these projects was documented and later shared with form groups towards the end of last term, providing a valuable opportunity for students to celebrate their achievements and learn from one another.

To recognise outstanding efforts, the winners in each form were invited to a special celebration breakfast on Wednesday 18th March. This was a lovely occasion, featuring pastries and hot chocolate, where students had the opportunity to present their work to Mr Clarke and other members of the senior leadership team. It was a pleasure to hear first-hand about their experiences and the personal development they had achieved through the process.

This term has also seen the introduction of dedicated student voice opportunities within Personal Development lesson time, implemented directly in response to previous feedback from students. It has been encouraging to see such thoughtful engagement, with students reflecting maturely on what is working well and where improvements could be made. This ongoing dialogue will play an important role in ensuring that WKGS continues to evolve and meet the needs of all learners.



Extra-Curricular Program

It has been fantastic to see such strong engagement and enthusiasm for extra-curricular activities across the school, with so many students taking full advantage of the wide range of opportunities available. We would like to remind families of our expectations:

- Students in KS3 should aim to attend at least two activities each week
- KS4 students at least one per week,
- KS5 students are encouraged to take on leadership roles by supporting or leading clubs

In response to student voice, we are excited to be expanding our offer further, including a new club launching after Easter delivered by an external partner focusing on horse care, as well as a staff-led KS3 club in photography and Photoshop. A reminder that participation in Duke of Edinburgh, house events and now national competition entries, all count towards our extra-curricular expectations, ensuring there are a wide variety of ways for every student to get involved and enrich their school experience.



Music and Drama

Our recent production of *Legally Blonde* was a tremendous success, with the cast and band—brilliantly supported by our technical team—performing to audiences of over 1,000 people across the week. The performances were the culmination of months of dedication, including half-term and Saturday rehearsals, and truly showcased the exceptional talent, commitment, and teamwork of our pupils. In total, 44 WKGS students and 4 pupils from Calday School took part, making this a fantastic collaborative achievement.

Other News

Our Year 12 and Year 13 A Level Theatre Studies students are looking forward to attending a workshop at the Playhouse Theatre based on *Prima Facie* later this month. Having already watched a streamed version of the production, students are well prepared to make the most of this exciting opportunity.

Drama continues to thrive across the lower school, with Year 7 and Year 8 Drama Clubs running weekly in G8. LAMDA Club will also resume after the Easter break, as students continue working towards their LAMDA Acting examinations.

Meanwhile, our Year 11 and Year 13 students are busy preparing for their practical GCSE Drama and A Level Theatre Studies examinations, taking place from 25–28 March. We wish all students the very best of luck.

Looking Ahead

We are excited for House Drama in the summer term—more details will be shared soon.

We are also looking ahead to our Year 10 GCSE Drama London residential. Students will enjoy an overnight stay in central London, including a tour of the Globe Theatre and a performance of *Mother Courage*, as well as a trip to the West End to see *Inter Alia*. This promises to be a memorable and enriching experience for all involved.



Sporting Events and Fixtures

This has been another busy term for the PE department.

Our U13 indoor cricket team qualified for the Cheshire County Finals where they finished as runners up. They beat the teams from Weaverham HS and Sandbach HS but narrowly lost to Cheadle Hulme in the final.

A fantastic team effort – well done!



Seven of our athletes were selected to represent Merseyside at the English Schools Cross Country Championships. Cosette, in her final year, competed in the Senior Girls age group while Isla Y, Isla P and Maisie raced in the Inter Girls competition. Issy and Eve ran in the Junior Girls race where they helped Merseyside to secure 2nd team place.



Zoe (Y7) ran for Merseyside Schools in the annual inter-county cross country competition against Cheshire Schools where her performance contributed towards a convincing win for Merseyside.



The U13 netball team were placed 3rd in the Merseyside County finals tournament that took place last week. They had a slow start to the competition, narrowly losing their first two matches but went on to win the rest, even beating the eventual winners of the tournament!

The U18 handball team had a great match against Lancaster University while the U15s have progressed through to the Regional finals of the National Schools Cup



Duke of Edinburgh

Our DofE participants and leaders have been very busy, with lots more to come! Firstly, parents and carers of our Bronze participants had an information meeting in January for an opportunity to ask any questions about the Bronze DofE programme, including ways in which the Year 10s can complete their Bronze award and what to expect from the future expedition.

On that note, the Year 10 Bronze students had their first expedition to plan on the 21st and 22nd of March, where they mapped their walking route, as well as improving on skills such as cooking, first aid, and knowing what to pack.

The Year 9 students of WKGS have also been given assemblies informing them of opportunities to complete their skill, physical and volunteering sections of their award, such as a web call with a representative from the charity 'Edukid' which they can complete at home. A few of our DofE Young Leaders have offered advice about what activities they chose to pass their Gold and Silver awards during a presentation about the new Bronze award.

Our Gold Y12 students have some upcoming expedition dates to look forward to such as their trial expedition on the 14th and 15th of March, and their Gold expedition over the Easter Holidays. Meanwhile, the Silver DofE participants are looking forward to their trial expedition from the 17th to the 19th of April which will take place in North Wales. We can't wait to see what our DofE participants get up to, and we wish them luck on their expedition weekends!

By Olivia Perfecto, MKS DofE Young Leader



Student Leadership: Psychology Society

The Psychology Society continues to thrive as a vibrant, student-led initiative, run by our Year 13 psychology students for those in Year 9 and above. Taking place every Friday at 1:15pm in S2, the society offers a fantastic opportunity for students to explore a wide range of thought-provoking topics beyond the classroom. Each week features a different presentation, reflecting the diverse interests and expertise of the student leaders, and encouraging curiosity, discussion, and deeper understanding.

So far, students have engaged with an impressive breadth of subjects spanning clinical psychology, biology, neuroscience, philosophy, and medicine. Recent talks have included fascinating explorations of aphantasia, dissociative identity disorder, and Alzheimer's treatment, alongside sessions on childhood influences on behaviour, the limbic system, and neuroplasticity. Students have also delved into cutting-edge topics such as brain-computer interfaces, the neuroscience of memory, and even the psychology of dreams and parapsychology, showcasing both academic ambition and intellectual curiosity.

Looking ahead, the programme continues to offer exciting opportunities, with upcoming presentations on dopamine and its role in anticipation and reward, as well as an exploration of the psychological theories surrounding the Lucy Letby case. As the current Year 13 leaders prepare to move on, they are also seeking one or two enthusiastic Year 12 students to take on the roles of President and Vice President of the society. This is a fantastic leadership opportunity for students with a passion for psychology who are keen to develop their communication and organisational skills.

Content from Evie Snell Y12.



House Update

This term has been an incredibly busy and exciting one for our Houses, packed full of energy, enthusiasm and fantastic participation from students across all year groups.

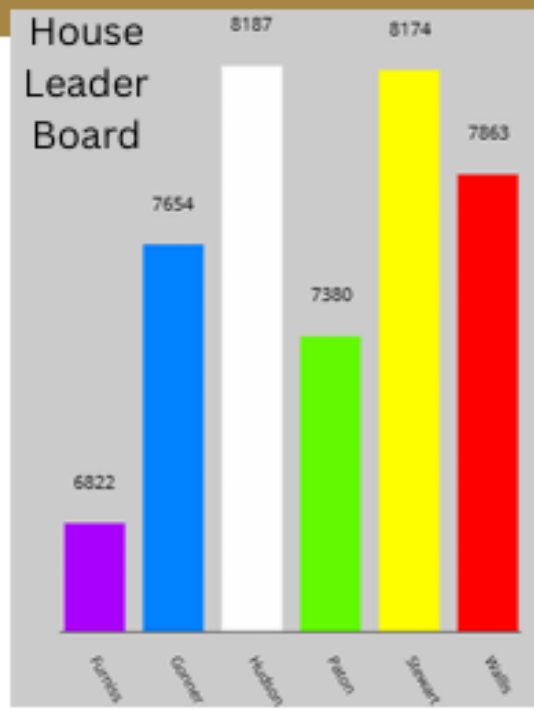
We've seen a brilliant range of events take place, including the ever-popular House Countdown, competitive and high-spirited House Netball, and the Jess Baker House Tag Rugby, which brought great teamwork and determination to the fore. The term is finishing on a real high as we look forward to House Swimming and our much-anticipated House Music Festival – always a highlight of the year!

It has been wonderful to see such huge numbers of students getting involved, whether competing, supporting or helping to organise. We are incredibly proud of every student who has represented their House this term; their commitment, teamwork and House spirit have been outstanding.

A special mention must go to our House Captains and Deputies, who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to organise events, motivate their teams and ensure everything runs smoothly. Their leadership and dedication have made a real difference.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the staff in the Maths, PE and Music departments, whose time, effort and enthusiasm have made these events possible.

Well done to everyone involved – it has truly been a term to celebrate!



The House Events in the Summer Term are below, Please encourage your child to sign up and represent their House!

- Senior House Rounders
- Junior House Rounders
- House Drama
- House Quiz
- House Science
- Junior House Tennis
- Sports Day



House Comptition Winners

Year 7 Netball – WALLIS



Junior House Netball – GONNER



Miss Baker Junior House Tag Rugby - PATON



Miss Baker Senior House Tag Rugby – WALLIS



House Swimming – FURNISS

Thank you and well done to everyone who has represented the school or their House this term.
There will be plenty more events to get involved with next term.