



**AMPLEFORTH**  
COLLEGE

Ampleforth College

York, YO62 4ER

Tel: 01439 766000

mds@ampleforth.org.uk

[www.ampleforthcollege.org.uk](http://www.ampleforthcollege.org.uk)

06 September 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is a great pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 families to Ampleforth College, and to extend a warm welcome back to our returning Year 8 parents. I'd also like to offer a special welcome to those families joining us in Year 8 for the first time - we're delighted to have you as part of our community and look forward to getting to know you and your children in the months ahead.

My name is Mike Slingsby, and in my role as Head of Junior House, I am also responsible for the academic development of both Year 7 and Year 8. I have been at the College since 2014, teaching Academic and Core PE, BTEC Sport, coaching sport, serving as a Houseparent, and working as a Head of Year. These experiences have given me a deep understanding of our pupils' journey through the school and the many ways we can help them thrive.

At Ampleforth, we aim to create an environment where every child can be courageous, curious, and confident in their learning. Our broad and engaging curriculum is designed to inspire a genuine passion for discovery, encouraging pupils to explore new ideas, challenge themselves, and develop skills that will serve them well beyond the classroom.

We want our pupils to be punctual, proud, proactive, and prepared for all that Ampleforth has to offer. These values will guide them not only in their academic journey but also in their personal development as members of our community.

I am fortunate to be supported by a brilliant team of tutors, who I know have already been in touch with you. They will be your first point of contact for academic matters and day-to-day queries. As Head of Junior House, I will maintain oversight of both year groups, ensuring their smooth progression through to Year 9 and beyond. Please see the key dates to note below.

This term, our Year 8 students will also have the opportunity to apply for Basil Hume Scholarships. These are available in the following areas: Academic, Sport, Drama, DT, Dance, and Music. More details on the expectations of Scholars, the application process, and deadlines can be found via the following link: [Ampleforth College – Scholarships](#). The application form for internal candidates (i.e. pupils currently at Ampleforth) is available on the [Portal](#) under Forms. If you or your child have any questions about the Scholarships, please feel free to contact either me or your child's tutor.

I look forward to working closely with you to support your child's journey here at Ampleforth, and to celebrating their achievements over the coming year.

Best wishes,  
Mike Slingsby  
Head of Junior House

**Dates to note:**

| <b>Term</b>                | <b>Item</b>   | <b>Date(s)</b>                 |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Y7&amp;8<br/>autumn</b> | September exeat   | Friday 19/9 – Monday 22/9      |
|                            | Basil Hume Scholarship applications (Year 8 only)   | By Thursday 20 November        |
|                            | October half-term incl. half-term effort grades   | Thursday 23/10 – Monday 3/11   |
|                            | November exeat  | Friday 21/11 – Monday 24/11    |
|                            | Basil Hume assessment days (Year 8 only)  | Thurs 27- Fri 28 November      |
|                            | Christmas holidays incl. effort grades & reports (Subject, Tutor, Houseparent, Headmaster). | Thursday 18/12 – Wednesday 7/1 |

|                            |  |                                |
|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Y7&amp;8<br/>spring</b> | February half-term incl. half-term effort grades                               | Thursday 12/2 – Wednesday 25/2 |
|                            | Y7&8 Careers Day   | Friday 13/3                    |
|                            | Easter holidays incl. effort grades & reports (Tutor, Houseparent, Headmaster) | Friday 27/3 – Monday 20/4      |

|                            |   |                              |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| <b>Y7&amp;8<br/>summer</b> | Y7&8 Parents' Day   | Saturday 25/4                |
|                            | Summer exam revision lists shared with students   | Early May                    |
|                            | Exhibition - House events, Y13 Leavers' Mass, Prize-giving, CCF Inspection, Art Displays, Music performances to name but a few. | Friday 22/5 - Saturday 23/5  |
|                            | May half-term incl. half-term effort grades   | Saturday 23/5 – Sunday 31/5  |
|                            | Y7&8 end of year exams  | Thursday 4/6 - Thursday 11/6 |
|                            | Y7&8 retreat  | TBC                          |
|                            | Y7&8 End of Year Camp   | Monday 22/6 - Thursday 25/6  |
|                            | End of term prize-giving  | Saturday 26/6                |
|                            | End of term/year incl. reports (Subjects, Tutor, Houseparent, Headmaster)   | Friday 26/6 at 17.00         |
|                            | Summer holiday reading lists and activities   | Friday 26/6                  |