



AMPLEFORTH
COLLEGE

Ampleforth College

York, YO62 4ER

Tel: 01439 766000

haa@ampleforth.org.uk

www.ampleforthcollege.org.uk

06 September 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Hugh Ainscough and I'm delighted to introduce myself as Assistant Head of Middle School for this academic year. My main focus in this role is leading Year 9 and I am thrilled to be supporting your child as they embark on this exciting new chapter of their education.

My primary responsibility is overseeing your child's academic progress and personal development. I will work closely with teachers, support staff, House Teams and, of course, you as parents, to ensure that each student receives the guidance and support they need to succeed. My goal is to foster an environment where every student feels valued, challenged and motivated to achieve their best.

Year 9 is a foundational year, setting the stage for the GCSE examinations in the years ahead. It is essential that students develop good study habits and a network of firm friendships to support and encourage them through their time at Ampleforth. This year, they will cover a broad range of subjects, with key assessments and monitoring that will help them build a strong academic foundation. Our academic goals include developing positive study routines, critical thinking skills and resilience. We encourage students to take responsibility for their learning, to be proactive in seeking help when needed, and to strive for continuous improvement.

Supporting the wellbeing of our students is a top priority. We understand that starting a new school can be both exciting and challenging. To ensure that students are well supported, we have a robust pastoral care system in place. Each student has been assigned an academic tutor who will be the main point of contact between parents and the school. We are committed to creating a positive environment where every student feels supported and empowered.

Open and effective communication is key to a successful partnership between the College and home. Alongside our dedicated Year 9 academic tutor team, I am always available to discuss any concerns or questions you may have. I look forward to working closely with you to ensure a successful and fulfilling year for your child. Thank you for your support in what I'm certain will be a brilliant year.

Finally, please see key dates for Year 9 this term set out in the table below

Yours Sincerely,

Hugh Ainscough (haa@ampleforth.org.uk)

Term	Item	Date(s)	Parents welcome to attend?
	Y9 Retreat	Tuesday 16-Sep	
	September exeat	Friday 19-Sep - Monday 22-Sep	
	October half-term incl. half-term grades	Thursday 23-Oct - Monday 3-Nov	
Y9 Autumn	Y9 Parent's Retreat	Friday 14-Nov	Y - Limited spaces. Please see Newsletter
	Y9 Parent's Day	Saturday 15-Nov	Y - Face to face or online. Please see Newsletter
	November exeat	Friday 21-Nov - Monday 24-Nov	
	GCSE Options booklet shared home for conversations over Christmas	December	
	Christmas holidays incl. end of term grades. No reports.	Thursday 18-Dec - Wednesday 7-Jan	