RISEDALE

A family of learners

Keep In Touch

KIT Newsletter

November 2026



50th EDITION

RISEDALE KIT Newsletter

Dear parents/carers and pupils,



Our first half-term of the year has whizzed by! New staff and pupils have settled in well, and we are all focused on building on our improved exam results from the summer. Classrooms around the school are alive with the 'I Do, We Do, You Do' approach, and our focus this term is on building **RESILIENCE** during independent activities in which knowledge needs to be applied by our pupils to show what they have learned.

I was heartened to hear that this is our 50th KIT Newsletter! Inside you will find a wealth of good news stories, as always, starting with our improved results, of which we are rightly proud.

I was particularly delighted with the way a group of our pupils represented Risedale at the Catterick Town Investment Planning session (see page 7) - this demonstrated **RESPONSIBILITY** perfectly, and was a great example of young people maturely giving their voice to shape the future of our town. I am also pleased to report that all our staff have now had training on allergies, asthma and anaphylaxis, in line with Benedict's Law.

Please enjoy reading our first KIT Newsletter of the academic year. As always, please let us know if there is anything we can do to support you and your family. I hope this term brings yet more opportunities for pupils to shine and be the **BEST** version of themselves.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Lucy Greenwood - Headteacher



#TeamRisedale 💙💜🧡❤️ #BEST

RESPONSIBILITY RESPECT RESILIENCE RELATIONSHIPS

Risedale Celebrates its BEST English and Maths Pass Rate Since 2022



English and maths grades at 5+ this year have more than doubled, with the number of pupils obtaining at least a grade 4 pass increasing substantially for the second successive year.

A quarter of Year 11 pupils passed all their qualifications with flying colours!

Pupils and staff at Risedale celebrated the second successive year of improved examination results today, with the best pass rate since 2022. The number of pupils obtaining at least a grade 4 (a standard pass) in both English and maths (essential door-opening qualifications) has more than doubled since 2024, and the number of pupils with a grade 5 (a good pass) or more in these subjects has also more than doubled since last year. Away from the core subjects, worthy of note were the strong levels of achievement in practical subjects such as art, drama, design and technology, engineering, sport studies and textiles, highlighting great teaching and our pupils' passion for these subjects.







⭐ Shining Stars of the Class of 2026 ⭐

- Oliver Lavery (grade 9 English Literature) - 100% grades 9-5
- Kaiden Collins - 100% grades 9-6
- Taufa Makasiale (grade 9 Art, Craft & Design) - 100% grades 9-4
- Malachi O'Brien - 100% grades 9-4
- Ellie O'Connell - 100% grades 9-5
- Charlotte Swift (grade 9 Art, Craft & Design) - 100% grades 9-4
- William Bell - 100% grades 9-4
- Ethan Bone - 100% grades 9-4

Expressing her pride in the school's achievements, Headteacher Mrs L Greenwood said:

"These results demonstrate our absolute commitment to sustained improvement - we are seeing more pupils obtaining high grades, some of whom have achieved magnificent grades 8 and 9, and significantly larger numbers leaving us with the grades they need to secure their place at the sixth form, college or training provider of their choice. I am delighted that the hard work of our leaders and staff is directly impacting young people's life chances positively and that we are seeing the fruits of the changes that have been made at Risedale in the last two years. I thank

staff for embracing these changes and parents/carers and pupils for coming with us on our improvement journey. Together we will move forward and build on this. We wish our class of 2026 every success in their future endeavours - they have worked hard this year to be the ***BEST*** *version of themselves and will hopefully take our values of* ***Responsibility****,* ***Respect****,* ***Resilience****, and* ***Relationships*** *with them into the world.* ***Congratulations, Year 11!****"*



Off to a Flying Start: Our Year 7s Giving Their BEST! 🚀



What an incredible start to secondary school for our new Year 7s! They have all arrived looking so smart in their uniforms, fully equipped, and ready to take on this exciting new chapter.

They are already demonstrating our school values every single day by giving their **BEST**:

- **RESPONSIBILITY** 💙 Coming prepared with all their equipment and taking pride in their uniform.
- **RESPECT** 💜 Showing kindness and supporting one another as they settle in.
- **RESILIENCE** 🧡 Stepping up to secondary school life with confidence and positivity.
- **RELATIONSHIPS** ❤️ Forming fantastic new friendships right across the year group.



Our teachers have already awarded loads of reward stamps for their outstanding effort, and their attendance levels have been fantastic!

Keep up the incredible work, Year 7 — we are already so proud of you all!

Pupil Receptionist Shout-Out: Year 9s Living our BEST Values!



A huge well done to our Pupil Receptionists, Jeneia Ruse and Cassie Sells (9Davies), for setting such a fantastic example at the start of term!

As part of our Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme, our Year 9 pupils step up throughout the year to gain practical, real-world workplace experience while supporting the daily running of the school. By taking on the front-of-house desk, Jeneia and Cassie have demonstrated our core values in action!

Thank you for your hard work and dedication, Jeneia and Cassie! Your welcoming attitude and professionalism made a brilliant first impression on everyone visiting the school.

We can't wait to hear all the fantastic feedback from staff and pupils as the rest of Year 9 take on this great life-skills opportunity throughout the year.

Year 9s Secure County Cup Victory After Six-Goal Thriller ⚽

Wednesday, 16th September saw Risedale School make the short trip to St Francis Xavier School (SFX) in the Year 9 County Cup. The game was nothing short of a thriller: a classic game of two halves and a dramatic penalty shootout.



The match started promisingly for both sides, with plenty of effort and a high level of skill on show. Both goalkeepers started well until the deadlock was broken in the 20th minute, with SFX scoring after some great football down their right wing. The game remained tight until just before half-time, when SFX stretched their lead with a clever finish from a corner. At 2–0 down at the break, it still felt like the game was there for the taking.

The first goal after half-time felt pivotal, and both teams created great opportunities. A moment of magic from SFX saw a cross from the right find a player at the back post to volley home for 3–0.

Risedale continued to show their **BEST** and, with excellent **RESILIENCE**, produced some neat passing football. Josh Griffin raced away on goal before finishing calmly to start the comeback. Spirits lifted further when Billy Maclean and Joel Mcmahon, who were both excellent in midfield, won the ball back and released Alfie Davies, who fed Josh Griffin to double his tally and make it 3–2.

Chances kept coming for both teams. Great pressure from Corrie Russell set up Harry Garner, but his effort hit the post. Josh Griffin found space again, only to see his shot fly narrowly over the bar, before another chance for Corrie Russell went just wide. With time running out, the centre-back pairing of Eloi Taylor and Flynn Hampson held firm to keep SFX at bay, setting up one final moment of magic. Josh Griffin completed his hat-trick to

bring the scores level, showing fantastic composure and close control when one-on-one with the keeper.

The game finished 3–3, leaving penalties to decide the victor.

Once again showing an outstanding level of commitment, the boys stepped up to the mark. Corrie took the first spot-kick, sending the keeper the wrong way, but his effort narrowly clipped the post and went wide. SFX scored theirs to take the lead. Josh Griffin then converted his penalty before an SFX player hit the bar.

With the shootout tied at 1–1, Billy Maclean calmly slotted his penalty past the keeper. Karl Smith then added to his match heroics by saving the next SFX penalty, putting Risedale ahead for the first time at 2–1. Up stepped Harry Garner, who proved to be the calmest player on the pitch as he dispatched his penalty into the top corner to put the pressure back on SFX. Karl Smith dived to his right for the next penalty, getting his fingertips to the ball, but SFX managed to score.



That left Lukas Thornton with the chance to seal the match. He stepped up and calmly scored, securing a 3–1 penalty shootout victory for Risedale after a dramatic 3–3 draw in normal time!

Thank you to SFX for hosting us and for displaying a fantastic attitude and high level of skill throughout. It was an incredibly enjoyable match for everyone involved, and a real shame that only one team could progress in the County Cup. **#TeamRisedale** 💙💜🧡❤️

Pupils Shape the Future of Catterick in Local Consultation



On Thursday 17th September, Risedale School welcomed Virginia Arrowsmith, Communities Development Officer from the North Yorkshire Council Communities Development Team, for a collaborative consultation event with a group of pupils. As a true **Family of Learners**, our pupils gathered to lend their voices to the strategic Catterick Town Investment Plan, ensuring the younger generation has a direct impact on reviewing and prioritising projects for their local area.

During the dynamic session, pupils evaluated their community across four central themes: what is currently strong, what is wrong, how issues can be fixed, and their ultimate hopes for the future. Throughout the discussions, pupils took full **RESPONSIBILITY** for representing their peers, demonstrating exceptional **RESPECT** for

differing viewpoints and building positive **RELATIONSHIPS** as they worked together to propose constructive solutions.

The session was supported by Assistant Headteacher Mr Yale, who praised the group's engagement and maturity.



"It was a privilege to see our pupils take such active ownership of their local community's future," said Mr Yale. ***"They spoke with real honesty, insight, and RESILIENCE, proving that putting young people's voices at the heart of local development helps everyone grow into the BEST version of themselves. We are incredibly proud of how brilliantly they represented Risedale."***

By placing the thoughts and aspirations of young people at the centre of town planning, North Yorkshire Council and Risedale School continue to strengthen community ties and inspire genuine local pride across Catterick.

Creative Block Printing in Year 10 Fashion & Textiles! 🎨



Risedale School's Year 10 Fashion & Textiles pupils took to the workshop this week to work on an exciting practical project for their new Key Stage 4 course.

During these first weeks of term, pupils have been studying the classic work of the Arts & Crafts Movement, taking direct inspiration from iconic designer William Morris. Demonstrating fantastic **RESILIENCE**, **RESPONSIBILITY**, and focus, the pupils designed and carved their own custom printing blocks to create intricate, repeating patterns.

Teacher of Design & Technology, Mrs Vizor, shared her pride in the group, saying,



"It has been an absolute joy watching our Year 10 pupils embrace the technical challenge of block printing as they begin their Key Stage 4 journey. They showed great RESPECT for the heritage techniques and have built strong RELATIONSHIPS while collaborating in the workshop. Well done, Year 10 - keep up the great work!"



Risedale Musicians Take to the National Stage at the Brass Band Championships of Great Britain 🎵

Congratulations to Ms Dunphy and Year 10 pupil Alex Dunphy, who represented the North of England at the National Finals of the Brass Band Championships of Great Britain!

Playing with the Durham Miners' Association Brass Band, the pair took to the stage at York Barbican on Saturday 19th September, competing against some of the finest brass bands in the country. While they didn't come away with a trophy, the day was an unforgettable experience for both of them.

Speaking about the championships, Ms Dunphy said, ***"It was a huge honour to represent the North of England, and I was incredibly proud of what the Durham Miners' Association Brass Band achieved in reaching the National Finals."*** She added, ***"Watching and listening to the best bands in the country was genuinely inspiring. The brass banding community really is one of the friendliest groups of people you could hope to spend time with."***

Alex shared what playing in a band has meant to him personally, saying it has given him so many opportunities to grow and develop as a musician.

Congratulations to both Alex and Ms Dunphy for flying the flag for Risedale and the North of England on the national stage—it's a fantastic achievement!

Splash of Success for Year 11 Kayakers at Tees Barrage 🛶💦



Year 11 pupils from Risedale School recently took to the water at the Tees Barrage International White Water Centre for an immersive kayaking experience (22nd–24th September). Tailored for pupils studying the Cambridge National qualification in Sport Studies, the trip provided vital practical assessment for their *'Increasing Awareness of Outdoor and Adventurous Activities'* unit.

Working with expert instructors, pupils embraced an unfamiliar sport, showing impressive skill progression as they quickly mastered paddling techniques, balance control, and water safety. Throughout the sessions, pupils proudly demonstrated Risedale's **BEST** values: showing **RESPONSIBILITY** with safety equipment, **RESPECT** for instructors and venue rules, **RESILIENCE** when tackling new challenges on the water, and strong **RELATIONSHIPS** through team coordination and mutual support.

Mr A Lawson, Head of PE, commented: ***"This trip was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to put theory into practice. What stood out most was how quickly they adapted to a brand-new skill. Their confidence and technique improved immensely in just a few hours."***









"The cohort embodied our BEST values exceptionally well throughout the week. My thanks to the team at Tees Barrage for three brilliant sessions, and a special thank you to Mrs Newall, Mrs Porritt, and Mrs Wharfe for accompanying the trips, taking the photos and supporting our pupils.

Year 11 Boys Hold Their Nerve to Win Thrilling Penalty Shootout in Double-Header ⚽🏆

It happened again!! On Tuesday 29th September, Risedale travelled away to Outwood Academy Easingwold in a County Cup and Regional Cup double-header. The game was played in great spirit by both teams and proved to be of an excellent standard. Both teams started well; however, Easingwold had the better early chances and executed a long-throw routine just after 15 minutes to go 1-0 up.

The game was fast-paced and played with a great level of skill, which was highly evident in the final 20 minutes of the first half. Risedale levelled through a poacher's finish on the half-turn by Matthew Senivota, before Frankie Dempster (Y10) rifled a half-volley past the Easingwold keeper from the edge of the box. With Risedale leading 2-1 and heading towards the half-time whistle, a moment of magic from the Easingwold number 11 saw the game tied at 2-2 at the break.

Risedale started the brighter in the second half, with Corey Hillman scoring his first from around 25 yards out to the left of the 18-yard box—firing past the keeper into the far top corner. Chances continued to be created by both sides until Corey again found the back of the net from the edge of the box to make it 4-2. Easingwold fought back valiantly, scoring twice in quick succession to take the game to penalties.



Risedale won the toss and chose to take first. Theo-Tyler Fort, who put himself forward for the first spot-kick, extended his calm and composed performance from normal time, sending the keeper the wrong way to regain the lead. Attention then turned to Zach White in the Risedale goal, who had already made some clever saves and communicated excellently throughout the match.

Easingwold made it 1-1, prompting Frankie Dempster to step up next—playing up a school year, showing a fantastic attitude, and slotting neatly into the bottom-left corner. Easingwold scored again, needing Corey Hillman, having already scored twice in normal time, to find the net once more—which he did to the keeper's left. Easingwold levelled yet again at 3-3 on pens.

Jack Gilroy was next up for Risedale with the chance to put the pressure back onto Easingwold. After a great game in the Risedale midfield, he stepped up and scored in emphatic fashion, driving his penalty into the top-right corner to put Risedale 4-3 up. Easingwold needed to score to keep their hopes alive; Zach White was alert on the line, and the pressure told as the Easingwold player unfortunately sent his penalty wide.

Matthew Senivota then stepped up with the pressure building and proved to be the coolest player on the pitch, scoring the final penalty and leaving Easingwold with no chance to level again.

Final Result - A Win for Risedale! Easingwold 4–4 Risedale (3–5 on penalties) ⚽🏆

Thank you to Outwood Academy Easingwold for hosting us at your impeccable facilities, and good luck to your players for the rest of their final year! **#TeamRisedale** 💙💜🧡❤️

Risedale Welcomes Future Families for a Wonderful Open Evening

On Wednesday 30th September, Risedale School warmly welcomed prospective Year 5 and Year 6 pupils, alongside their parents and carers, for our annual Open Evening.



The school was buzzing with energy as prospective families joined us to explore our facilities, meet our dedicated staff, and experience firsthand what makes the Risedale Family so special. Visitors attended from primary schools right across our local and wider community, creating a wonderful atmosphere of community, ambition, and excitement for the transition to secondary school.

A Warm Risedale Welcome & Pupil Leadership

The Main School Hall was filled to capacity for the opening presentation by Headteacher Mrs Greenwood and members of the Senior Leadership Team, with standing room only as families gathered to hear about Risedale's vision and core values. In survey feedback following the event, **96% of families who attended the presentation felt it was informative and well presented**, noting that it ***"covered all aspects in a positive environment"*** and gave a platform for a variety of staff voices.

Our pupil ambassadors served as knowledgeable tour guides and activity leaders throughout the night, taking centre stage and leaving a great impression on visiting families. Parents highlighted their enthusiasm in feedback, sharing comments like, ***"It was nice to have the pupils leading the activities,"*** and praising individual ambassadors: ***"Our tour guide, Paris, was great."***

Interactive Departmental Highlights

Across every floor and department, staff and pupils hosted interactive, hands-on activities showcasing the breadth of Risedale's curriculum:

- **Science & Design Technology:** Practical experiments and demonstrations in the labs and DT workshops drew great crowds, with visitors noting, ***"Science and DT, we loved them!"***
- **Mathematics:** Practical tasks kept young minds sharp, with families sharing, ***"We really enjoyed the pyramid building in Maths."***
  Creative Arts, Humanities & Library: Drama, History, and the Library received high praise for their engaging displays, welcoming staff, and lively environment.
- **Dedicated Pastoral & SEND Support:** Visitors spent time speaking with our specialist support teams, praising their ***"excellent knowledge in SEND"*** and calling the SEND Hub ***"a great addition to the school."***

Reflecting on the night, **83% of surveyed visitors confirmed they saw everything they needed**, describing Risedale as a ***"warm, lovely environment"*** where staff ***"put pupils at ease."***

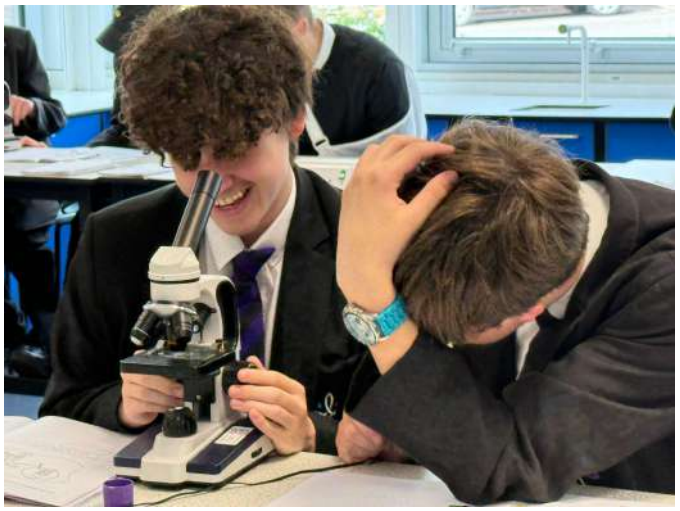
Headteacher Mrs Greenwood shared her thanks to everyone who made the evening such a success:

"It was an absolute pleasure to welcome so many prospective pupils and families to Risedale on Wednesday. Open Evening is always a highlight of our calendar because it showcases the dedication of our staff and the pride, warmth, and achievements of our pupils. We look forward to welcoming many of these young learners into the Risedale Family next September."

Year 11 Triple Science: Inheritance in Action 🧬

Ms Dunphy's Year 11 Triple Science pupils were back in the lab on Monday, 5th October, for an engaging hands-on investigation into genetic inheritance and cellular reproduction.

To better understand how traits and genetic material pass down through generations, pupils put budding yeast cells under the microscope. By observing asexual reproduction up close, the class was able to directly link micro-level biological processes to key concepts in genetic inheritance.





Our young biologists demonstrated fantastic focus, accuracy, and laboratory skills throughout the session as they connected classroom theory to practical science.

A huge well done to Ms Dunphy's class for their precision and high-level work. Fantastic effort, Year 11!

RESPECT: Celebrating Black History Month at Risedale



During Black History Month, Mrs Greenwood delivered an inspiring series of assemblies to pupils across the whole school.

The assemblies focused on one of our core school values — **RESPECT** — and celebrated one of our House Heroes, Mary Seacole. From pioneering healthcare on the front line to embodying **RESILIENCE** and compassion, Mary Seacole's incredible legacy serves as a powerful reminder of what **RESPECT** in action truly looks like.

As a school community, we continue to uphold our core values, celebrate diversity, and honour the extraordinary contributions of Black history heroes past and present.

Rolling into Adventure: After-School Enrichment at D&D Club 🎲⚔️🐉

On Thursday 8th October, pupils gathered in Room 29 for an action-packed session of Dungeons & Dragons Club, hosted by Mr Dean.

The weekly after-school activity remains a highlight on the enrichment calendar, bringing together our **"Family of Learners"** to collaborate, problem-solve, and explore imaginative role-playing adventures. Pupils across different year groups work closely in small teams, building strong **RELATIONSHIPS** and mastering strategic thinking. Throughout the session, everyone showed fantastic **RESPECT** for each other's storytelling ideas and displayed great **RESILIENCE** when navigating unexpected in-game challenges.





Extracurricular activities like D&D Club give pupils the chance to take **RESPONSIBILITY** for shared team goals in a welcoming, inclusive space, empowering everyone to be the **BEST** version of themselves.

"It is fantastic to see our pupils throw themselves into creative storytelling and critical thinking with such energy every week," said Mr Dean. ***"D&D Club gives pupils a brilliant space to make new friends, build confidence, and just have a lot of fun together after school."***

Codebreakers in the Making: Pupils Tackle 'Operation Enigma' 🕵️‍♀️💻



As part of our ongoing commitment to being a TechFirst Bronze school, computer scientists from Key Stages 3 and 4 recently embarked upon Operation Enigma. Delivered by TechFirst, this interactive challenge allowed pupils to put their problem-solving, teamwork, and cyber skills to the ultimate test.

The workshop held extra special meaning for members of **Turing House** ❤️, whose House Hero is none other than Alan Turing, the legendary mathematician and codebreaker who famously led the team that cracked the Enigma machine during World War II. Our pupils certainly walked in his brilliant footsteps!



Taking on the challenge, pupil Eloi Taylor said, ***"I really enjoyed the workshop. I liked how it was based in World War II, and I really like Morse code."***

Pupil Evie Glenn shared, ***"I enjoyed it a lot, and it was something new to try that I don't usually do. It was really useful as I could bond with friends more."***

Head of Computing, Mrs Rodgers, said, ***"It has been absolutely amazing to see our pupils demonstrate their RESILIENCE and build RELATIONSHIPS with each other as they worked together to solve problems. It's a fantastic opportunity that we have been given by TechFirst so that pupils get the opportunity to experience hands-on computing!"***

Director of Education for TechFirst North East and North Yorkshire, Nik Kelsey, added,

"The energy and enthusiasm from the pupils were phenomenal. They showed real grit and impressive critical thinking skills throughout the workshop. They demonstrated teamwork and communication, which are critical for any future career in the tech sector."



A huge well done to all participating pupils for demonstrating our **BEST** values throughout the sessions, and a warm thank you to TechFirst for coming into school and delivering such an engaging, inspiring experience.

Year 10 Scientists Master Chemistry Separation Techniques 🧪🧫

On Tuesday, 13th October, our Year 10 Chemistry pupils put their laboratory skills into action by focusing on essential separation techniques.





Working in the lab, pupils carried out filtration practicals to separate insoluble solids from liquids using filter funnels and paper. The activity allowed pupils to directly link theoretical core chemistry concepts, such as mixtures, solubility, and precipitates, to hands-on practical application.

It was wonderful to see our pupils demonstrating great teamwork, scientific precision, and enthusiasm in their lab work throughout the session. Excellent effort, Year 10!

Year 7 Pupils Become Lifesavers on Restart a Heart Day! ❤️

Risedale School proudly took part in Restart a Heart Day on Friday 16th October, as our entire Year 7 intake gathered in the Main Hall to master life-saving CPR skills.



This vital annual event gives our newest pupils the tools, practical training, and confidence needed to step up during a medical emergency. By embedding CPR into our Year 7 timetable every October, Risedale guarantees that every single pupil who joins our school community learns how to save a life.

The Main Hall was transformed into an active training floor, where sessions were led by our very own Teacher of Science, Mrs Dunphy, alongside Senior Science Technician, Mrs Newall. Pupils worked through hands-on scenarios, practising CPR technique on training manikins, learning how to perform effective chest compressions and rescue breaths, and mastering how to react calmly under pressure.

Immediate CPR is crucial; a cardiac arrest patient's chance of survival increases dramatically if bystander intervention begins before paramedics arrive on scene. Today's event marks 13 years of the Restart a Heart initiative across Yorkshire, helping build a generation of ready and capable first responders.



Reflecting on the success of the day, Mrs Dunphy said: ***"Watching our Year 7 pupils take on this training with such focus and maturity makes us immensely proud. Giving our young people the practical skills and confidence to perform CPR equips them with a lifelong ability that could one day save a family member, friend, or stranger. It is incredibly empowering for them and a huge asset to the Risedale Family and our wider community."***



The day was both educational and inspiring, reflecting Risedale's core values of **RESPONSIBILITY**, **RESPECT**, and **RESILIENCE** as our Year 7s stepped up to become certified lifesavers.

We invite our entire school community to support the campaign and get #CPRConfident. Take five minutes today to refresh your own CPR skills with these official resources:

🎥 **Watch the CPR Video:** Yorkshire Ambulance Service CPR Guide

🌐 **Find Out More:** Restart a Heart

Welcoming Our New Safeguarding Team Members!



PHOTO LEFT-TO-RIGHT: Lisa Smith, Mrs Moore, Mrs Rodway and Miss Burke.

At Risedale, pupil safety, protection, and wellbeing are always our top priorities. We are delighted to introduce our Safeguarding Team and extend a warm welcome to our newest members, Mrs Moore and Mrs Rodway, who joined Risedale in September. Together with our experienced Deputy Safeguarding Leads, Miss Burke and Lisa Smith, our team is dedicated to supporting our pupils and ensuring a safe, happy, and caring environment for everyone.

Meet the Team 💙💜💛❤️

Mrs Moore: Senior Safeguarding Lead / Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Mrs Moore joined Risedale after relocating to the area. Her most recent role was as Deputy DSL and Pastoral Head of Year at a large high school in Leeds, where she served for five years. Prior to this, Mrs Moore spent over 20 years working in children's social care in Bradford. Her extensive experience includes supporting families in crisis within child protection, as well as guiding young people towards independence and helping them make positive contributions to society.

Mrs Rodway: Safeguarding Support Officer / Deputy DSL

Mrs Rodway joined Risedale following a distinguished 24-year military career in the Royal Signals. Her service spanned the UK, Northern Ireland, Kenya, Iraq, and Afghanistan, alongside exercises across the globe. While in the Army, Kerry was posted to the Royal Signals School of Signals, an Ofsted-inspected training establishment, where she gained extensive safeguarding experience working directly with 16-year-olds.

Miss Burke: **Senior Teacher / SENCo / Deputy DSL**

Miss Burke has been an integral part of the Risedale Family since 2014. As SENCo and Senior Teacher, Miss Burke leads our dedicated SEND department, ensuring that our core family ethos nurtures the potential of every child. She works alongside a skilled team to provide tailored support so that all pupils, regardless of their needs, can thrive, feel included, and reach their personal **BEST**.

Lisa Smith: **School Counsellor / Deputy DSL**

Lisa Smith is our School Counsellor and the Senior Mental Health Lead at Risedale School. Joining us in 2021, she works directly with pupils, offering 1:1 counselling sessions and providing early help for any mental health issues. Lisa also provides support for our staff, as everyone's wellbeing is important at Risedale - *a happy school is a successful school!*

📍 Where to Find Us:

The Safeguarding Office is located between Mrs Lumsdon's Office and the Reflection Room (Rm 7). Whether pupils need advice, support, or just a quiet listening ear, our door is always open, and we are always happy to help!

💬 Get in Touch:

For further resources and guidance, visit our dedicated website page:

🌐 **Website**: risedale.org.uk/information/safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns or queries, please reach out to the team at:

📧 **Email:** DSLsafeguarding@risedale.org.uk

Year 8 North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service Assembly: Smart Choices, Safer Communities 🚒🔥

On Tuesday, 20th October, Alyson Down from North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service visited Risedale School to lead an extended 'Smart Choices, Safer Communities' assembly for our Year 8 pupils.



Alyson gave an informative presentation on the dangers of deliberate fires and the very real consequences that can follow from our actions. She also talked about anti-social behaviour and the impact it can have on neighbours, families and the wider community. With Bonfire Night on the horizon, she shared practical advice on staying safe around fireworks and on dark nights, when it is harder to see and be seen.

Our pupils listened carefully and showed **RESPECT** to our visitor throughout. The session encouraged them to think about **RESPONSIBILITY** for the choices they make, both in school and out in the community. Staying safe is something we do together, and as a family of learners we look out for one another. Strong **RELATIONSHIPS** with friends and family, and the **RESILIENCE** to say no when something doesn't feel right, help everyone to be the **BEST** version of themselves.

Assistant Headteacher Mr Yale said: ***"Thank you to Alyson for coming in to speak to our Year 8 pupils. With the darker nights and winter months ahead, it was an important reminder to stay safe and to RESPECT the community we live in. I was proud of how well our pupils listened."***

We would like to thank Alyson for giving her time to speak to our pupils. We hope everyone continues to make smart choices and stays safe.

Pupil Safety Strengthened with Portable Anaphylaxis Kit



PHOTO: Year 9 pupils Isobel Dodd and Kacey Clarke with Administration and Attendance Assistant, Mr Morris.

Risedale School has taken a significant step forward in pupil welfare by acquiring a specialised, portable anaphylaxis kit. Kept in a "grab and go" carry case in our main reception, this resource sits alongside our existing defibrillator, ensuring that life-saving equipment is always within reach for our pupils and staff.

Our commitment to acquiring this kit is driven by our support for Benedict's Law. This landmark campaign was established by the family of Benedict Blythe, a five-year-old who tragically died following an allergic reaction at school in 2021. The law aims to ensure all

schools have a consistent national framework for allergy safety, including mandatory staff training, clear allergy policies, and—crucially—access to spare emergency medication.

Headteacher Mrs Greenwood emphasised the school's proactive approach to pupil welfare:

"The safety and well-being of our pupils is at the heart of everything we do. Having the right kit on hand is an important step, but so is making sure our staff feel prepared and informed. Our entire team has now undertaken updated training on allergies, asthma, and auto-injector response, helping us maintain a safe and supportive environment where our families can feel reassured."

Risedale remains dedicated to leading the way in school safety and medical preparedness. We are proud that our pupils can learn and grow in an environment where their health is managed with the utmost professional care.

🌟 Celebrating Excellence: A Week of VIP Break Time Rewards 🌟







During the last week of the half-term, Risedale School hosted a special week-long celebration to reward pupils across every year group who achieved **100% attendance** and **zero negative points** throughout the first half-term.

Each day, eligible pupils received the VIP treatment, enjoying an exclusive break-time reward in the Year 11 Common Room equipped with delicious snacks and time to relax with friends.

The week kicked off with an extra-special milestone for our Year 7 pupils. Reaching the end of their very first half-term in secondary school is a huge achievement, and seeing so many Year 7s earn their spot in the Common Room was a wonderful way to celebrate their transition to Risedale.

Throughout the week, pupils from Years 8 and 9, and a combined celebration for Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11), took their turns as VIPs, demonstrating what it truly means to embody our core Risedale values:

- **RESPONSIBILITY 💙:** Arriving punctually, fully prepared, and ready to learn every single day.
- **RESPECT 💜:** Consistently making positive choices in classrooms and corridors.

- **RESILIENCE 🧡:** Showing determination and high standards from day one of the academic year.
- **RELATIONSHIPS ❤️:** Supporting peers and contributing positively to our **Risedale Family**.

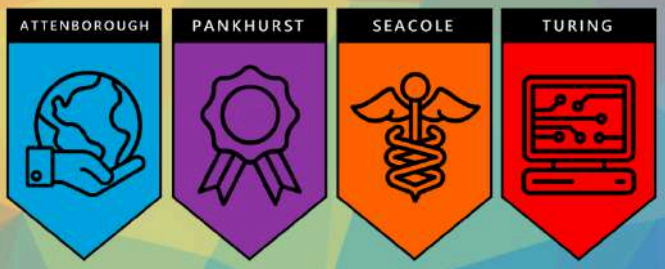


Assistant Headteachers Mrs Lumsdon and Mr Yale joined pupils across the week during their reward sessions to celebrate their achievements:

"Reaching the end of the first half-term with 100% attendance and zero negative points is a fantastic milestone for our pupils across all year groups. From Year 7s settling so brilliantly into secondary school life to our senior pupils setting the standard in Key Stage 4, they have demonstrated our core values day in, day out. They are true examples of what it means to be your BEST, and we are immensely proud of them all!"

We would like to extend a massive **WELL DONE** to every single pupil across the school for finishing the first half-term so brilliantly. Whether earning a spot in the VIP Common Room or making steady progress every day, your hard work and positive attitudes make our school community proud.





🏅 House System News: The Race for the Top!

At Risedale, every positive stamp counts, rewarding individual excellence while driving your House towards the top of the leaderboard. We've had a fantastic start to the academic year, with over 60,000 points already awarded to our hard-working pupils. Keep striving for your **BEST**!

The current Positive Stamps awarded to each House are as follows:

- **1st Pankhurst 💜 with 18398 Reward Stamps**
- **2nd Turing ❤️ with 15936 Reward Stamps**
- **3rd Seacole 🧡 with 14681 Reward Stamps**
- **4th Attenborough 💙 with 11757 Reward Stamps**

>> For more information, please visit our dedicated House System website page.

#TeamRisedale 💙💜🧡❤️

🏆 Attendance Champions: Autumn Term 1 Winners!

We have had some fantastic tutor group attendance winners throughout the first half of the Autumn Term! Each week, we celebrated the group with the highest combined attendance, recognising their dedication and commitment to their studies. These consistent efforts not only contribute to individual academic success but also foster a positive and productive learning environment for the entire **Risedale Family**.

Congratulations to Our Weekly Winners!

We are so proud of the dedication shown by our top tutor groups this half-term. A massive special shout-out goes to the pupils of **7Miller 🧡, 7Sandell 💙** and **8Shergold 💜**, who have been simply unstoppable, each securing the trophy **twice during the half-term**!

11/09/2026	7 Vizor	100%
18/09/2026	7 Miller	100%
25/09/2026	8 Shergold	97.6%
02/10/2026	8 Shergold	95.3%
09/10/2026	7 Sandell	96.2%
16/10/2026	7 Sandell	99.0%
23/10/2026	7 Miller	98.8%

⭐ Be Here ⭐ Be Ready ⭐
⭐ Be Your BEST! ⭐





RISEDALE

A family of learners