

Page 2 MR HARDWICK WRITES

We often ask ourselves the question: "What can we do to make UVHS better?" My consistent rejoinder to this at the moment is "better toilets", in fact to the local authority, my constant requests for action in this area must be pushing me into the "obsessive" box. But they do matter, and I think sometimes we forget how important the school environment is in generating the best possible outcomes for your children. If our students are happy, calm, and safe, it is <mark>likely tha</mark>t they will <mark>achieve w</mark>ell, take advantage of the extra-curricular provision, trips and activities and give back to the community.

Subtle changes in our behaviour management systems and routines are designed to create this atmosphere by putting mutual respect at the heart of everythi<mark>n</mark>g we do. But, going back to my original question, it is amazing how simple things have such a positive effect on the way a school feels and the wellbeing of our children. One of these is the weather: it rains in Cumbria, driving children inside for much of the year.



However, this term has really started well, not only in terms of the atmosphere in the classrooms and the thirst for learning, but the weather too; the fields are still open, and the children can run around; it almost feels as if there has been a vote to extend the summer by a couple of weeks. Every little helps. So, to the future, the school moves forward, we keep doing the things we do, offer the things we offer and each year we try and get a little bit better at everything we do.



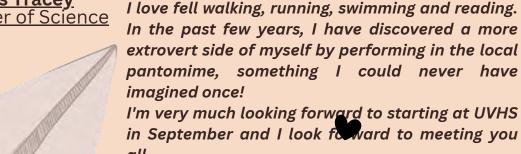
September 2025

I have been teaching Science for 21 years at Dallam School. I have a Physics degree from the



Mrs Tracey Teacher of Science





that Girlguiding brings.

Our new

teachers

all.

University of Bristol and I previously worked as a Research Scientist at QinetiQ in Worcestershire. I love teaching and being with young people, as there is never a dull moment. I always aim to show the students that there is Physics in everything. I am a Guide Leader and especially enjoy outdoor activities, such as campfires, outdoor cooking and camping. It's incredibly rewarding seeing the girls develop in confidence through the opportunities



I'm really excited to be joining the Languages department at UVHS. As a former pupil, it's really nice to be returning in September—this time as a teacher—and I can't wait to get started.

Before going into teaching, I studied a BA (Hons) in German, Spanish, and Italian at Lancaster University, followed by a Master's in Translation Studies. I'm passionate about languages and look forward to sharing that enthusiasm with all the young and aspiring linguists at UVHS.

When I'm not at work, I love travelling and exploring new places, learning new languages, and binge-watching a good series when I finally get some free time.







Mr Caine Teacher of MFL

September 2025

Our new teachers at UVHS



Miss Holmes
Teacher of MFL

Hello, I'm Miss Holmes and I'm very pleased to be joining the Languages department at UVHS this September. As a former student of the Sixth Form, I know what a welcoming and supportive environment UVHS is and I'm excited to be a part of it again. I am a graduate of Newcastle University where I studied a Modern Languages degree, specialising in French and Spanish. I have also spent time teaching English in Paris, making me even more passionate about teaching and languages. UVHS feels like the perfect place to continue my teaching career and to share my love of languages.

Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, reading, and swimming. I also love live music, anything from Taylor Swift to local bands. I can't wait to meet you all and become part of this warm school community again.

A bientôt!



Mrs Hughes
Teacher of
Psychology

I am looking forward to joining UVHS from Dallam School in Milnthorpe. I graduated in Psychology from Lancaster University in 2009 and have taught the subject at A Level for the last 13 years, also teaching at Barrow Sixth Form College and Central Lancaster High School.

Away from work, I enjoy listening to and playing music and, as a violinist, I am very excited to see UVHS's outstanding Music department. I also love animals and at weekends I volunteer at a local animal shelter with my husband, where we enjoy spending time with all the cats and dogs.

INDUSTRIAL CADETS

2025



The assessment and celebration day took place on Thursday 1st May at the University of Cumbria. The students prepared a display stand to showcase their research, models and solutions. Students from all participating schools were given the opportunity to visit each stand and find out about each of the projects. Each team then delivered their presentation to a panel of experts from local STEM based employers. This was a daunting experience for our students, but they delivered their presentations confidence with and clarity answered questions professionally. They all did an amazing job and one of our teams won the 'People's Choice Project of the Year award'! The event also included a tour of the university campus and some STEM activities such as coding ozobots and building strong structures.

Fourteen of our year 9 students took part in the Industrial Cadets Bronze Award Scheme this year. This is a prestigious, nationally recognised award that aims to develop core employability and technical STEM skills. Our students worked in three teams to complete their projects. They chose from four project briefs and developed solutions to the problem. This involved extensive research. creating a model, writing professional written report making a PowerPoint presentation. The students had to plan their time to meet deadlines and assign roles to achieve their goals. They made physical models, including a working solar powered Ferris wheel and an project-inspired domed Eden greenhouse! The quality of their reports and presentations written were exceptional and they worked really well in their teams to complete the projects.



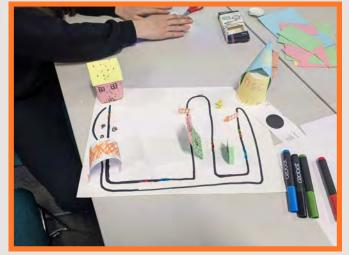
INDUSTRIAL CADETS

BRONZE AWARD

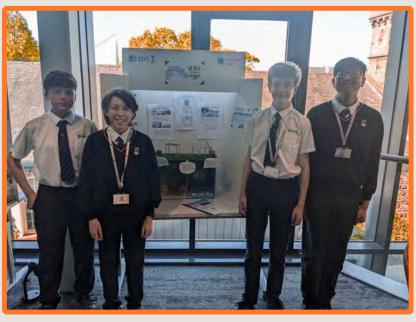
2025

have been incredibly impressed with these students from the launch this project of November. They have attended lunchtime clubs every Tuesday and Thursday and some afterschool sessions, to complete their work. Their dedication, attention to detail and professionalism has been exemplary. They have all developed many skills, such as teamwork, resilience, creativity and time management and they've had a lot of fun in the process!

Congratulations to Ethan, Ollie, Fred, Josh, Rohan, Chloe, Florence, Izzy, Isla, Oona, Ben, Samuel, Daniel and Idy for achieving the Industrial Cadets Bronze Award







Kimberly-Clark

After a talk on H&S, delivered expertly by former student Jacob Etchells, the students took part in interactive activities before donning their PPE, including safety shoes, hats, ear defenders and glasses.





The students were taken on a tour of the different sections of Kimberly Clark, where they saw the paper making process, rolling, cutting, packaging and the warehouse. The students were very impressed by the self-driving internal delivery robots but Rex, the giant Andrex puppy was the star of the show!

Following a series of assemblies by InnovateHer and Kimberly Clark, some of our Year 8s were invited to the KC's **Barrow Mill to** learn about the process of making their bathroom roll and tissues.





YEAR 9 FUTURE ENGINEERS...OF TOMORROW



We were delighted to welcome Ellie
LaCrosse and her team from Forth
Engineering to come and speak with Y9 at the start of Summer about careers in Engineering, and what they manufacture locally to us here at UVHS.

They also set any willing students a challenge to build a model General Motors V8 engine that they kindly donated, and Year 9 certainly rose to the occasion! 16 members of Y9 split themselves into two teams to make the model, and we celebrated by photographing the finished engine today.

Well done to: Elizabeth, Ebonie, Dante, Catherine, Megan, Oscar, Jorja, Frankie, Ethan, Josh, Fred, Olly, Finley, William, Idy and George.

Thank you again to Forth Engineering for coming in, and for providing us with the brilliant kit!

Y12, CHESTER ZOO

YEAR 12 PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY STUDENTS HAD A GREAT TIME LOOKING AT SOME REAL-WORLD EXAMPLES OF THEORIES AND CONCEPTS THEY HAVELEARNED IN THE CLASSROOM. THE STUDENTS ATTENDED A WORKSHOP ON ATTACHMENT BEHAVIOUR IN PRIMATES, WHICH LOOKS SPECIFICALLY AT THE ATTACHMENT BEHAVIOURS OF ORANGUTANS AND CHIMPANZEES.





The interactive workshops built on the work of attachment Psychologists such as Bowlby and Harlow, and directly related to what the students have studied, which was great for developing the knowledge and understanding of the students



THE WEATHER WASN'T HALF-BAD EITHER! MOST STUDENTS CAME AWAY EITHER WITH AN ICE CREAM OR A CUDDLY TOY FROM THE GIFT SHOP! THE STUDENTS HAD A GREAT TIME AND WOULD LOVE TO GO BACK

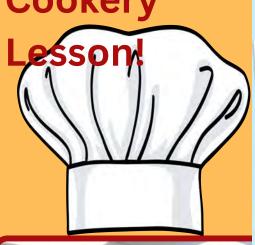


Jamie Oliver's Guinness World Record

Attempt For ...

The Largest

Cookery







Congratulations to Sally, Archie G, Ryden, Alfie R, Eisa, Miles, Izzy, Ruby, Lexi, Ella, Lily T, Bryony-Rose, Ben, Lacey-Mae, Amethyst, Jayda, Lily B and Lily G for taking part, and we'll keep you updated as to whether UVHS are part of a World Record breaking team!

We were delighted to have a team of Y7, Y8 and Y9 students all make fresh pasta and tomato sauce live online with Jamie Oliver today as part of a Guiness World Record attempt for the largest cookery lesson!

Work-related Learning

BAE INSIGHTS PROGRAMME

Students enrolled on the BAE *Craft Engineering Insight Programme*. This is open to ALL students, and those successful in their applications, participated in the five-session course based both virtually in school and at BAE's SASK training facility. Five motivated UVHS students embarked on their Insight Programme in the summer term. This programme which is offered to us bi-annually is a fantastic support to students for success in the future with BAE Apprenticeship applications.



YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE 14-18 JULY 2025

Year 12 students celebrated the end of another very successful year, engaging in their Work Experience Week. The students had placements across a diverse labour market, having gained many essential employability skills needed for their future steps.

We benefitted from the support of over 70 businesses and organisations, each offering a thorough programme of activities and tasks. Students were challenged in all job sectors.

Any work experience opportunity, offers achievement, improved communication, problem solving skills, organisation, financial capability, resilience, teamwork and most of all self-confidence.

BAE AMBASSADORS STRETCH PROGRAMME

BAE Systems attended UVHS to host some fun and interactive activities for Year 10 students in Enrichment Week. Activities included planning a journey to meet suppliers, which had to be cost effective and efficient for the business and building a facility which aligned with the specification and requirements.

These activities both BAE Systems' promoted further values and encouraged collaboration and communication while working as part of a team. These insights will help them with essential career-making decisions when they leave school.



Work-related Learning



ENRICHMENT DAYS and EMPLOYER ENCOUNTERS

My Money Matters (Young Enterprise), provides young people with the opportunity to explore their own attitudes to money and gain a few key financial skills to help them in the real world. Led by experienced facilitators from Young Enterprise, in partnership with BAE and co-financed by

Sir John Fisher Foundation and Cumbria Community Foundation, the fully financed programme, offered virtual interactive sessions to Year 10 in Enrichment Week. Our students received a digital certificate and Record of Achievement on completion. Endorsed by Martin Lewis and The Bank of Ireland, this was a fabulous opportunity for all!

Over the six units of *My Money Matters*, students:

- *Learned about the different options for saving and reflect on their own saving habits;
- *Explored ways to make the most of their money;
- *Gained a deep insight into borrowing and debt;
- *Looked ahead to life after school and explore the different options available to them;
- *Entered the world of financial risk and reward and;
- *Learned about the common scams people fall victim to and how to protect themselves against them.

As part of the Year 12 Work Experience Week (14-18 July), students completed their week in industry, taking part in the <u>BAE Spotlight Programme</u>. Students engaged in either <u>Business or Project Management</u>. Some also secured placements on <u>Siemens Summer Crest Gold Award Internship Programme</u>. An internship at Siemens, means our students will return to their studies with a professional edge and invaluable network. They help inspire confidence, drive and newfound skills, that put our students in a prime position to get the graduate programme or next role students really want.





MADE TRAINING WORKSHOPS

We have been extremely fortunate to have MADE Training join us to deliver key workshops again to Year 10. The sessions were themed around work and future possibilities. The workshops were Goals and Aspirations and Fast Track to Success. The Goals and **Aspirations** workshop really encouraged students to think about their future, what they would like to achieve and goals they can put in place to help them achieve their long-term aspirations. The Fast Track to Success workshop focused on the post-16 education options, looking at different routes to achieve qualifications and careers.

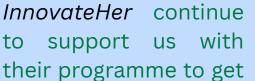


innovate< ker>

Work-related Learning

THE LIGHTHOUSE

C Kimberly-Clark



their programme to get Girls ready for the Tech Industry, and industry ready for Girls. This is achieved via their learning platform, created close collaboration with their partners. InnovateHer get the industry ready for girls, by aiding their partners with their EDI goals and strategies.

had have We the privilege, once again, welcoming of Kimberly-Clark work closely with ALL students (boys and girls) in Years 8 & 9 to promote a future working in the Tech Industry and look forward to ongoing support they are providing us with Role Model their Workshops.



Setting goals helps trigger new behaviours, helps guides your focus and helps you sustain momentum in both your studies and your life overall. Goals also help to align your focus and promote a sense of selfmastery. Setting goals not only motivates us but can also improve our mental health and our level of personal and professional success. The Programme was a huge success with Year 9, engaging students not only setting **SMART targets** for their

next steps for study but their career

ambitions.



Amazing parts of the programme were the **CAREERS Day** and the three-day residential to **Ullswater Outward Bound Centre**, in July. In the words of the students themselves...."his has been an AMAZING experience with only one future recommendation... to stay for longer!"



VIPER & ASPEN-ACADEMIC COACHING AND MENTORING **PROGRAMMES (YEAR 10 & YEAR 11)**

VIPER: The VIPER coaching model aims to help year 10 students to adopt a new, successoriented mindset, better self-manage and achieve more of their potential.

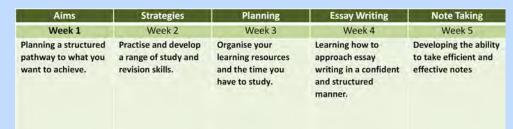
Vision	Invest	Prioritise	Execute	Resilience
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Having a clear goal, and making the connection between work you are doing and the reason you are doing it.	Moving from reactive to proactive study.	Determining the order for dealing with tasks according to their relative importance.	Moving from cognitively passive to cognitively active studying strategies.	Developing the capacity to withstand and recover quickly from difficulties.

ASPEN: Work-related Learning

The ASPEN
mentoring model
encourages year
11 students to
adopt a range of
effective study
techniques,
enabling them to
learn
independently
and achieve
better results.

We continue to draw on the support of the **NHS** and encourage participation in the wide and diverse activities offered to our students across all Key stages and look forward to working with them closely again this year and promoting the **Step into the NHS Programmes**.

The **UHMBT** NHS Careers **Apprenticeships** Team offered Year 10 and 12 students the chance to part in an person' Careers insights opportunity at Furness **General Hospital** during the May half term 2025. Participants' feedback was fantastic.





We were delighted to welcome YOUNG ENTERPRISE and BAE to school to deliver their 'Learn to Earn' and 'LaunchPad' workshops to our year 7 & 8 students.

During the interactive sessions, students in Year 8 were able to explore personal hopes and dreams for the future and had to calculate and balance realistic cost of living budgets, consider a wide range of job and career options, and understand the skills valued by employers.

Year 7 students also gained an understanding of skills sought by employers, and how to showcase these skills by using their own enterprising skills to solve a business challenge.

Both workshops helped to improve students' self-awareness of personal strengths and preferences, and all experienced the benefits of working as a team. The students were highly engaged and thoroughly enjoyed their sessions. Many thanks to our school enterprise partners for their support.







Our U15 team drew Millom in Round 1 of the competition, winning the toss and deciding to bat. After our allotted 16 overs we had scored 106 runs for the loss of 7 wickets with Oliver. W scoring a classy 46. The saying catches win matches was then evident for all to see.



The UVHS U13 team however, has faired a little better, albeit with some schools help from other concessions. Millom conceded our Rd 1 game, before we had a good win against Dowdales. UVHS batting first scored 118 runs for 7 wickets, with Felix. F scoring a good 27 retired. The UVHS team then held Dowdales to 107 runs for the loss of 5 wickets from their allotted overs, with Harry. W taking 2-5 off 2 overs. Our U13 team then received a concession from Sedbergh in the semi-final, so are due to play Workington Academy in the 13 County Cup final.





P20 DofE Practice Expedition



Motivation Quote

Stay focused, disciplined, and determined always.