



Thirsk School

& Sixth Form College

Educating today, preparing for tomorrow

www.thirskschool.org

EDUCATING TODAY, PREPARING FOR TOMORROW
"A good school" Ofsted February 2022

Applicant Information Pack 2025-26 Science Technician

Required from September 2026

Grade CD

20 hours per week (8.00 – 12.00 Mon to Fri)

Term Time Only (plus 5 training days)

11-18 MIXED COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL
1033 STUDENTS INCLUDING 139 IN SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

www.thirskschool.org



www.facebook.com/BeMoreThirsk



[bemorethirsk](https://www.instagram.com/bemorethirsk)



TOGETHERNESS HONESTY INCLUSIVITY RESPECT SUPPORT KINDNESS



An introductory note from Miss Emma Lambden the Headteacher

Dear Applicant,

We are delighted that you are interested in joining us here at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College. We are pleased that you are interested in both the post and in becoming part of our community. I hope that what we can offer you inspires you to apply. We do appreciate that applying for a post is a time-consuming process and would like to do whatever we can to help. Please do look at our recently overhauled website and do not hesitate to get in touch should you require more information or wish to arrange to visit the school.

We are a school which is constantly seeking ways to further improve, and we pride ourselves on our focus in putting people at the heart of what we do, both students and staff. There is a strong sense of collegiality amongst staff and Thirsk is a very good place to come and work. We were very pleased to continue to be a good school following Ofsted's visit in February 2022, but we have much to do to push us on to the next phase of being consistently excellent. We hope that with your skills, experience and ambition, you will become a part of achieving this aim.

We will offer you:

- Great students, "A feature of the school is the friendly and warm relationships between the staff and pupils. This ensures that pupils behave well and apply themselves. There is a calm and settled atmosphere", Ofsted report 2022
- Great colleagues who go the extra mile for our students, "The school has added more staffing to support pupils' pastoral needs. This means the staff know the pupils well. Safeguarding leaders have particularly detailed knowledge of the most vulnerable pupils", Ofsted report 2022
- Innovative professional development both within school and as part of the Red Kite Learning Alliance, the Leeds Learning Alliance and other professional networks
- An opportunity to access leadership training and development, for example via NPQ programmes
- A very supportive leadership team who have an open-door approach
- A school that has clear ambition expressed in its strategic plan and fully supported by its Governing Board

If this interests you, we'd love to hear from you. Please complete the application form.



Please email your application to andrew.rickard@thirskschool.org. Alternatively, your application can be sent to us by post. Also, please ensure that you have identified in your application when you would be available to commence employment with us.

The deadline is 9am on Wednesday 3rd June 2026.

I know from my own experience that applying for a post is an intensive process and if you do choose to apply, I am grateful for the efforts that this will require of you. I look forward to receiving your application.

Best wishes and good luck.

E Lambden

Emma Lambden
Headteacher





Thirsk – the Heart of North Yorkshire

A great place to live, learn and work

As a market town serving the heart of North Yorkshire, Thirsk has all the facilities you might expect from a larger town, but with an intimacy and sense of community. The town itself has a traditional marketplace, banks, shops, supermarkets, pubs and restaurants, medical facilities, primary schools, and childcare providers.

Culture

There is a unique community-run cinema in Thirsk which is small and characterful but has all the latest releases along with more unusual productions. The arts scene is complemented by several galleries and Thirsk is the home to North Yorkshire's Rural Arts Centre which promotes exhibitions, workshops and classes in a variety of the arts. Thirsk is also the home of the nationally recognised Herriot Museum and this reflects its traditional roots as the centre of the agricultural community. Local history is well promoted with information boards linking walks around the town. Additionally, Thirsk remains the centre of the hand-made furniture industry with several nationally renowned brands, each with distinctive carved trademarks. Some showrooms have workshop tours and cafes.

Sport

Sporting interests are facilitated by a local leisure centre with swimming pool, newly expanded and upgraded gym and other facilities. Local clubs including Thirsk and Sowerby Harriers and Thirsk Netball, meets at the school twice a week. Thirsk Hockey Club, and Thirsk Falcons Football Club run a full spectrum of junior and senior teams for both genders. There is a rich tradition in rugby and cricket with clubs based in the town and many local football and cricket teams in the local villages. A squash club and a golf club lie on the town's fringes and of course, Thirsk has its own well-regarded racecourse. A fantastic development has been the establishment of the Sowerby Sports Village on the school's doorstep. This developing facility provides for a variety of clubs and individuals, offering a measured one-kilometre track that attracts runners, cyclists, and walkers.

Leisure

Thirsk lies between two National Parks, The Yorkshire Dales, and the North Yorkshire Moors, which are easily accessible and provide wonderful walking, mountain biking, fell running and bird-watching opportunities. The hosting of the Tour de France in 2014



elevated the cycling tradition in the area and the school has previously hosted the London to Edinburgh cycle venture. North Yorkshire's stunning coast is within easy reach, offering wild and dramatic cliffs, beautiful fishing villages and traditional seaside resorts along the bracing North Sea coast.

Housing and Transport

There is a variety of housing available in the area, including more traditional market town houses and local village cottages, family houses, apartments, and terraced properties. The Sowerby Gateway development on the southern fringe of the town offers a wide range of housing on a modern estate. Fantastic transport links via the A1 (M), A19, A61 and the mainline railway running from London to Edinburgh enhance Thirsk as a great place to locate. Many staff members live within the school's catchment and send their children to our neighbouring primary schools or to our school, whilst others choose to live in York, Harrogate, Ripon, Northallerton and Teesside.



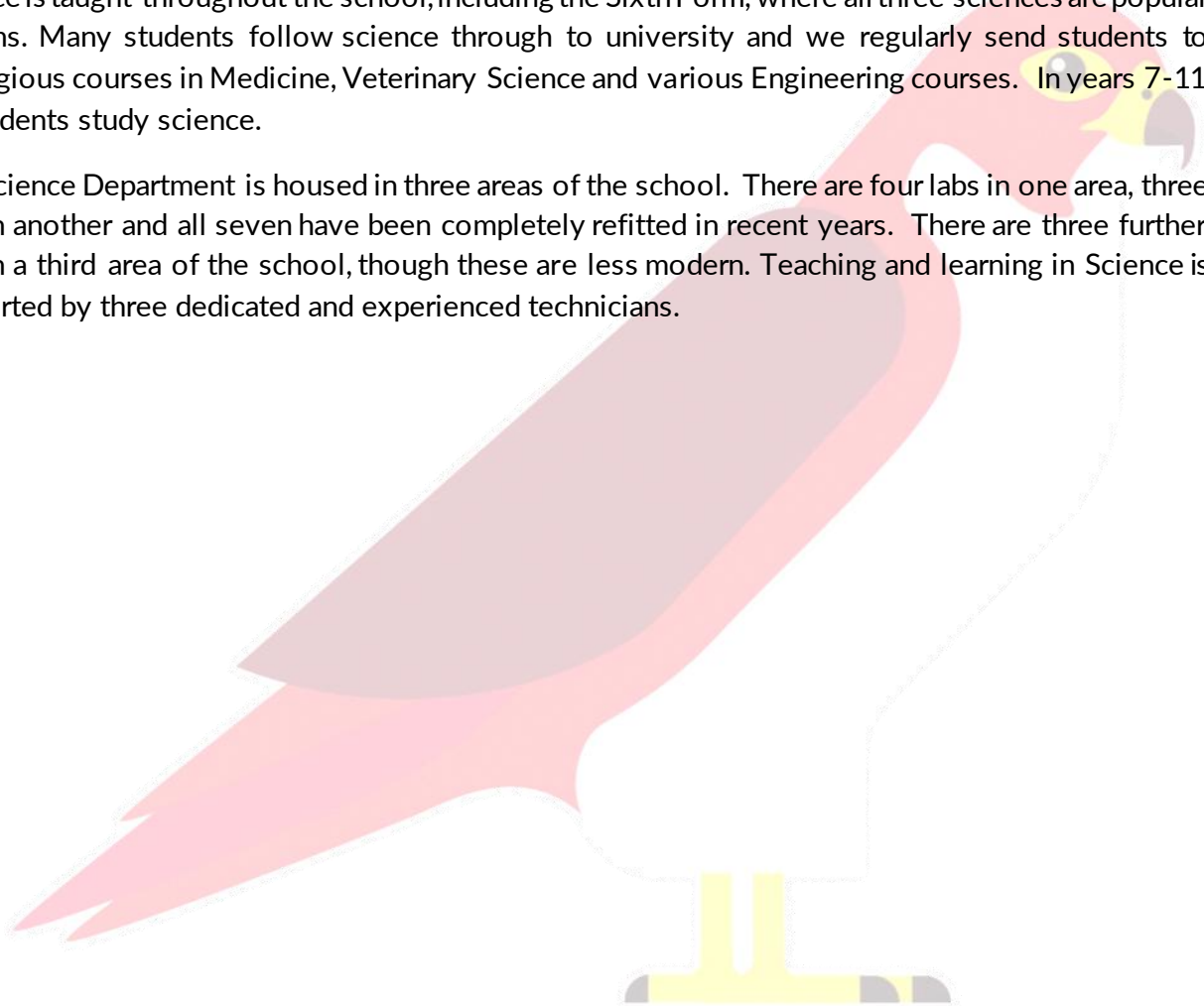


Science Department Information

The Science Department currently consists of eleven teachers and three technicians. Leadership is provided by a Curriculum Leader, and a second in department, who also holds a whole school responsibility for Teaching and Learning. Two members of our team also act as Heads of Year and one colleague holds Senior Leadership responsibilities as Assistant Headteacher. Our current Curriculum Leader retires at the end of the academic year. An existing member of the team has been promoted to Curriculum Leader from September. One of our technicians also retires at the end of the academic year, creating this vacancy.

Science is taught throughout the school, including the Sixth Form, where all three sciences are popular options. Many students follow science through to university and we regularly send students to prestigious courses in Medicine, Veterinary Science and various Engineering courses. In years 7-11, all students study science.

The Science Department is housed in three areas of the school. There are four labs in one area, three labs in another and all seven have been completely refitted in recent years. There are three further labs in a third area of the school, though these are less modern. Teaching and learning in Science is supported by three dedicated and experienced technicians.





Benefits of working at Thirsk School & Sixth Form College

Our range of employee benefits aims to support the health and wellbeing of our staff ensuring they are valued and supported throughout their time at work.

Pension Scheme

As an employee of Thirsk School & Sixth Form College you are offered membership of either the Teachers' Pension Scheme; or for support staff, the Local Government Pension Scheme. As well as employee's paying contributions into the scheme (banded, based on earnings level) the school also pays into the scheme on your behalf.

Staff benefits platform



Our dedicated employee benefits platform Vivup provides staff with access to all of our benefits in one easy to use and convenient place. Vivup also provides exclusive benefits through their platform, including discounts from major retailers as part of the lifestyle savings benefit and the option to spread the cost of purchasing items straight from your salary through the home and electronics and cycle to work benefits.

Financial Wellbeing – Mental Wellbeing – Physical Wellbeing



A confidential support service for employees and their immediate family members. A FREE 24-hour personal support service. Your call will always be answered by a qualified and experienced counsellor who will offer support in a professional, friendly and non-judgemental manner.



MyView is a self-service facility and can be accessed via your PC or via an app on your mobile. Within MyView, you can access and change your personal details, view payslips online, P60s, input and view expense and timesheet claims.



Advert

Science Technician

Required from September 2026

Grade CD

Part-time: 4 hours per day (Monday-Friday 8.00 – 12.00)

Term-time only plus 5 training days

Actual Salary: £11,619.23 - £12,178.26 (Pending Pay Award)

Do you have a passion for practical science and the organisational drive to ensure all classrooms are fully equipped for exciting daily experiments and demonstrations? Are you committed to maintaining a safe and efficient learning environment where students can thrive?

We invite applications for a Science Technician whose main purpose will be to support teaching and learning in the Science Department. This is an excellent opportunity for a motivated individual with strong practical skills. You will thrive in a collaborative atmosphere, well supported by teaching and support staff within the Science team.

We offer on-the-job training, so are eager to hear from all applicants, including those who may not already have experience in a similar role, but are excited by the prospect of supporting the learning of young people and have strong practical skills to offer.

This post requires morning working only. The hours are 8.00 to 12.00 from Monday to Friday. Holidays will not be allowed during term time, unless under exceptional and approved circumstances.

Why join us?

- Be part of a supportive and ambitious school community
- Play a key role in promoting practical science learning
- Opportunities for professional development and training



Our ambitious school is based in the easily accessible market town of Thirsk (recently declared one of the best places to live in England) which lies very close to the A1(M), A19 and mainline rail links, between two beautiful National Parks.

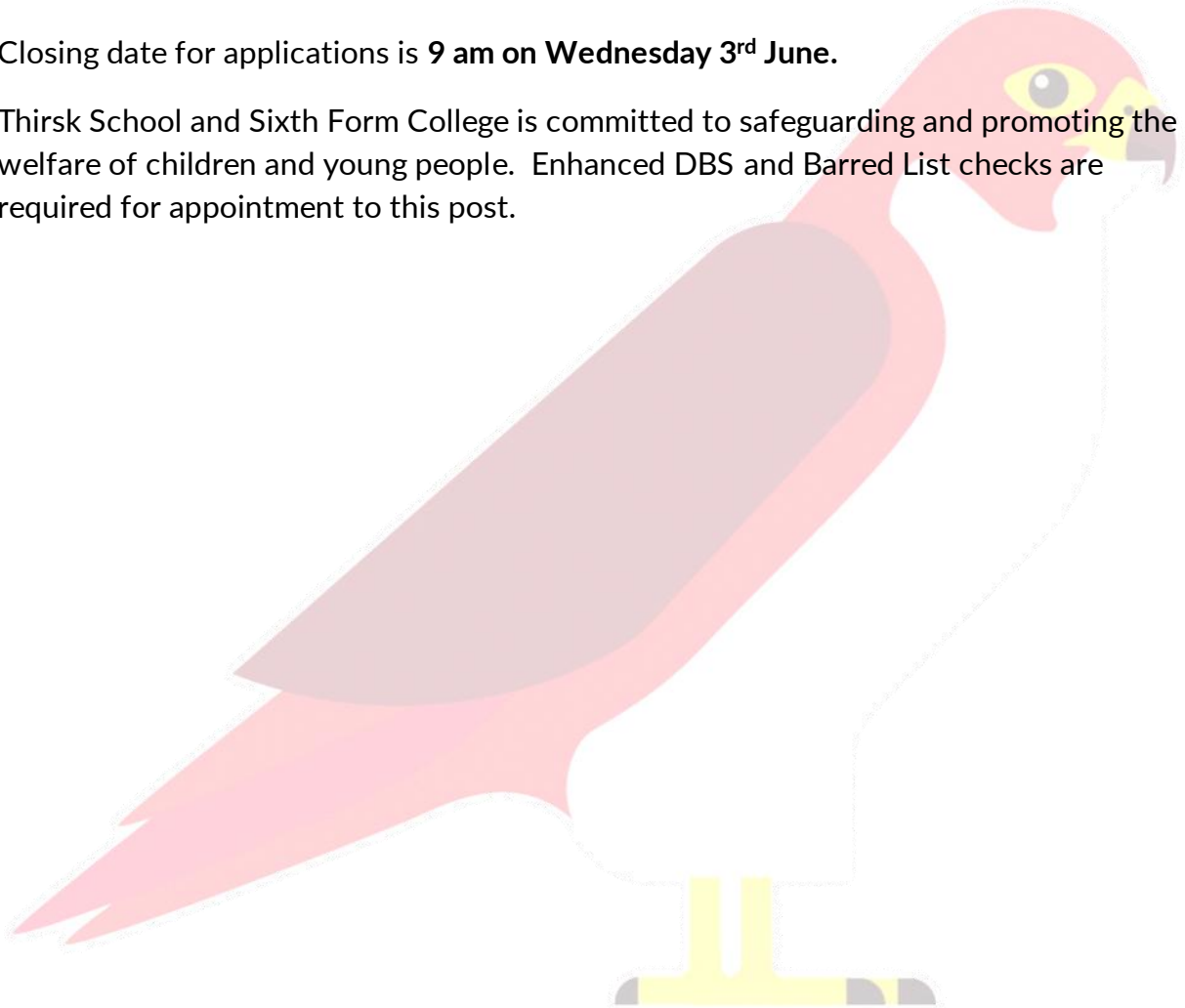
How to apply:

Further details of the school, the post and a downloadable application form are available from our website: www.thirskschool.org

Completed application forms should be returned to andrew.rickard@thirskschool.org

Closing date for applications is **9 am on Wednesday 3rd June.**

Thirsk School and Sixth Form College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Enhanced DBS and Barred List checks are required for appointment to this post.





JOB DESCRIPTION

POST:	Science Technician
GRADE:	CD
RESPONSIBLE TO:	2 nd in Science Department/Senior Science Technician
STAFF MANAGED:	None
JOB PURPOSE:	To work, under the supervision of teachers and the Senior Science Technician, as part of a technical team to prepare, maintain and manage science equipment, resources and practical environments to enable safe, high-quality practical learning across KS3-5.
JOB CONTEXT:	<p>The technician team within the Science department is made up of three colleagues who all ensure that laboratories and practical areas are safe, well-resourced and organised to deliver ambitious, inclusive practical work from KS3 through to A Level. This post supports the smooth operation of the Science department and contributes to a culture of high-quality, practical science learning and safe experimentation that enable students to build confident, connected scientific knowledge.</p> <p>This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our students and young people. All staff will receive relevant safeguarding training at induction and throughout their employment. This post is subject to a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service criminal records check for work with children.</p>
ACCOUNTABILITIES / MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES	
Operational Issues:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support with planning and organising equipment to support lessons • Offer technical advice and guidance to teachers and students. This may include assisting teachers with demonstrations. • Record observations in an appropriate manner • Undertake administrative duties including record-keeping, data input and stock management • Liaise with staff in other areas of the school and outside organisations, as required • Provide first aid support for students and staff as part of a team of trained first aiders.
Communications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information and guidance to students and staff on the use of science equipment and resources • Liaise with the Curriculum Leader to ensure stock is in line with course curriculum requirements.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report any hazards or Health and Safety concerns to the CL Science and the site team• Interact with students in a supportive way, to enable the development of their ability to think and learn.
Resource management:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carry out stock control, compile order, liaise or negotiate with supplies and maintain appropriate records• Design, construct and modify apparatus/equipment• Carry out routine and non-routine checking, cleaning, maintenance, testing and repairing of equipment to the required standard• Assist in monitoring, controlling and keeping financial records of the department's expenditure• Ensure the availability of suitable materials and equipment, suggesting alternatives for suitability and economy where appropriate
Professional Development:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in appraisal, training and professional development activities.• Keep up to date with current procedures and practices
Safeguarding:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote the welfare of children, young people and adults, raising concerns as appropriate.
Systems and Information:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update and maintain records as directed• Use the school's MIS system as needed to support the role
Data Protection:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comply with data protection, information security and confidentiality policies
Health and Safety:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be aware of and implement health and safety responsibilities within the working environment, in line with COSHH and school H&S policies.
Equalities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work in accordance with the school's Equality Policy to ensure fair and equitable service to all users
Flexibility:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respond flexibly to changing demands and circumstances as required, within the scope of the role and the grade
Customer Service:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide a high standard of customer service, treating colleagues, students, parents and any external organisations with respect and dignity
Date of Issue:	May 2026



PERSON SPECIFICATION

Science Technician

Essential upon appointment	Desirable on appointment
Qualifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 2 qualifications demonstrating good literacy and numeracy skills Willingness and ability to obtain and/or enhance qualifications and training and development in the post 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 2 qualification in a Science discipline COSHH/CLEAPSS and other relevant health and safety qualifications Current first aid qualification
Knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of Health and Safety practices Understanding of safety in a school environment Knowledge of the equipment used within the specialist area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working knowledge of relevant policies/codes of practice and awareness of relevant legislation
Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience within a Science field 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of working in a school environment Experience of working in a similar support role
Occupational Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisational skills and attention to detail Effective communication skills, both verbal and written Ability to use standard IT packages, including MS Office Ability to manage own workload, including how to prioritise Ability to work effectively as part of a team, understanding roles and responsibilities of others as well as your own role 	
Other Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced DBS clearance 	





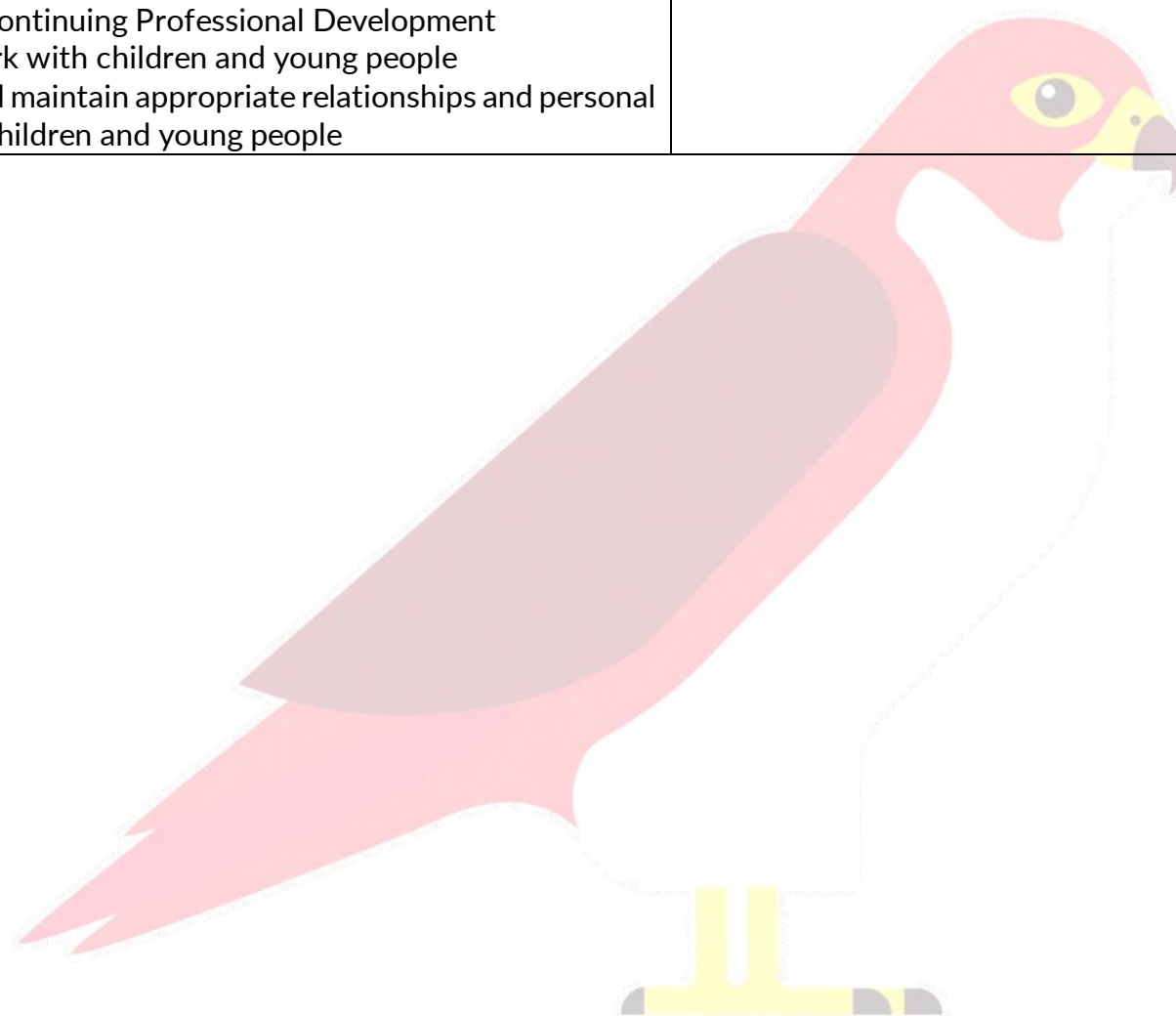
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- Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people
- Commitment to Continuing Professional Development
- Motivation to work with children and young people
- Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children and young people



TOGETHERNESS

HONESTY

INCLUSIVITY

RESPECT

SUPPORT

KINDNESS



01845 522024



thirskschool@thirskschool.org



Topcliffe Road, Sowerby, Thirsk, N. Yorks YO7 1RZ

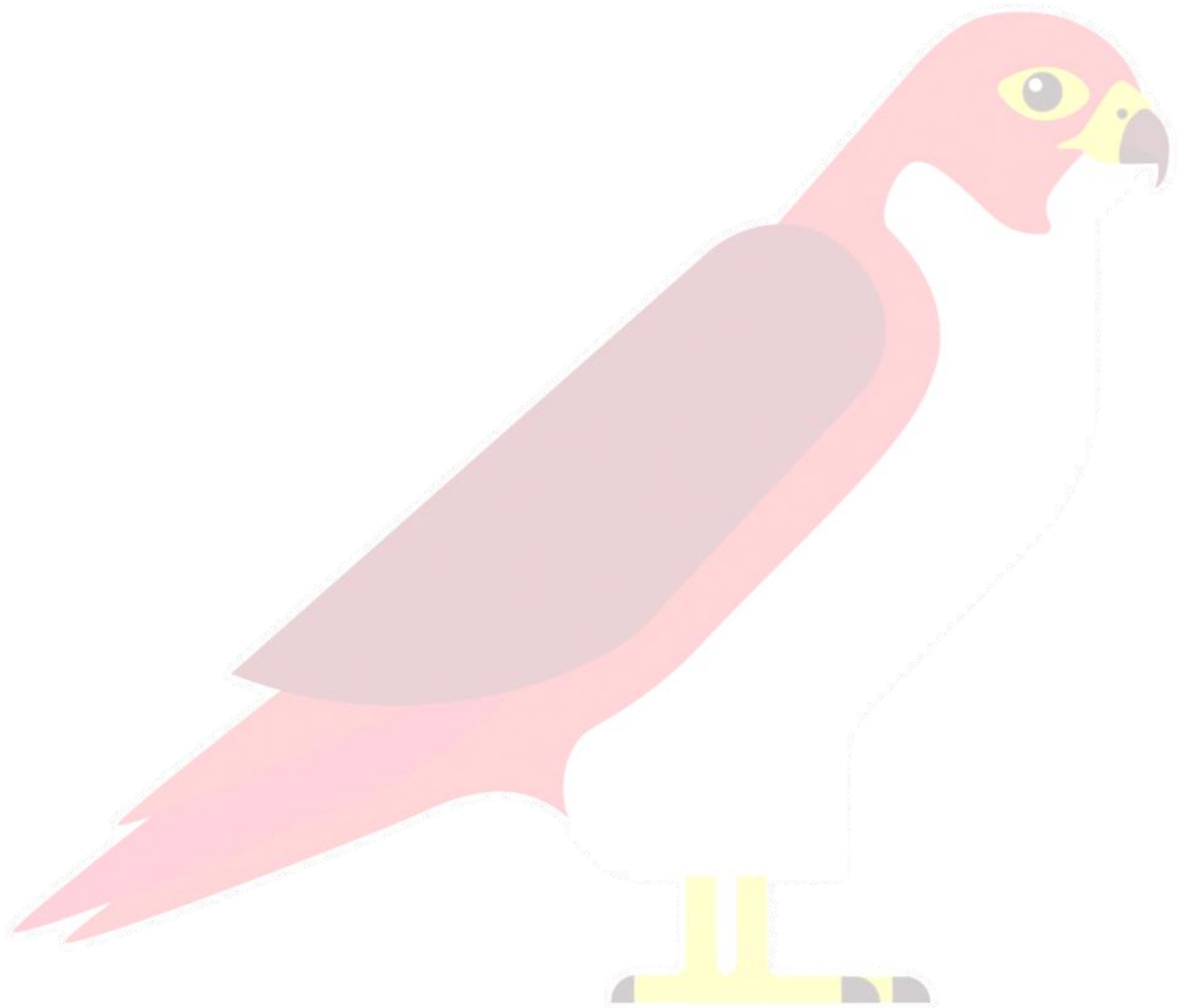
Headteacher: Emma Lambden



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