



North Yorkshire & York Healthy Schools Award

Academic Year 2026-2027

The Healthy Schools Award is **free for all maintained and academy schools in North Yorkshire & York**. It covers primary, secondary, special schools and PRUs.

The Healthy Schools Programme enables school to audit and evidence their practice against best practice to improve the health and wellbeing of the whole school community across four key themes alongside staff wellbeing. **Schools can work on the themes in any order and is an excellent way to showcase the good practice the school is delivering to support the Personal Development and Wellbeing provision** with the specific themes of:

- Active Lives
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing
- Food in Schools
- Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE)
- Alongside Staff Wellbeing for a silver submission

We are finding that schools who have achieved the Gold or Gold Renewal Award (having held Gold for three years) are achieving the Expected Standard or Strong Standard for their outcome in relation to Personal Development and Wellbeing.

The themes can be worked through in any order. **Achieving the criteria for one theme is a Bronze award, two themes and staff wellbeing a Silver award and all four themes for the Gold award.**



Training

We really recommend that schools attend the FREE 'Getting Started Training' to enable a successful submission for a Healthy Schools Award. This training is aimed at schools newly signed up to the programme or colleagues that have previously registered but need a re-fresh of how to achieve an award.

"I found the training very helpful, and it was nice to know that there are people to contact should we need further assistance. There were lots of useful links and ideas"

Getting Started on the Healthy Schools Programme	
All training runs online 3:45-5pm via TEAMS	
Thursday 15 th October 2026	Course code: SI-1026-T007
Tuesday 26 th January 2027	Course Code: SI-0127-T007
Monday 24 th May 2027	Course Code: SI-0527-T001

To apply for any of the training below please go to North Yorkshire Education Services (NYES) <https://nyes.info/>. If you have any questions or need help using the site call the NYES team on 01609 533 222 Or email nyes@northyorks.gov.uk

Healthy Schools Website

The Healthy Schools Website can be found at <https://healthyschoolsnorthyorks.org/> and this is where schools can register for the award, access all the key documents and make a submission for an award.

Submission dates

There are three submission dates each year for the award in: November, March and June each academic year. For the upcoming dates please click [here](#)

The [Healthy Schools Website](#) provides a range of supporting information and resources to support your school with all the themes of the Healthy Schools Award alongside a wealth of health information that can be shared with your whole school community including families:

- features a [range of resources](#) to support each of the themes
- information about a [range of training](#) to support all the themes and free e-learning that is available from a range of partners e.g North Yorkshire Sport e-learning modules and national organisations e.g Winston Wish online training on bereavement
- **North Yorkshire and York information** about a range of services to support a [child's health needs](#) such as hearing tests and mental health guidance
- [Families information pages](#) such as the healthy pack lunch leaflet

If you have any questions or would like to discuss any aspects, please contact the Healthy Schools Programme team via email healthyschools@northyorks.gov.uk



Action On Poverty

A school may also consider completing the Action on Poverty certificate of recognition. This can be completed at any stage of achieving a Healthy Schools award.

There is an action on poverty guidance along with self- assessment tools to support schools consider every part of school life that may place barriers in the way of children's participation and learning and stigma or put pressure on low-income families. It also includes examples of practical actions that schools can take to mitigate the impact of poverty within their school environment and improve the school experience for all pupils.

[Download the guide along with the self-assessment tool to take action on poverty in your school.](#) Upload your action plan to the Healthy Schools website through your school log in for one of the three [submission dates](#) (to show that you are working on at least 2 themes) to be awarded your 'Action on Poverty' certificate.

There is a [webinar available on the website](#) that takes you through the Action on Poverty guidance and self -assessment tools along with signposting to a range of supporting information and resources.

Please contact us if you have any questions at healthyschools@northyorks.gov.uk