



**BOOTHAM
CHALLENGE**

Gold Award

Upper Senior

Activities Brochure
Summer Term
2026

The Activities Programme

The following pages have your options for Activities this term.

As you are working towards exams you don't need to do activities. However, you are welcome to sign up to any you want to do and attend when you can.

How to choose your activities.

Look through the list and find the activities you would like to do.

Once choosing starts (**Friday from 1:10pm**) login to the Portal and select your choices. There is a video showing you how on the Portal.

Make sure you save your choices and check that you have at least 1 hour of activities. (Preps and orals do not count).

Look out for the confirmation email saying what activities you have.

When activities start there will be a list in the English Corridor showing which room your activities will be in.

All Activities need to be chosen by:

Monday at 9:15



BOOTHAM
CHALLENGE

What is the Bootham Challenge

The Bootham Challenge is to live life to the full, gaining skills across a wide range of disciplines. This award scheme allows you to demonstrate to others that you have these skills and also to challenge yourself to experience new things.

You are enrolled on the **Gold Award** and you have the whole of Seniors to complete the challenge. The Bootham Challenge has seven categories.

Physical	Creative	Cultural	Skills	Volunteering and Service	Global Citizenship	Leadership
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Everything you do will score credits in one or more of the categories. This includes Activities, other School events and out of school hobbies.

To achieve the Gold Award you need to score 300 credits over the year across least six of the categories.

Each activity has its credits shown in the following menu and you can add other evidence via the Student Portal using the link below. You can also check your current credits.

<https://booth.am/challenge>

Monday before school

Chamber Music

08:40-09:10. Please note that this activity is by invitation only, please see Richard Allain if you are interested

Richard Allain

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Swim Training

Early morning swim training 7.30-8.30am. Top end speed training - short and sharp sessions geared to improve our swimming strength aimed at 50m events

Kerry Hammond

20 spaces

Physical	Skills
15	5

Monday morning break

Barbershop Group

See music staff for more information and to sign up

Music Staff

8 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Senior Flutes

See music staff for more information and to sign up

Alison Barrington

3 spaces

Physical	Creative	Cultural	Skills
2	3	2	3

Monday lunch

Athletics Jumps Session

Long and Triple Jumps (High Jump if wet). Week A only

Abbie Davison

12 spaces

Physical	V & S
10	10

Music Theory

13:20-13:50. See music staff for more information and to sign up

Jack Mackenzie

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
3	3	3

Monday Activity Hour

Bikes in Need

Learn to repair bikes that can then be distributed to those in need throughout the city by our friends at Recycle York. Learn new skills and help our city too! Great for DofE volunteering

Claire Hollis

6 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills	V & S	G C	L
5	5	5	5	5	5

Board and Card Games

Come along and play some classic games with your friends

Will Lewis

20 spaces

Cultural	Skills
10	10

Bootham Senior Dance Company

Learn choreography, hone your technique and have fun!

Jennifer Cooke

20 spaces

Physical	Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	5	5

Chemistry Club

Mix of practicals, demos and problem solving activities to explore chemistry in every day life and build lab skills

Lindsey Robertson

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	10

Chess

Chess fun with an experienced chess coach covering game analysis, puzzles, studies, opening theory, middle game planning and endgame technique. Work on your weaknesses and develop your strengths, as well as playing with friends old and new

Aaron Rich

24 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	10

Chinese A Level Preparation

Lessons for native speakers who wish to take the Chinese A level. This session runs from 4.15-5.45pm and full attendance is expected if you want to take the exam! The last session before the exam is 18th May

Candy Lam

12 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills	G C
5	5	5	5

Computer Science Support

A place for computer science students to get support with computer science work and studies

Tom Lund

20 spaces

This activity does not earn Bootham Challenge Credits

Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition Prep

Students attending this afterschool activity will develop the practical skills and confidence needed to prepare for their Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition. Through hands-on outdoor learning, participants will practise navigation using maps and compasses, basic campcraft (erecting tents, using stoves safely etc), teamwork, and safe journey planning. The sessions will also include short training walks, route planning exercises, all designed to build resilience and independence in the outdoors. By the end of the programme, students will feel well prepared for the physical and practical demands of their qualifying expedition

Jake Duckworth

12 spaces

Physical	Cultural	Skills	V & S	L
5	5	5	5	5

Kahoot Club

Think you're the smartest in the room... or just really good at guessing? Come to Kahoot Club and find out! We'll play quizzes about random facts, you, your teachers and whatever random things people are interested in. Expect chaos, competition, and the chance to prove your brain is bigger than your friends

Octavia, Nellie and Anais

20 spaces

Cultural	Skills
10	10

Play Reading

We will be reading aloud a range of plays, no commitment, no performances. Happy to take suggestions!

Saskia Bindloss

15 spaces

Physical	Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	5	5

Relaxed EAL

Come and join us for EAL games, news and conversation. Develop your English skills in a supportive and fun environment. All international students are welcome!

Kelly McCarthy

12 spaces

Physical	Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	5	5

Rock Band

Two bands made up of singing, guitar, bass, keyboard and drum students learning to play and perform together. There will be a Junior band for a group of students in Lower, Middle and Upper Schoolrooms (grades 1-3) and a Senior band for a group in Seniors and College (grades 3-5+). We will focus on learning how to play as an ensemble, how to learn/teach songs as a group and performance practice, as well as of course preparing for concerts! Although the activity is called 'Rock Bands' this is just a starting point, and you will decide what genres of music you want to play.

Jake Adams

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	10

Supported Prep

Come and get support with your prep from the Learning Support department. If oversubscribed, Learning Support students will be allocated a space first. This is a popular activity, so only sign up for it if you are able to regularly attend!

Jess White

6 spaces

Skills
10

Water Polo

Build up your stamina and fitness with this fun session. Each week you will learn fundamental skills such as water polo strokes, ball skills, target practice and matches

Michelle Gatenby

14 spaces

Physical	Skills
10	10

Tuesday before school

Chamber Music

08:40-09:10. Please note that this activity is by invitation only, please see Richard Allain if you are interested

Richard Allain

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Cricket Nets

Early morning cricket practice 7.45-8.45am

Keith Newell

16 spaces

Physical	Skills
10	10

Psychology GCSE

Students participating in this extra GCSE course have already been notified, please select Tuesday and Wednesday if you are doing Psychology GCSE

Harriet Ennis

50 spaces

Creative	Skills
10	10

Run Club

A fun club working on drills and interval work for middle distance (800m, 1200m, 1500m) runners (or for those wanting to get fitter!). Distances can be shortened for those that want to work on sprints

Helen Wilkinson

12 spaces

Physical
20

Swim Training

Early morning swim training 7.45-8.45am. Anaerobic training - Sessions aimed to improve our 100m race pace training, repetitions will be focused on front or back end speed aimed to improve our 100m race performance

Jacob Butterfield

20 spaces

Physical	Skills
10	10

Tuesday morning break

Aural - grades 1 - 3

See music staff for more information and to sign up

Richard Allain

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Oboe Trio

See music staff for more information and to sign up

Isabel Dowell

3 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Tuesday lunch

Jazz Band

13:20-13:50. See music staff for more information and to sign up

Richard Allain

30 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Seniors and College Cricket Session

Keith Newell

24 spaces

Physical	Skills
10	10

Tuesday Activity Hour

BJS Development Squad Swim Training

Helpers for the BJS Development Swim Squad. By invitation only (see Jacob Butterfield)

Jacob Butterfield

4 spaces

V & S	L
10	10

Code Club

This is a space for creators to make their own way in code and make whatever they want to make in an environment that is not a lesson. With the help of mentors, creators use our free, step-by-step project guides to learn Scratch, Python, HTML/CSS, and more

Tom Lund

20 spaces

Creative	Skills	L
5	10	5

Creative Classics Club

Come and create, based on myths and stories from the Classical world! Current project - temple decorations for Room J

Ellen Grindley

15 spaces

Creative	Cultural	G C
5	10	5

Dungeons and Dragons

All ages and experience levels welcome. If you've never played and always wondered... come and try it for a term and see what you think. Calling all DM's – you know I can't run this club without you!

Sophie Morrison

35 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	10

GCSE Art Prep

A really important opportunity for GCSE Art students to access extra support from the Art department as they work on their portfolios. For students who may find it difficult to complete prep at home or who need extra time and materials to catch up with missed work. Especially useful for Upper Seniors

Eleanor Palmer

16 spaces

This activity does not earn Bootham Challenge Credits

ISSP Astronomy GCSE

ISSP Astronomy class. The group is already set up so is not available for new students

Mike Shaw

20 spaces

Creative	Skills
3	7

Jogging for Wellbeing

Planned short routes in the local area around school, mostly paved walking/cycle paths. For enjoyment and wellbeing rather than stamina training!

Hannah Jorgensen

8 spaces

Physical
20

Photo Club and York Walks

Bring your camera and take part in our Photo Walks,. You may just wish to join us and have walks without a camera, this is about relaxing, enjoying and respecting our environment in York. Parks, river walks, bar walls and chats. The sessions will be about photography, but feel free to join without a camera and just enjoy a small snack and chat in Museum Gardens, a book, or a river walk with an ice cream. Relax, enjoy the sun (safely) and share the moments. All types of cameras welcome

Vanina Meunier

6 spaces

Creative	Skills	G C
10	5	5

Red Goat Climbing

Meet at Reception at 4pm, we will go to Red Goat Climbing Wall for bouldering. Students will need to complete an induction before being able to climb (£20 each including instruction, shoe and chalk hire). Sessions are £11 each plus £3 shoe hire if needed

Jake Duckworth

10 spaces

£11.00 per session

Physical	Skills
10	10

Supported Prep

Come and get support with your prep from the Learning Support department. If oversubscribed, Learning Support students will be allocated a space first. This is a popular activity, so only sign up for it if you are able to regularly attend!

Cathy Pearce

8 spaces

Skills
10

Wednesday before school

Chamber Music

08:40-09:10. Please note that this activity is by invitation only, please see Richard Allain if you are interested

Richard Allain

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Senior Brass

08:40-09:10. See music staff for more information and to sign up

Anna Marshall

12 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Wednesday morning break

Close Harmony Group

See music staff for more information and to sign up

Richard Allain

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Recorder Ensemble

See music staff for more information and to sign up

Tim Bayley

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Wednesday lunch

Clarinet Group

13:20-13:50. See music staff for more information and to sign up

Tim Bayley

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Wednesday Activity Hour

80s Appreciation Society

The 1980s was a decade of bold music, iconic films, new technology and dramatic global change. From the rise of MTV and arcade games to the politics of the Cold War, the culture of the 1980s was closely connected to wider social and political developments. In 80s Appreciation Club, we will explore the films, music, fashion and ideas of the decade. Alongside the iconic looks, music and media, we will also consider how politics and world events shaped the culture of the time

Beth Steer

20 spaces

Creative	Cultural
5	15

BEAST

We are going to continue exploring our Climate Action Plan and implementing new ideas into school. This term we will be focussing on Litter and Waste - hopefully this will involve a trip to Yorwaste's recycling plant to see where all our rubbish goes!

Claire Hollis

12 spaces

Creative	Skills	V & S	G C	L
3	3	5	10	5

Bootham Flying School (Level 2)

4.15-5.15pm Level 2. Students will need to have completed the Wings and Level 1 courses. This is a twenty week course that will finish at Christmas 2026. £30 per session.

Jim Polwarth

10 spaces

£30.00 per session

Creative	Skills	G C
5	10	5

Ceramics

Learn how to make functional and non-functional ceramic objects

Eleanor Palmer

8 spaces

Creative	Skills
10	10

DT Practical Preparation for Coursework

Eamonn Molloy Lower Senior class only

Eamonn Molloy

15 spaces

This activity does not earn Bootham Challenge Credits

Fry Richardson Society of Mathematicians

Join Bootham's mathematical research and discussion society named after our famous old scholar. You will get the chance to see, debate and derive interesting mathematical (and related) topics and perhaps even have a few trips out to mathematical places

James Ratcliffe

15 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills	L
5	5	10	5

ISSP Astronomy GCSE

ISSP Astronomy class. The group is already set up so is not available for new students

Mike Shaw

20 spaces

Creative	Skills
3	7

Knit and Natter (Crochet welcome too!)

Knitting, crochet and chat!

Emma Glover

8 spaces

Creative	Skills
10	10

Psychology GCSE

Students participating in this extra GCSE course have already been notified, please select Tuesday and Wednesday if you are doing Psychology GCSE

Harriet Ennis

50 spaces

Creative	Skills
10	10

Relaxed EAL

Come and join us for EAL games, news and conversation. Develop your English skills in a supportive and fun environment. All international students are welcome!

Jenny Adams

12 spaces

Physical	Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	5	5

Technical Theatre - Advanced

Work with the department providing technical support for events and learning more skills along the way. Students must have completed the lunchtime beginners' course (Autumn and Spring term) in order to join this activity

Luke Gilliver

10 spaces

Physical	Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	5	5

The Reading Lab

Exploring literary and non-fiction texts in order to support, develop and enhance a range of skills required for English GCSE & A-Level (as well as other writing based & humanities subjects)

Helena Landau

8 spaces

Creative	Skills
10	10

WHO Crew

Intense Jigsaw action paired intense Doctor Who watching. Are you up to the multi-task? All jigsawing abilities welcome – come along and hone your skill. We will be continuing our DW journey through the Eccleston season

Sophie Morrison

20 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	10

Wednesday Evening

Bootham Flying School (Level 2)

5.15-6.15pm Level 2. Students will need to have completed the Wings and Level 1 courses. This is a twenty week course that will finish at Christmas 2026. £30 per session.

Jim Polwarth

10 spaces

£30.00 per session

Creative	Skills	G C
5	10	5

Thursday before school

Chamber Choir

08:00-09:10. See music staff for more information and to sign up

Jo Trevenna

12 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
10	5	5

Gillygate Piano Duo

08:40-09:10. See music staff for more information and to sign up

Paul Feehan

2 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
3	3	3

Wicket Keeping for Team Keepers

7.45-8.25am. For those who regularly keep wicket in the cricket teams

Keith Newell

12 spaces

Physical	Skills
10	10

Thursday morning break

Aural - grades 4 - 5

See music staff for more information and to sign up

Richard Allain

10 spaces

Physical	Creative	Cultural	Skills
2	3	2	3

String Orchestra

See music staff for more information and to sign up

Paul Feehan

20 spaces

Physical	Creative	Cultural	Skills
2	3	2	3

Thursday lunch

Athletics: team Track Events

100m, 200m, 300m 800m, Hurdles

Ben Coxon

24 spaces

Physical	Skills
10	10

Thursday Activity Hour

Dungeons and Dragons (and Jewellery Makin

All ages and experience levels welcome. If you've never played and always wondered... come and try it for a term and see what you think. Calling all DM's – you know I can't run this club without you! Jewellery making too

Sophie Morrison

35 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	10

First Aid for Beginners

Learning First Aid skills

Alison Webster

12 spaces

Skills	V & S	G C	L
10	5	5	5

GCSE Art Prep

Additional practical studio time and teacher support for GCSE Art students

Emily Harper-Gustafsson

20 spaces

This activity does not earn Bootham Challenge Credits

MUN - Model United Nations

Step into the role of global diplomats. MUN offers the opportunity to engage in debates and negotiations on a variety of current international issues

Joseph Butler-Chambers

30 spaces

Skills	G C
5	15

Origami

Join us for a fun and relaxing activity looking at the Japanese art of paper folding. Welcome to beginners and enthusiasts alike

Max Lyons

15 spaces

Creative	Skills
10	10

Peacejam

We are going to brainstorm the biggest issues facing the world today and then think of inspiring ways to raise awareness, raise money and bring about positive change. Perfect for any budding activist or future changemaker!

Claire Hollis

10 spaces

Cultural	Skills	V & S	G C	L
5	5	5	5	5

Supported Prep

Come and get support with your prep from the Learning Support department. If oversubscribed, Learning Support students will be allocated a space first. This is a popular activity, so only sign up for it if you are able to regularly attend!

Hannah Jorgensen

8 spaces

Skills
10

Swimming for Fitness and Fun

This session is designed to improve your stroke technique as well as building stamina and having fun through game based activities such as push hockey, deep sea treasure hunts and much more!

Michelle Gatenby

18 spaces

Physical	Skills
10	10

Volleyball

Outdoor volleyball for fun

Mathew Aston

24 spaces

Physical	Skills
10	10

Friday before school

Chamber Music

08:40-09:10. Please note that this activity is by invitation only, please see Richard Allain if you are interested

Paul Feehan

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Guitar Ensemble

08:40-09:10. See music staff for more information and to sign up

Jake Adams

6 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Friday morning break

Aural - grades 6 - 8

See music staff for more information and to sign up

Richard Allain

10 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Friday lunch

Senior Choir

13:20-13:50. All students are invited to join choir, regardless of experience. There is no audition process. Note, pupils will not be called for every Monday lunchtime as these will be sectional rehearsals

Richard Allain

40 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
4	3	3

Friday Activity Hour

Beginners Ballet

Learn the basics of ballet technique

Jennifer Cooke

20 spaces

Physical	Creative	Cultural	Skills
5	5	5	5

Beginners Fencing

Fencing is the best combination of mental and physical exercise possible. It teaches initiative, discipline, flexibility (both mental and physical), strategy and observation. It improves balance, timing and conditions the reflexes.

Donald Walker

30 spaces

£85.00 per term

Physical	Creative	Skills
10	5	5

Bootham Flying School (Level 1)

4.15-5.15pm Level 1 (continued). Students must have completed the Wings course and the first ten weeks of Level 1. This Level 1 course will finish at the end of the Summer term. Sessions will be doubled up on Friday 15th May and Friday 26th June, running 4.15-6.15pm. £30 per session

Chris Herd

10 spaces

£30.00 per session

Creative	Skills	G C
5	10	5

Code Club

This is a space for creators to make their own way in code and make whatever they want to make in an environment that is not a lesson. With the help of mentors, creators use our free, step-by-step project guides to learn Scratch, Python, HTML/CSS, and more. We will also be taking part in activities such as ASTRO PI where you will write code that will be ran on the international space station!

Tom Lund

20 spaces

Creative	Skills	L
5	10	5

In the News

A chance to consider current affairs with a focus on politics and the economy. We will be watching TV news, reading and discussing and aiming to make sense of the world around us

Helen McPherson

15 spaces

Cultural	Skills	G C
5	5	10

Japanese Language and Culture

This club is an exciting opportunity for students who like to develop an interest in both the language and the culture of Japan. We will learn basic Japanese and experience Japanese culture such as Japanese calligraphy, manga drawing, Japanese fashion, Green tea ceremony, J-pop and Japanese food. Students will have an opportunity to go to a Japanese café in York to order drink/sweet in Japanese. The club is funded by The Japan Foundation, London

Tomoko Ota

15 spaces

Creative	Cultural
5	15

Senior Orchestra

Senior Orchestra for students grade 3 and above

Richard Allain

80 spaces

Creative	Cultural	Skills
10	5	5

Swim Team Training

Top end speed training - short and sharp sessions geared to improve our swimming strength aimed at 50m events

Jacob Butterfield

28 spaces

Physical	Skills
10	10

Warhammer Model Painting

Learn techniques for painting fantasy models and landscapes. Bring your own stuff or make use of the paints and models supplied. Will be accessible to everyone, from total beginners to experienced collectors

David Swales

12 spaces

£20.00 per term

Creative	Cultural	Skills
10	5	5

Friday Evening

Intermediate / Advanced Fencing

5.15-7.15pm (pack up tea provided). Fencing is the best combination of mental and physical exercise possible. It teaches initiative, discipline, flexibility (both mental and physical), strategy and observation. It improves balance, timing and conditions the reflexes. This activity is straight after normal activities. You need to select prep or an activity in the first slot.

Donald Walker

16 spaces

£85.00 per term

Physical	Creative	Skills
10	5	5

Saturday before School

Swimming

Saturday morning 7.00-8.30am. Anaerobic and aerobic training - Sessions that will differentiate into 100 and 200m race training aimed at different swimmers and their racing events

Jacob Butterfield

20 spaces

Physical	Skills
10	10