

Pupil Voice: Our Outcomes

You Said / We Did

School Council

Homework | Uniform | Lunch and Break Time | Intervention |
Trips & Visits | Careers | Competitions | Music | Sporting Events |



creating the right culture to learn to succeed



Autumn
Term 2025



An introduction...

This booklet presents a collaborative effort that reflects the voices of our vibrant school community. Within these pages, you will find valuable insights, constructive feedback, and the collective aspirations of our pupils.

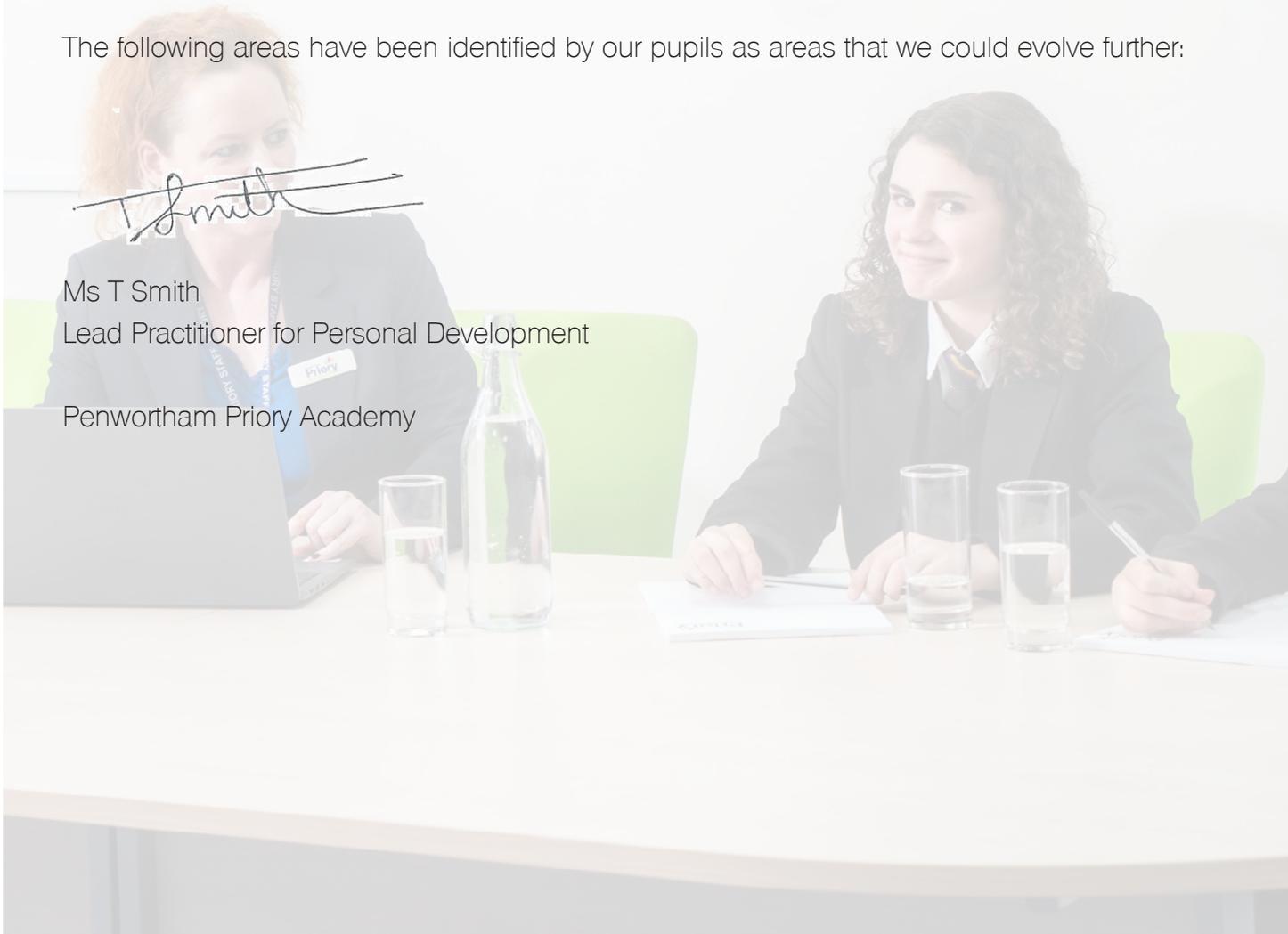
We take pride in our diverse pupil body, an inclusive community across all year groups, cultures, backgrounds and talents. Our School Council is made up of ten pupils; two representatives from each Year Council. They come together once each term to share their thinking, ideas and opinions, and to put these to decision-makers within school with the intention to make Priory an even greater school than it already is.

While our school council embarked on this process of democracy together, we also took the opportunity to celebrate the many aspects that makes our school exceptional. However, we also recognise that growth requires continuous reflection and action.

The following areas have been identified by our pupils as areas that we could evolve further:



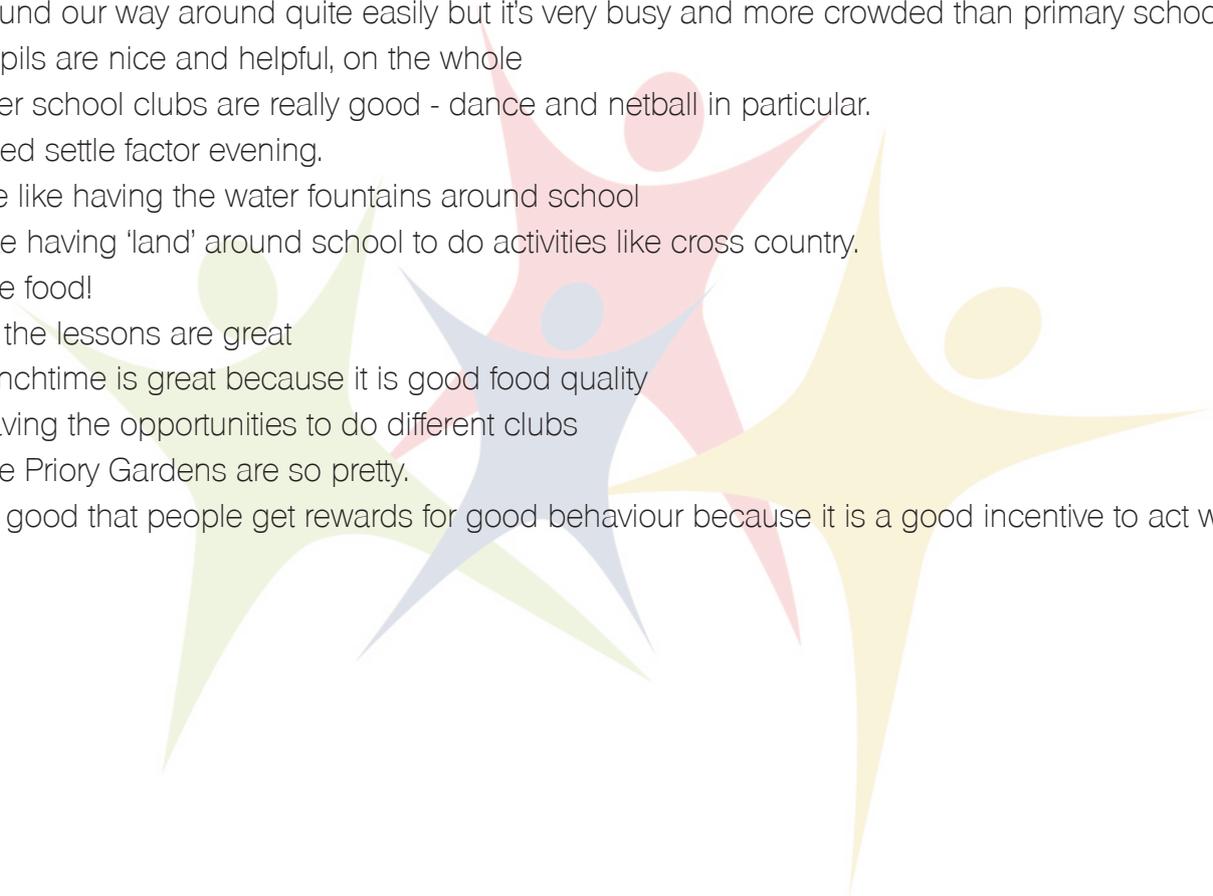
Ms T Smith
Lead Practitioner for Personal Development
Penwortham Priory Academy



what we think is going well...

A sample of positive comments:

Year 7

- Lots of visit days, transition was good.
 - Good food options for break and lunch - REALLY nice.
 - All teachers are helpful and nice. They all try and explain it in a different way.
 - Found our way around quite easily but it's very busy and more crowded than primary school.
 - Pupils are nice and helpful, on the whole
 - After school clubs are really good - dance and netball in particular.
 - Liked settle factor evening.
 - We like having the water fountains around school
 - Like having 'land' around school to do activities like cross country.
 - The food!
 - All the lessons are great
 - Lunchtime is great because it is good food quality
 - Having the opportunities to do different clubs
 - The Priory Gardens are so pretty.
 - It's good that people get rewards for good behaviour because it is a good incentive to act well.
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what we think is going well...

A sample of positive comments:

Year 8

- We like the new warn system with no negative points given
- We like the new catering system of ordering
- Reward trips are good - Ice skating, bowling, Flipout, football stadium tours to be added to rewards lists.
- Sports facilities that are being updated
- Computer access at break and lunch is great
- Good gardens and lots of spaces to walk around
- Breakfast is good (hash browns now included)
- Technology and Creative Arts. They give us the opportunity to pursue the careers that we are interested in.
- The Priory+ Award
- No bullying
- There are good food
- The teachers are nice and friendly
- There are different areas to buy food like the Pod, Bistro and the Restaurant.
- Beautiful gardens and not a lot of litter.

Year 9

- Like the fact that a warn doesn't add a negative point
- The building is well maintained
- The teachers are really nice and you can talk to them about anything
- Like the Pod because it's more accessible for when I'm on the Astro
- New catering system is faster
- Like the new reward system, increase in number of treats
- Liking the new choice of meals
- Corridors are really clean and look smart
- There are more chairs out in the Humanities area at lunch and breaktime
- The assembly hall is a nicer environment
- Huge amount of clubs on offer

what we think is going well...

A sample of positive comments:

Year 10

- The Priory Garden is looking beautiful and brilliant
- The environment is good. Wherever we look there are plants which makes the school look welcoming and taken care of.
- Lots of sports opportunities/equipment and wide variety of options
- New catering kiosks are working well
- New mousepads and keyboards in IT2
- Gardens are lovely - Lots of places to sit and relax with friends

Year 11

- The amount and quality of trips
- Many extra revision opportunities for students doing their GCSEs
- Catering staff friendly
- Spicy chicken burgers
- The Astro
- The school grounds are very nice to look at

What could be even better if...

Environment & Facilities

Pupil Voice 1

Year 7 - Bottom lockers - You can get pushed over when it is busy - Music corridor isn't great for this? Can they be relocated anywhere?

Outcome and actions

Unfortunately, we do not have any suitable, additional wall space around the school to move any lockers to as they are taken up with other lockers. As always, we suggest that you access lockers at times other than during lesson change-overs: In periods before and after school, at break or at lunch.

Pupil Voice 2

Year 7 - Can we have 'You are Here' maps dotted around school?

Outcome and actions

You are issued with a map when you start school and soon get to know where you are and have never needed to create 'you are here' maps as everyone gets to know where they are after a week or so. If you need a new map please ask your Head of Year. Any additional signage has a cost associated with it which we would rather invest in other facilities for you.

Pupil Voice 3

Year 7 - Clocks around site

Outcome and actions

We have now added a timer to our digital screens around school so you can see how long you have left of break. It ticks down in the last 5 minutes.

Pupil Voice 4

Year 8 - Can the vending machine be turned on during the school day?

Outcome and actions

Bottle vending machines in both areas should be on during the day with only Key Stage 4 being able to have access to coffee machine. If this is ever not the case, let Mr Bolton know

Pupil Voice 5

Year 9 - New bike sheds would be useful as some bikes are apparently getting damaged

Outcome and actions

We understand that some bikes may have fallen over onto other bikes in the sheds causing some issues. Please can all bike owners fasten their bikes in such a way that they are less likely to fall over. We have not seen a need for additional bike storage, but we will monitor the number of bikes that come to school.

Pupil Voice 6

Year 9 - Vending machines would be better if the lanyards could be used

This is something we have been talking to the new cashless catering company about but currently this option is not available to us.

Pupil Voice 7

Year 9 - There is no privacy in the showers can this be resolved

Outcome and actions

The changing rooms have been identified as need to be upgraded and is on the strategic plan. Due to the costs of the project this will be a long term plan. There is nothing we can do in the shorter term

Pupil Voice 8

Year 9 - The showers are dirty can this be resolved

Outcome and actions

We have raised this issue with the cleaning contractor. We have requested a deep clean more often.

Pupil Voice 9

Year 10 - Sanitary bins are not changed often enough and sometimes do not have any space to place used products

Outcome and actions

We will review the timings of this service. We are also aware that sometimes the bins also get used for non-sanitary items which does not help with capacity. They are therefore getting fuller sooner. We will be asking pupils to use the bins only for their intended purpose and review at a later date

Pupil Voice 10

Year 10 - Sensors on toilets are intermittent - sometimes work and sometimes don't

Outcome and actions

We are aware of issues with Year 8 toilet sensors and we are hoping to put these to mains power. We have not experienced any issues with the Year 10 toilets, and the estates team check each day. Keep us updated if there are issues

Pupil Voice 11

Year 10 - Leaks around school - Why can these not be repaired? Some have been there a long time (Science to English corridor)

Outcome and actions

The leaks in Science are a big issue and we are currently attempting to bid for government funding to address this issue.

Pupil Voice 12

Year 10 - Some facilities in Science don't work. Can they be fixed

Outcome and actions

Some facilities in Science are not 'Priory Standard' and we will get contractors to look at the issues. We will be reminding pupils too about the correct use of equipment and facilities to ensure they are 'fit for purpose' for longer.

Catering

Pupil Voice 1	Year 8 - All meat Halal please
Outcome and actions	It is apart from 'pork sausages'. We are looking at alternatives
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Pupil Voice 2	Year 8 - Is there a possibility to have food options like toast before school so we get breakfast if we missed it at home
Outcome and actions	We are in discussion regarding a Breakfast Club so this may come in time
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Pupil Voice 3	Year 8 - We would like pancakes, hash browns and waffles back
Outcome and actions	We are looking at swapping your Breakfast Specials around to accommodate this. Hashbrowns are not school compliant and won't be returning. We will be offering panakes close to Shrove Tuesday though.
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Pupil Voice 4	Year 8 - We would like a wider range of desserts.
Outcome and actions	We currently provide cakes, cookies, muffins, yoghurts, flapjack, jelly x4, fruit, popcorn and doughnuts. We would like examples of what else you would like. Please discuss this in your next Year Council meetings.
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Pupil Voice 5	Year 8 & 9 - Prices have gone too high recently - could this be looked at.
Outcome and actions	Supplier costs have increased, which has forced us to increase our costs. However, we are still one of the cheapest schools around. For example, Radnor fizz costs £1.20 in another local school
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Pupil Voice 6	Year 8 - Can we have cheesy chips?
Outcome and actions	Cheese is available every mealtime to add to any chips.
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Pupil Voice 7	Year 8 - Can we have hot desserts in winter?
Outcome and actions	You can, but we need examples of what you would like. Please discuss this in your next Year Council meetings.
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Pupil Voice 8	Year 8 - Can we have hot chocolate?
Outcome and actions	Hot chocolate is only available for Year 10 & Year 11 from vending machine and not something the catering team can provide.
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Pupil Voice 9	Year 8 & 9 - Can we have a Meal Deal for lunches? Set price, like a Tesco Meal Deal
Outcome and actions	We are looking into Meal Deals for you. We will have more news in the future
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Pupil Voice 10	Year 8 - Would it be possible to have more gluten and dairy free options in the cafeteria for those who need it?
Outcome and actions	We would like to hear what gluten and dairy free options you would like so we can research their viability. Please discuss this in your next Year Council meetings.

Pupil Voice 11	Year 9 - Chicken wraps on more days please
Outcome and actions	Chicken wraps are on daily. Flavoured Monday and Tuesday, Southern Fried on Friday
Pupil Voice 12	Year 9 & 10 - Food runs out quickly, eg spicy chicken burger
Outcome and actions	This is due to staff not pre-ordering. Staff have been asked to pre-order to ensure you have your spicy chicken burgers
Pupil Voice 13	Year 10 - Options are very limited, can these be expanded?
Outcome and actions	We provide popular: Jacket Potatoes x4 fillings, panini x2, sandwiches x6, Pasta pots x3/4, two main meals, Baguettes x4, Pod specials, Chicken wraps. 24 Daily options. We need examples of what you would also like. Please discuss this in your next Year Council meetings.
Pupil Voice 14	Year 10 - There needs to be a maximum number of items one person can purchase, eg students ordering high number of toast.
Outcome and actions	Toast is now available in both dining areas, so there should be enough now. If this is still a problem going forward let the Catering team know
Pupil Voice 15	Year 11 - Return of bagels if possible
Outcome and actions	Bagels didn't sell well so we swapped out for sausage rolls, which are more popular
Pupil Voice 16	Year 11 - Could pupils have seasoning packets for their food?
Outcome and actions	Salt is not allowed due to Government guidelines. We will get pepper for you

Pupil voice which was raised for Senior Leadership...

Year 7 - Still have issues with homework being overwhelming.

Mr Eastham's response:

We appreciate that the amount of homework at high school can be an issue for Year 7 when they are not used to having the same amount at primary school. Mr Eastham would like Year 7 Council to review the situation in January and discuss whether it remains overwhelming or is now more manageable. School Council members from other year groups felt that although the amount of homework at the start of Year 7 did seem overwhelming, the homework became more manageable as the first year went on. Council members across all years felt that their homework is manageable.

Year 7 - Struggling with too many passwords and usernames

Mr Eastham's response:

Mr Eastham would like Year 7 Council to review the situation in January and discuss if pupils are now managing with the different usernames and passwords. Unfortunately we cannot use less of these as each external platform has its own login credentials. A Year 11 council member also highlighted that it is good security practice to have different credentials.

Year 8 - Having an outdoor football space seems to be unresolved.

Mr Eastham and Mr Gee did trial having Year 8 footballers on the 3G but it did feel overcrowded. During this trial, the Year 8s disappeared and it was thought that they had gone to play in another area. Mr Eastham will again discuss the alternatives with others.

Overcrowding in some corridors, sometimes

Mr Eastham's response:

Since Year Councils, some strategies have been put in place to assist. Maths teachers in MA1, MA2, MA5 and MA6 are staggering when their classes leave their rooms to ensure it isn't all at once. In the last couple of weeks English teachers have made changes: EN1 and EN2 classes are to enter the corridor via the yard and are not to come down the English corridor past the Maths stairs. EN3 and EN4 classes are entering the building via the external doors on the side of the building. School Council was asked if they could see the impact of this and pupils said it seems to be working. Ms Smith has also put a message out to pupils via tutors, to suggest ways to ease congestion. School Council were asked to let Ms Smith know if there were further 'hot spots' in the future, so they can be addressed swiftly.

Restaurant, Bistro and Pod queues

Mr Eastham's response:

Queues seem to be moving more quickly and shorter now everyone is more familiar with the new kiosks. Pupils not conducting themselves appropriately in queues are 'not the norm' across the school, School Council members agreed. Members reported that the Bistro is well staffed and calm. The Restaurant is much better now pupils are in a routine and know expectations. Prefects will not be on duty at these points as they cannot arrive any more

quickly than the duty staff. Ms Smith has sent a message out to remind pupils about respectful conduct in queues. Mr Eastham spoke about periodic reminders being a strategy that was required and a focus on what the 'Priory Standard' looks like in different scenarios is a foci for forthcoming weeks.

Toilet queues

Mr Eastham's response:

The Pastoral Team requested that the cubicle be relabelled over half term to allow females to have more cubicles. Staff and School Council members were in agreement that this has been successful.

Toilet Pass children waiting a long time for a response from pastoral to get permission to go

Mr Eastham's response:

Mr Eastham will ask Mrs Crank to consult with Toilet Pass pupils to get an accurate view of their experience and respond appropriately thereafter.

Year 11 - Some prefects think they should be able to skip the lunch queues.

Mr Eastham's response:

Prefects will not be able to skip queues for a number of reasons: They do not have a duty or responsibility to get to quickly to warrant it. The privilege of the role is having the role. There is a Golden Ticket for skipping in existence, given by the Principal for pupils who have acted in an exceptional way. We would not want to detract from this reward.

Year 11 - Would like Year 11 L4L sessions to be used for revision and intervention instead

Mr Eastham's response:

The Year 11 L4L curriculum finishes at Easter and the time is handed over for pupils to revise areas of need. The curriculum is statutory - PSHE, Citizenship curriculum and our reading initiative linked to PSHE themes, all of which are required for life beyond Priory. This curriculum cannot be covered in Year 10 and requires a higher level of thinking and understanding of the wider world. Mr Eastham also asked if intervention to that extent was required if everyone in Year 11 was working hard in lessons and revising well outside of lesson time. Where intervention is required, teaching staff will identify individual needs and provide opportunities for a more personalised approach

