



15 June 2023

Dear parent/guardian/carer

On behalf of staff and governors I would like to pass on our very best wishes to all Year 11 and Sixth Form students – some still facing the final days of public exams. Thank you to parents for your superb support. Students have rightfully been in a positive state of mind and arrived really well prepared each day. We appreciate all you are doing from home to support this. Once they have stepped down from the intensity of exams and had a chance to relax, it is really important too that some continuous light-weight preparation is planned into their calendars for next year. In addition, every child should be reading for pleasure habitually.

The next few weeks bring a number of events to the school diary:

Date	Activity / Event
Monday 26 June	Open Evening early closure 12.30pm Year 7 to 10 Step Up day
Tuesday 27 June	INSET school closed to students
Wednesday 28 June	Year 11 Step Up to Sixth Form
Thursday 29 June	Year 7 to 10 Step Up day Year 11/Sixth Form Proms
Friday 30 June	We welcome our new Year 7 students for their transition day. Please note the school drive will be closed earlier to vehicle access from 2.30pm on this day.
Monday 10 July	Year 9 100 Score Rewards Day
Tuesday 11 July	Year 10 100 Score Rewards Day
Thursday 13 July	Y12 Aspirations Day/Summer Arts Evening
Friday 14 July	Sports Day
Wednesday 19 July	Last day of term early closure 12.30pm

Step Up Days

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 are having two preparatory 'Step-Up' days. The purpose is to ensure students have clearer and increasingly ambitious, aspirations for their future. It's also to enable a better understanding of the best learning strategies for the challenges of the next academic year. In the past, we used to do this exclusively for Year 10, but given the experience of the last two years, students seem to be really receptive to the support this provides to give them confidence for the year ahead.

Wednesday 28 June - Year 11 step up to Sixth Form Day

We are looking forward to welcoming our Year 11 students to their 'Step Up to Sixth Form Day'. The rationale behind this opportunity is to give our young people a flavour of what it is like to be a Sixth Form student at Poole High and to ensure that the dreams they have nurtured for their future throughout lower school, continue to blossom or indeed expand! Students will get the chance to experience their chosen subject lessons, meet new teachers and peers, discover the opportunities that studying at Sixth Form will afford them and ask any questions they have before their start with us in September. Arrival and registration for the day will run between 8am and 8.25am in the Merchants Hall. Whilst school uniform is not expected for this event, appropriate dress is required, with an advisory of trainers being suggested for the afternoon enrichment activity. If you have not yet completed the following Google form to confirm your attendance, please do so as soon as possible: <https://forms.gle/P2MpZgLnixO13LQr8>

School closure

On **Monday 26 June** school will close early as per the calendar. Students will be dismissed at 12.30pm.

Tuesday 27 June INSET school is closed to students.

Wednesday 19 July school will close early at 12.30pm for the end of term.

Buses

Morebus will operate the morning 401 on Monday 26 June and Wednesday 19 July but advise to catch the service M1/M2 from the George bus stop to get home at lunchtime.

Those students who would normally use the 405 are invited to catch a 5/6 service from the stop on Wimborne road on these dates also.

Punctuality and Attendance

A reminder please to ensure that your child arrives promptly to school each day, ready to start at 8.25am in full school uniform and has a fully equipped pencil case including a calculator. Please note that students will be required to have two whiteboard pens in their pencil case from September in addition to the other items required. These will be available at cost price from school reception soon.

Helpful Habits at Home

Please continue supporting us with your child's progress by talking to them about their homework, signing their diary each week and asking them about their feedback. The academic success of our students is positively affected by your interest and aspiration. We strongly recommend developing the 'home habits' ensuring there is at least one hour in your home every day when all digital technology is off! In addition, all digital technology in your child's bedroom is switched off for at least one hour before they go to sleep. The research shows the significant improvement in memory retrieval with eight hours quality sleep.

Appearance Code

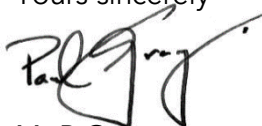
Can we remind parents that our expectation is that school skirts should be knee length (allowing for a maximum of two inches growth). Shorter skirts "similar to the uniform skirt" are not uniform and will not be accepted. This matter will particularly be a particular focus in September. In the meantime, the tendency by a small number of students to shorten skirt length by rolling the waist is leading to a disproportionate amount of time spent on conversations that are not about learning. Repeated infringements of this rule will result in students being required to wear smart tailored black trousers. All school rules are expected to be followed by students, the habits these build allow cognitive easing for students and teachers, allowing greater learning time.

Cyclists

Please ensure all students cycling to school wear a helmet. This is an impossible matter to oversee across the site, so your vigilance at home is appreciated. A number of scooters and bicycles are often left unlocked in the bicycle racks. Whilst we are a trusting community, we cannot be responsible for any personal transport that goes missing. Please ensure your child has a suitable lock too secure their equipment.

As always thank you for working with us and your commitment in making our community such a thriving and special place.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Gray
Headteacher