



# Poole High School

Chief Executive Officer: Mr Gareth Morris (FCMI, FCCT, CMgr, MBA, MEd, NPQH, PGCE, BA (Hons))  
Acting Headteacher: Mrs Sian Phillips (NPQH, BA (Hons))



15 September 2025

Dear parent/guardian/carer

## Re: Year 9 Parent Information Evening

We are thrilled to invite you to our upcoming Year 9 information evening, designed to help both students and parents prepare for the crucial transition to Year 9. This event is scheduled for **Thursday, 25 September at 6 pm** in the school Theatre.

Our information event will provide valuable insights into the learning process, the structure of courses your child is studying, and how you can best support them as we begin the transition to GCSE. Year 9 is a pivotal year in education, as students begin to consider their possible GCSE subject selections.

The event will be structured into four informative sections:

- 1. How we learn – led by Mrs K Dolman (Director of Teaching and Learning)**
  - **How we learn:** an introduction to cognitive load theory and its implications for parents.
  - **Optimising Learning:** discover the research-driven strategies we use to enhance student learning.
  - **Independent Learning:** learn how we cultivate skills that enable students to learn independently, a crucial aspect of success at the GCSE level.
- 2. Applying Learning – led by Mr D Attrill (Director of Intervention)**
  - **Syllabus Design:** how our curriculum is crafted to minimise stress and cognitive load.
  - **Reducing the Forgetting Curve:** explore the pathways and strategies we use to help students retain information.
  - **Parental Support:** practical tips on how you can support your child's learning at home.
- 3. The First GCSE: GCSE Religious Studies**
  - **Overview:** why Poole High School offers a GCSE experience starting in Year 9 and commencing with a terminal examination in May of Year 10.
  - **Year 10 Insights:** what to expect in the future in Year 10, including revision sessions, mock exams, actual exams, and the August official results day.
- 4. Meet the key staff involved with Year 9**

We believe this event will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of what lies ahead and how to best support your child through the academic year. Your involvement and support are invaluable as we work together to ensure your child's success.

**Mrs Phillips, Acting Headteacher, will be available after the event to answer any questions you may have about Year 9 or the school in general.**

Yours sincerely

Mr D Attrill  
Director of Intervention

Wimborne Road, Poole, Dorset, BH15 2BW

Tel: 01202 666988 Email: [School@poolehigh.poole.sch.uk](mailto:School@poolehigh.poole.sch.uk) Web: [www.poolehigh.co.uk](http://www.poolehigh.co.uk)

Poole High School is a member of Twynham Learning, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 7565088;  
Registered office: Sopers Lane, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 1JF.