



10 May 2021

Dear parents/carers/guardians

Given the positive news about the gradual lifting of Covid restrictions, we have had to make some changes to our calendar. I have also included below some imminent changes to rules in school. Can I first say how immensely grateful we are to the vast majority of parents who have been wholly supportive of the school and for whom reminders are not needed! There are two main issues below: **1. Dates for your diaries; 2. School rules.**

## 1. Dates for your diaries

### Open Evening and INSET day date change June 2021

In anticipation that the Covid19 restrictions will be lifted from 21 June we are planning an onsite Open Evening to welcome those families that want to join the Poole High School community in September 2022. Please note we will be changing the date from our previously published one to **Wednesday 30 June 2021** and school will **close to students at 12.30pm**.

The INSET day will also change from Tuesday 29 June to **Thursday 1 July** and school will be closed to students.

The **Careers and Apprenticeship Show** will take place on **Thursday 20 May** [Careers and Apprenticeship Show 20 May 2021](#) as detailed in Mrs Porter's previously sent letter. We really want to embed that sense of motivation for all students – embedding their appreciation that today's success in school will enhance their future opportunities. To allow and encourage all **Year 10 and 12 students** to attend this important event, they will undertake this independently **from home**. Please actively encourage a genuine sense of curiosity to heighten their ambition. **Please ensure your child registers**. This is required to access the event and should be done in advance of the day. Please visit <https://cas2021.vfairs.com/>.

In addition to this, to meet our statutory requirements:

- Year 10 work experience will occur from **28 June to 2 July**;
- Year 11s will be offered a pre-sixth form virtual work experience to make up for the loss of theirs last year. This will occur in the **week commencing 7 June** (offered to all);
- Year 12 will have their work experience in the **week commencing 24 May**.

## 2. School Rules:

### Uniform and 'Day to Day' matters

- Now that uniform providers are open for business, there is no reason for any student to fail to be appropriately dressed and equipped for school. The details are available via our website using the link: [current school rules](#). If parents can reinforce some basic expectations as there has been some slippage recently. Typically:
- The skirt length is to the knee and sanctions will follow where the skirt has been rolled at the waist;
- Jewellery: a single stud in each ear lobe - **no other jewellery**;
- Watch: it must not be capable of communication or internet connection. Essentially, **smart watches** must not be worn. Can parents please be very clear with their children regarding electronic devices. Smart watches are regarded as just as intrusive upon learning as mobile phones and are banned. This is referred to in the existing behaviour policy.
- Footwear: only robust footwear as per the school rules on the school website

## Changing for PE

On return from half term, 7 June, our changing rooms will reopen in a COVID secure manner. Students will therefore be required to wear full school uniform every day to school and bring their PE kit in a suitable bag to change into.

## PE uniform changes for September 2021

Please note that we are adding an optional element to the PE uniform from September from 2021. **Please note, that the changes (re. PE kit) are specific to particular year groups and only apply from the new term.** It is important that the changes **from September** are noted for the specific year groups. Please see the following link: [appearance rules from September 2021](#). The key changes relate to PE kit for Years 7-9 only (re. skorts); specifications re. leggings for Years 10-11 only can also be found following the link.

## Site safety: Electric scooters/Segways (mono and bi)/ electric bikes

While there are many benefits to our centralised location in the town, we have had to work hard and invested a great deal to ensure that the school site continues to be a safe place. If we allow students to bring unnecessarily expensive items on to the school site, we would be tacitly increasing the level of risk of unsavoury characters being drawn here to steal.

Therefore, from 7 June we will not be allowing students to bring electric scooters or Segways on to the school site. We are increasing the number of bicycle shelters and continue to encourage students to cycle to school, dress visibly and to wear a helmet. There are plenty of safe and less costly ways of travelling to and from school. Our priority is learning and nurturing our young people with the right values. **In the case of mopeds**, these will be kept under review and moped users will need to apply to Mr Newman for a concession to be granted.

## Assemblies

We are now returning to year group assemblies in the theatre and these will take place weekly by half-term. This is unquestionably the best platform from which to communicate consistent messages to students, to set the right tone for the day and to prepare students to be even better at regulating their own learning. Students will remain masked, in line with government guidance, and we will keep the area ventilated.

Finally, can I encourage all our families to continue using your Lateral Flow Tests and to alert us if you have a positive reading. We are immensely grateful for all you have done to support the school so far this year and we look ahead with cautious optimism.

New national guidance is anticipated this week and we will keep you informed as to how we respond to further changes.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Gray  
Headteacher