

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please find below our welfare and safeguarding bulletin.

Charity Events

Christmas Charity Collection

Following another successful collection last year, we will be again supporting our local foodbank with our Christmas collection. In form time next week, the focus is giving our students an understanding of the work of our local food bank and the support they need. Last year it was surprising for the students to learn that the food bank supported 131 families in Poynton last year. We are asking all students to bring in items we can donate to the foodbank. Below is a picture of our fantastic collection plus a list of items which would be helpful.



Tins of fruit, meat, fish or vegetables
Soup
Pasta
Cereal
Biscuits
Tea, Coffee and long-life milk.
Shampoo
Tooth paste
Baby wipes

Christmas Jumper Day

We will also be supporting the 'Save the Children' Christmas Jumper day on Friday 11th December. Students can wear their best Christmas jumper to school instead of their blazer in return for a donation of £1 to 'Save the Children' There will be a prize for the best Christmas jumper.



East Cheshire Hospice – Santa Dash

Students in Key Stage 3 will be involved in the 'Santa Dash' event this December in support of East Cheshire Hospice. During their PE lessons they will complete a sponsored run. It is a great event and even the PE staff get involved in their Santa outfits! Sponsor forms will be sent home at the start of December.



Thank you in advance for all your support with our charity events this December.

End of Term Arrangements

School finishes for the Christmas break on Friday 18th December. Students will be dismissed at 12.20pm with the buses leaving site at 12.30pm. The school office will close at 1.30pm. If you need to contact school after the 18th December relating to a Covid matter please e-mail info@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk as this will be monitored by Miss Holyland and Mr Dean.

Student Leadership team – Year 7/8 applications

After Christmas we will be inviting students from Year 7/8 to apply for a position on the student leadership team. Students will be responsible for taking the views, concerns and ideas of their fellow students and presenting them to Miss Holyland and Mr Dean in student leadership meetings. Students wishing to be considered for a place on the student Leadership team will need to apply in writing on the official application form. These applications will be considered and shortlisted by Miss Holyland and Mr Dean.

PTA

You will have already seen our recent PTA letter with ways in which you can get involved to support the work of the PTA team. Many of us will be shopping online as we prepare for Christmas, one way you can support is through using our Easy Fund Raising account when making purchases, you can find out more here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/poyntonhighpta/>. We also run a PTA Lottery with weekly chances to win cash prizes, you can find more about this here: <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/poynton-high-school>. If you are interested in joining our school PTA please let us know via email to info@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk. Currently our meetings are taking place online. Our next meeting dates are:

- Thursday 28th January
- Thursday 18th March
- Thursday 20th May
- Thursday 1st July

Contact Reference Table

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Issue	Who to contact	How
Any safeguarding concern	Miss Catherine Holyland is the Safeguarding Lead or Mrs Sue Warburton is the Deputy Safeguarding Lead	Via reception 01625 871811 safeguarding@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk
Welfare concerns e.g. Friendship issues, cyber bullying	The first point of contact would be the Welfare Lead for your child's year group.	Year 7 Miss Gyves KGY@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk Year 8&9 Miss L Swaffer- LSW@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk Year 10&11 Mrs Handby- ahandby@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk or via studentsupport@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk
Concerns about your child's progress in a particular subject	Class teacher initially, but please contact the Director of Learning for the subject team if this does not resolve the issue.	E-mail info@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk and in the title please write the name of the teacher concerned.
Concerns about your child's general progress	Director of Learning for your child's year group	Year 7 Mr E Latch ERL@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk Year 8&9 Miss E Keaveney EKE@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk Year 10&11 Mrs Dempsey RDE@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk
Information on how to support your child's learning e.g. revision guides	Director of Learning for your child's year group	Year 7 Mr E Latch erl@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk Year 8&9 Miss E Keaveney EKE@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk Year 10&11 Mrs Dempsey RDE@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk
Queries about home learning	Class teacher initially, but please contact the Director of Learning for the subject if this does not resolve the issue.	E-mail info@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk and in the title please write the name of the teacher concerned.
Questions about uniform	Welfare Lead	studentsupport@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk 01625871811
Questions about school transport	Mrs J Sykes Business and Operations Manager	Jsykes@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk 01625 871811

Reporting absence or other queries relating to attendance.	Attendance Officer Miss Booth	absence@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk 01625 871811 and follow the instructions on the recorded message
Information about medical care and support	Teenage and Family worker Mrs S Warburton	swarburton@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk 01625 871811
Concern about a member of staff	Mrs J Sykes Business and Operations Manager	jskyes@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk Via reception 01625 871811
Questions relating to the school assessment	Assistant Head teacher Miss W Ryder	WRY@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk Via reception on 01625 871711

Ordinarily, you can expect a response dependant on the enquiry within a working week of 48 hours.

Attendance

Where a student is unable to attend school due to illness or other sudden reason, parents should e-mail absence@pchs.cheshire.sch.uk or telephone the school, between 8.00am and 8.45am on the first day of absence, giving an indication of the anticipated length of absence. If the absence extends beyond this time a second call should be made. The parents of students who are absent and for whom we have not received an explanation will be contacted to confirm the reason for the absence within 24 hours.

If the absence is Covid related please indicate this in the message you leave.

If possible, all medical appointments should be made out of school hours. If it is necessary for the appointment to be in the school day we do expect students to come in to school prior to the appointment or return to school following the appointment.

Free School Meal Application

You can claim free school meals for each child who attends school in Cheshire East if you receive one of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - as long as you have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get Working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit

You can apply by telephoning 0300 123 5012 or online at http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/free_school_meals.aspx

If your child was to receive free school their money is put onto their account automatically and therefore they follow the same process as ever other child.

Arrangements for closure of the school due to extreme weather.

If in exceptional circumstances we have to close the school all information will be on the school website. The radio station we share closure information with is Silk FM. We will only close the school during the school day if the adverse weather conditions may put our students at risk if their travel home was to be delayed. All updates will be on the school website and school twitter page. If we have to close school we will move to online learning for the day via Google Classroom.

Policies.

This term the following policy has been reviewed by the Governing body.

- Safeguarding

All school policies can be found on the school website <https://www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk/aboutus/school-policies> or if you require a paper copy please ask at reception and they will be happy to help.

With the introduction of a new Sexual and Relationship Education Guidance we are currently updating our policy and we will be consulting with parents in the next half term.

Cycling to School

There has been an increase in the number of students cycling to school which is fantastic as it supports our environmental strategy and Covid risk assessment. However, we have had a number of calls concerned about the way in which our young people are riding their bikes in the village and also raising concerns that they are not always clearly visible as they are not wearing reflective clothing or have working lights on their bike. We have spoken to the students who come to school on their bike but please could you could also speak to your child about being safe when cycling to school.

Parental Support

As a school we are very privileged to work with such a supportive parental body. Being able to support your child is not always easy and knowing where to look for additional support can be difficult. On the school website is a link to <https://www.educare.co.uk/edusafe-pc> this is a resource for parents which covers a wide variety of topics such as mental wellbeing, healthy lifestyles, understanding anxiety and dealing with bereavement and loss. For each topic there is advice to support you child and also other recourse/agencies that can help.

With the current restrictions we are aware our young people are spending increasing time online please find below a link to advice for parents.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/globalassets/thinkuknow/documents/thinkuknow/parents/pdf/thinkuknow-parents-helpsheet-secondary.pdf>

Uniform Reminder

As you are aware following discussions with the governors we decided to alter our uniform code for this academic year so students can either wear a school jumper under their blazer or a **plain** navy-blue crew or V neck jumper/sweatshirt. Blazers remain a compulsory part of the uniform, the jumper is in addition not as a replacement. We have taken this approach so students are warm in school but also considering the cost for parents. If there is a financial reason you are unable to purchase a jumper for your child please contact Mr Bennett ADB@phs.cheshire.sch.uk