



TRUE LEARNING
PARTNERSHIP



Poynton High School and Performing Arts College

Head Teacher: Mr M Dean

8 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to write at the start of term to welcome those parents who are new to our school and to share some important updates with those parents who are already part of our partnership. I hope that these updates are useful for you.

Welcome to our new students

It has been a real pleasure to welcome the new Year 7 students to Poynton. They have made a really impressive start to school and it is good to see them gaining House points already as well as signing up to take part in *Grease*, our school show this year. Joining high school is a big step in anyone's life – as I well remember – and they have done it brilliantly. I have no doubt that they will be ready for a rest at the weekend after such a busy week!

We have also welcomed students to other years in school and to our Sixth Form and I hope that they enjoy their time at school and succeed academically and beyond.

Congratulations to the class of 2023

We were proud of the exam results achieved by the Year 11 and Year 13 students in the summer. These were the first exam results since 2019 to be graded 'normally' and the students showed high levels of resilience and positivity and were rewarded for their hard work. As always, attainment is very strong and above all we were delighted with how well these grades enabled students to move on to their next steps in education and employment.

Year 13 (396 entries):

- 27% graded A* or A
- 49% were graded A*-B
- Students are heading all the over the country to study, from Edinburgh and Durham Universities to Cardiff and Bath Universities and studying a wide range of courses.
- We also have students starting some high quality degree apprenticeships, which are increasingly popular.

At GCSE (2015 entries):

- 25% of all GCSE entries were awarded the highest grades 7-9 (a 7 is equivalent to the former A grade)
- 81% of all GCSE entries were awarded 4-9 (a 4 is equivalent to the former C grade).

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Class Charts App

Last year we introduced the Class Charts App to parents and we know from feedback that many of you found it really useful to track attendance as well as House and consequence points. Information about this can be found at

<https://www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk/page/?title=Class+Charts&pid=338>

We will contact Year 7 parents next week with details on how to log on to this useful app.

We are extending access this year to students. This will let them see their timetable as well as the points they gain. Although students cannot use their phone on the school site they will be able to check at home and I know that they will find this useful.

Extra-curricular opportunities

It has been great to see so many students sign up to be involved in *Grease* and I know it will be a great show! Although well over 200 students will be involved in the show some students will prefer to be involved in the other opportunities starting up as we return to school. These include sports, House activities, music and a wide range of clubs. As always we expect that lots of our Year 9s will embark on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award and will join the Year 10 students doing Silver and Year 12 doing Gold. We are updating the information on the website about extra-curricular activities but students will also find out about them through Google Classroom and formtime. Please encourage your child to get themselves involved to build skills and have a lot of fun!

Our students have made a great start to the new year and been really responsible in the unseasonal heat! We are looking forward to working with them through the year in lessons and in the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities in school.

Thank you for your support of our school this year and I look forward to seeing you at some of our school events.

With best wishes,



Matthew Dean
Headteacher