



Poynton High School **Year 10 Parent and Carer Bulletin – October 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 10 have made a fantastic start to their GCSE subjects this academic year, and have responded in such a mature way to the unusual times we find ourselves in.

Each half term I will send out a year group bulletin, inside you will find important information about what is coming up after the half term break for our students and includes strategies suggested by subject tutors to ensure students achieve their maximum potential.

Maths

Students have been given access to a new website- century tech. Students should be completing a minimum of 30 minutes on century tech per fortnight as one of their home learning. Century uses artificial intelligence to determine the best topics for students to work on, the more you use it the better it gets to know you. More information about century can be found on the school website. Year 10 will be sitting a formal assessment in maths during the week beginning 23rd November.

English

We've been so impressed with how our Year 10 pupils have responded to the challenges of this half term. Students have produced wonderful work in response to their recovery curriculum, and have been fantastic at using Google Classroom to submit work, join lessons, and have dialogues with their teachers. Well done!

- In Literature, students have been making great progress studying the first Power and Conflict Poetry cluster and developing both their knowledge of these poems and their analytical skills.
- After half term, students will finish off the last poems of this cluster, before moving on to begin studying 'An Inspector Calls'. They will be given their copies of the play by their class teacher.
- To further support their Literature studies, pupils could watch 'An Inspector Calls', re-read their 'Power and Conflict poems' or begin pre-reading of Macbeth, which we will study after Christmas.
- Year 10 now have separate GCSE English Language lessons, in which they have been recapping the skills for the fiction paper, Language Paper 1. After half term we will be studying a unit based on Language Paper 2.

English Revision

- At KS4, students should always be keeping up with steady revision. All pupils have either a GCSE English Language or a GCSE English Literature revision task set on Google Classroom each week to support their studies. These will form the foundation of their revision over the two-year course and should be submitted on time on Google Classroom. Pupils should also keep a copy so they can refer to it later.
- The English department has produced a series of Revision Skills Flowcharts to help point your son/ daughter in the right direction if they are feeling stuck about how to approach the independent revision that they should be doing on top of the tasks set

on Google Classroom. Hopefully these will also enable you to support your child at home.

- Reading at home will always be beneficial to your child's English studies, whether this is re-reading the texts for Literature, reading a newspaper or curling up with their favourite book. Your support with this is much appreciated.
- In addition to the work set by your child's teacher, there are fantastic revision guides and resources available to buy to support your child with their revision. Here are some suggestions:

Power and Conflict Poetry:

- https://www.amazon.co.uk/GCSE-English-Literature-Poetry-Guide/dp/1782943617/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1509810132&sr=8-1&keywords=power+and+conflict+revision
- https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-Poetry-Anthology-Power-Conflict/dp/129213805X/ref=sr_1_6?ie=UTF8&qid=1509810132&sr=8-6&keywords=power+and+conflict+revision

Macbeth:

- https://www.amazon.co.uk/Macbeth-York-Notes-GCSE-9-1/dp/1447982207/ref=sr_1_fmkr1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1516198321&sr=8-1-fmkr1&keywords=revision+guides+macbeth+york+notes
- https://www.amazon.co.uk/Macbeth-English-Literature-Collins-Revision/dp/0008247080/ref=sr_1_fmkr2_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1516198481&sr=8-1-fmkr2&keywords=revision+guides+macbeth+york+notes

An Inspector Calls:

- https://www.amazon.co.uk/New-Grade-9-1-GCSE-English/dp/1789083443/ref=asc_df_1789083443/?tag=googshopuk-21&linkCode=df0&hvadid=310775890077&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrand=387772278118369959&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvqmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=9046435&hvtargid=pla-681590228786&psc=1&th=1&psc=1
- https://www.amazon.co.uk/Inspector-Calls-English-Literature-Revision/dp/0008235910/ref=sr_1_1?crid=1JV0KVYI3K00&dchild=1&keywords=snap+revision+an+inspector+calls&qid=1603278090&s=books&sprefix=snap+revision+%2Cstripbooks%2C138&sr=1-1

GCSE English Language:

- https://www.amazon.co.uk/English-Language-Complete-Revision-Practice/dp/1782944141/ref=sr_1_3?crid=4A6714V6V93L&dchild=1&keywords=aqa+english+language+gcse&qid=1603278161&s=books&sprefix=aqa+english+language+%2Cstripbooks%2C144&sr=1-3

Science

Assessments

Some students may have started their first assessments before half term, these will continue after half term for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students will be informed of the specific dates and the

topics to revise for each test. Each will assess the work carried out in Y10 and may also assess some of the Y9 GCSE work.

Revision resources

It is essential that students fully prepare for these assessments. If you have ordered a Science revision guide at the beginning of the term for your young person they should have received them during their science lessons unless they were absent. If they were absent they will receive them after half term. If you have since ordered during the second and final opportunity to purchase, these will be handed out to students after half term in their Science lessons.

If you missed the deadline and would like to privately purchase revision guides, below are the links to do so:

Double Science revision guides:

Higher tier (recommended for students in sets x1, x2, x3, y1, y2):

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/combined-science/sahr45-grade-9-1-gcse-combined-science-aqa-revi>

Foundation tier (recommended for students in sets x4 y3): <https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/combined-science/safr45-grade-9-1-gcse-combined-science-aqa-revi>

Triple science students (will need separate ones for Biology, Chemistry and Physics):

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/biology/bar45-grade-9-1-gcse-biology-aqa-revision-guide>

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/chemistry/car45-grade-9-1-gcse-chemistry-aqa-revision-gui>

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/physics/par47-grade-9-1-gcse-physics-aqa-revision-guide>

MFL

Year 10, in German and French, students have started new topics: celebrations and everyday life (French) and home life, healthy living and technology (German).

Assessments:

Yr10: Listening and Reading will be assessed next half-term. It will be a mix of all the modules covered so far.

Useful websites:

Most students will have had access to www.memrise.com, www.quizlet.com or www.pearsonactivelearn.com already. These are great websites to revise at home too. All students should have written their usernames and passwords for the different websites on the first page of their vocab booklets. They can also use their google account to log onto memrise or quizlet.

There are also plenty of additional resources on the BBC Bitesize website

(<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z98jimp3>) and the Oak Academy

(<https://www.thenational.academy/>)

Revision guides:

Recently, parents HAVE had the opportunity to order MFL revision guides. If you missed out, here are the references for them:

Revision guide

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Revise-GCSE-French-Revision-Guide/dp/129213142X/ref=sr_1_3?dchild=1&keywords=french+revision+book+pearson+aq&qid=1603286848&s=books&sr=1-3

Accompanying workbook:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Revise-GCSE-French-Revision-Workbook/dp/1292131357/ref=sr_1_4?dchild=1&keywords=french+revision+book+pearson+aq&qid=1603286888&s=books&sr=1-4

Religious Studies

Students have been studying a Christian topic titled 'Christ and Salvation.' As part of their home learning their teachers will have issued them with a student work book and asked them to complete several lessons. Over the half term break students should ensure these are completed ready to hand in to their teachers approx. mid November.

Product Design

We have had a creative start to the GCSE course this year with students producing solutions to 'real world' problems. Their work has been presented and discussed in class with ideas for further development. Now we are back in the workshop we can begin our practical projects. We have a range of these we are going to carry out until June when the contexts for our NEA are published. This will then see the start of the course work which is equal to 50% of the final grade. The students have also been busy working through their theory lessons, completing practise exam questions and building their knowledge for the examination next year.

Food Preparation and Nutrition

All Food home learning practical tasks are optional as we are aware that it may be difficult for some families due to the current situation. However, we would encourage students to cook at home where possible.

Textiles

Students are to continue to collect fabrics where possible for their upcoming project – making an interactive toy. Continue to complete homework's and upload to Google Classroom as well as bring hard copies to lessons.

Business

Students have made really positive start to the their GCSE Business course. Please ensure they are signed up to Seneca in order to complete their homework tasks and the AQA GCSE CGP revision guide can be purchased to support students with their learning.

CNat Enterprise & Marketing

Students have made a fantastic start to the course completing Task 1 of their first assessed piece of coursework as well as starting the exam content for their R064 exam which they will sit in May of this year. Please ensure they are signed up to Seneca in order to complete their homework tasks and

the OCR Cambridge National Enterprise and Marketing revision guide can be purchased to support students with their learning.

Music

The music department are very proud of the challenges that GCSE students have overcome during this half term due to COVID 19. It has been an absolute pleasure to listen to the students perform their GCSE Performance pieces via google classroom and have received some personal feedback. We expect students to perform for at least an hour over the two week timetable as they would usually be timetabled for a performance lesson in the “normal” school climate. We are constantly reviewing when it will be possible to perform together as a class again.

Over the last couple of weeks we have been experimenting with different types of music software to help assist the students working on their composition. We have chosen a fantastic web based sequencer which the students can use without the need of specialist expensive equipment both at home and at school. We will give the students more information on this next half term.

Transport to school

For the attention of Students using the School Buses

Please remind your young person that they **must be wearing their mask on the school bus**. If the school bus becomes stuck in traffic it is important that your young person stays on the bus, this is the safest place to be.

Walking and cycling to school

It is fantastic to see so many students walking and cycling to school. Please remind your young person to make sure they are thinking about other road users and their own safety on their journey in to school.

Uniform Code

As you will be aware we have changed the rules this year so students can wear their coats inside as they cannot access their lockers. We are also very aware as we go into winter that we are in a situation where we need to keep classrooms well ventilated as a preventative measure for COVID and have a positive learning environment.

Following discussions with our Governing body we have decided to alter our uniform code for this academic year to allow students to 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@pfs.cheshire.sch.uk

Free school meals

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 with no earned income or with net monthly earnings less than £616.67

Phone 0300 123 5012 for further information and help or you can apply online at https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/free_school_meals.aspx

Child and Adolescent Mental Health

Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust's (CWP) nationally recognised Child and Adolescent Mental Health website 'MyMind' has been refreshed and relaunched in time for this year's World Mental Health Day.

MyMind is a dedicated website for young people across Cheshire and Wirral experiencing mental health difficulties. With support from local young people from our Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), MyMind has now been given a modern makeover!

MyMind provides advice and guidance around the key topics identified as most important to young people and their families: how to cope with mental health challenges, how to get help and what to do in a crisis.

The site includes a host of interactive self-help resources for young people, parents/carers and anyone who works with young people around the topics of Mood, Lifestyle and Relationships, as well as details on local mental health services in your area.

Visit www.MyMind.org.uk

Equipment Reminder

- Due to the current circumstances, we are unable to lend equipment to the students this year.
- Students need to bring the following equipment to school with them every day:
 - Pens – blue or black
 - Red pen
 - Pencil
 - Ruler
 - Protractor
 - Pair of compasses
 - Calculator
 - Rubber
 - Reading book
 - Mask
- It would also be handy to have scissors and glue!

COVID-19 Health and Safety

- Our students have been brilliant at adapting to the new measures put in place to keep everyone in our school community safe this year. We are grateful to them for following these rules.
- It is essential that students wear a mask in the school buildings and when in any covered areas.
- Student Year group bubbles have been allocated toilets – these are the only toilets they can use. This is to keep year groups separate.
- The number of students allowed in the toilets at any time is clearly labelled on the door – please adhere to these restrictions.

Thank you for all of your hard work year 10 and well done on such a brilliant half term. Have a lovely and restful holiday and we will look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 2nd November.

Please contact us if there are any issues or if you have any questions at all.
Thank you for your continued support.

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