



Poynton High School **Year 10 Parent and Carer Bulletin – October 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 10 have made a fantastic start to their GCSE subjects this academic year.

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

Revision and examination support

As a school we are committed to ensuring that you feel that you are well equipped in supporting your young person through their GCSEs. Our website contains lots of practical support for both yourself and your young person regarding revision techniques and strategies.

<https://www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk/keystage4exams>

Important dates

- Assessment 1: 10/10/22 – 25/11/22
- Progress Grades 1: 13/12/22
- Parents Evening (online): 09/02/23
- Exams: 20/03/23 – 31/03/23
- Progress Grades 2: 16/05/23
- Assessment 3: 12/06/23 – 16/06/23
- Reports: 11/07/23

Student voice

At Poynton High School we value our students and want them to have the opportunity to share their views. Each half term Mr Shaw is meeting with representatives from each form in year 10 and year 11 with a different focus. This half term they discussed positive expectations looking at what the school is doing well and what we could do better. As a Year team we will use this to help us continue to support our young people.

English

- Year 10 are currently completing their studies of the first 5 poems from their Power and Conflict Anthology. After October half-term, they will be studying Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, so they will shortly receive the text they paid for in Year 9.

- Encourage students to read as many books as possible! The more they read, the more they become used to understanding a wide variety of texts. This will assist with their completion of both Language and Literature GCSEs;
- All home learning is being set on a weekly basis on Google Classroom so please encourage students to complete this work. There is a tracking sheet in their revision folders that you can use to track and monitor their engagement with home learning tasks. These are explicitly linked to the GCSEs so students should be completing them to the best of their ability.
- Encourage students to ask as many questions as possible and get involved with the various activities and learning experiences on offer!
- Look out for revision tips on our Twitter page @PHS_EngDept
- Read and re-read your GCSE English Literature texts. There is a very good production of *An Inspector Calls* that often tours at the Lowry Theatre, we would definitely recommend you to book tickets if you can!
- Check through lesson notes and ask your teacher to clarify anything you are unsure about.
- Positive praise emails will be sent home before October break for pupils who have worked particularly hard in English this half-term.

Maths

Year 10 will be sitting their first formal GCSE assessment this next half term. A list of topics which they are being assessed on is available on Google classroom. Once this process is complete we will be going through a feedback process which allows class teachers to see exactly where the strengths and weaknesses of the class are. From this, students will have a personalised revision list where they can identify areas for improvement moving forward. Further information will be given to students in their lessons.

Year 10 continue to be set fortnightly homeworks; one of which is through drfrostmaths which is an online website. Students have been given all of their log in details for this, please encourage them to use this regularly as part of their independent revision.

Science

Subject	This half term	Next half term
Biology	<p>Separate Science Students: Are studying the topic of Disease and will learn how to grow microbes without contamination and how a variety of medications work and are produced</p> <p>Combined Science Students: Have been learning about plant transport and will move on to studying types of disease and the body's defences</p> <p>All: Have completed first TMA and have acted on feedback from staff</p>	<p>Separate Science Students: Will learn Separate Science only content on Plant defences and diseases before beginning to learn about digestion, building on and extending KS3 knowledge</p> <p>Combined Science Students: Will continue to learn about diseases with a focus on types of medicine and their development before beginning to learn about digestion, building on and extending KS3 knowledge</p> <p>All:</p>

		Will sit their first assessment on course content delivered so far. SENECA resources will be set to aid revision
Chemistry	<p>Separate Science Students: Have continued with the topic of chemical bonding (C2) that they started at the end of year 9. They have completed their first assessment on the topic and completed a TMA.</p> <p>Combined Science Students: Have continued with the topic of chemical bonding (C2) that they started at the end of year 9. They have completed a TMA and will be sitting their first assessment on the whole of the C2 content (year 9 and year 10 work) in the next few weeks. SENECA resources will be set to aid revision.</p>	<p>Separate Science Students: Will start the topic of chemical changes (C4) which includes reactions of metals and acids and alkalis. This topic allows much more opportunity for practical experience than the previous bonding topic which is one of the reasons we study this before C3.</p> <p>Combined Science Students: Will start the topic of chemical changes (C4) which includes reactions of metals and acids and alkalis. This topic allows much more opportunity for practical experience than the previous bonding topic which is one of the reasons we study this before C3.</p>
Physics	<p>Separate Science Students: Are studying the topic of Atomic Structure and Radioactivity. They are building on knowledge from KS3 on the structure of atoms and the development of atomic theory, and gaining new knowledge on nuclear radiation.</p> <p>Combined Science Students: Are studying the topic of Atomic Structure and Radioactivity. They are building on knowledge from KS3 on the structure of atoms and the development of atomic theory, and gaining new knowledge on nuclear radiation.</p> <p>All: Have completed first TMA and have acted on feedback from staff, and will sit their first assessment around half term, which includes questions on all the work covered in Atomic and Nuclear, plus one question on Forces, which they studied in Year 9.</p>	<p>Separate Science Students: After sitting their first test and receiving feedback, including follow-up work on 6-mark questions, the students will begin their studies of the Electricity topic, building on their knowledge from KS3 and using a more mathematical approach to tackle the topic.</p> <p>Combined Science Students: After sitting their first test and receiving feedback, including follow-up work on 6-mark questions, the students will begin their studies of the Electricity topic, building on their knowledge from KS3 and using a more mathematical approach to tackle the topic.</p>

Assessments

Students will be completing their first Science assessments for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. They may have already completed some and will have any remaining in the first 2 weeks after half term. 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. It is essential that

students fully prepare for these assessments. Please see below for details of revision resources they can use in their preparation.

Seneca

All students have now been re-introduced to Seneca and should have logged in and completed an introductory assignment. **Please note – we are using different emails to login this year, as we now have classes synced to the school registers. The students will need to use their emails ending @pchs.cheshire.sch.uk, and the initial password is seneca2020.** Seneca is a free online resource which can be used for teacher directed revision, independent revision and to help students consolidate work from previous topics and years. The more students complete on Seneca, the better it tailors tasks personalised to each student and the areas they need to focus on. **If students are not sure how to log in or access their Science class assignments please tell them to ask their Science teacher.** <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

Revision Guides

The deadline for ordering revision guides is Friday the 21st of October. If you have ordered one or your child qualifies for pupil premium funding, Revision guides will be given out in science lessons at the beginning of next term. If you have missed the deadline the revision guides can be bought directly from the links below.

Combined (Double) Science revision guides:

Higher tier (recommended for students in sets 1 and 2): <https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/combined-science/sahr46-new-gcse-combined-science-aqa>

Foundation tier (recommended for students in sets 3 and 4):

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/combined-science/safr46-new-gcse-combined-science-aqa-revision-guide>

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

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/biology/bar46-new-gcse-biology-aqa-revision-guide-higher-i>

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/chemistry/car46-new-gcse-chemistry-aqa-revision-guide-higher>

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/physics/par48-new-gcse-physics-aqa-revision-guide-higher-i>

Religious Studies

Students have made a positive and successful start to their GCSE Religious Studies course this term. Students have been looking at Christian concepts and ideas about creation, sin, crucifixion and resurrection. They will soon be completing their first end of unit assessment, so they should be making revision maps / cue cards for work completed so far.

Students do not need to purchase published revision guides, but if they do want to refer to other resources, then the link below will guide you to the correct revision materials for this course.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-GCSE-Religious-Studies-Christianity/dp/0198422857>

After half term they will be moving on to a topic on the Thematic Studies paper focusing on Religion and Crime and Punishment.

History

Year 10 have made a really positive start to the year and have been continuing with the USA unit they began in Year 9 and have also sat their first GCSE style assessment on the Civil Rights Movement. As we move through the next half term students should look forward to learning about the USA's growing involvement in Vietnam and starting our new unit on Medicine in Britain.

Students should also look out for information on GCSE revision guides which will be shared after half term.

Geography

We are currently working through our Challenge of Natural Hazards topic. Students will soon be sitting (or have recently sat) a mid-unit assessment covering the **tectonic hazards** aspects of the unit.

GCSE revision guides will be available to buy at a discounted price after half term, please look out for more information regarding this.

MFL

Well done to Year 10 students for their work this half-term, they have made a great start to their GCSE studies! This year again, we have a really good number of students who have chosen to study both German and Spanish, they have all made a fantastic start too!

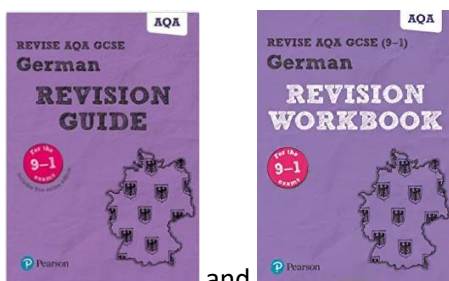
Year 10 German are working on relationships, the qualities of a good friend, views on marriage, weekend activities and talking about life when they were younger.

Year 10 Spanish are studying the topic of going out, online activities, reading habits, family members and descriptions

Year 10 students have completed their first set of assessments this half-term in Listening, Reading, Writing/Translation and Speaking. We look forward to some great results!

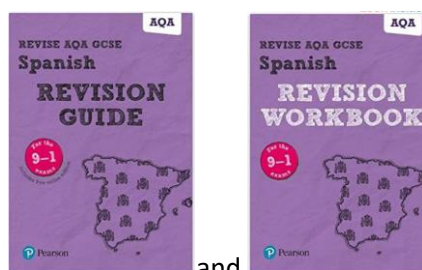
If you would like to order revision guides and workbooks (we recommend you get both as the workbook has exam style questions with answers), you can find links here:

German:



and

Spanish:



and

Useful websites:

Most classes have used www.memrise.com, www.quizlet.com or www.pearsonactivelearn.com in their language lesson in the computer room. These are great websites to use at home too. Any student can join by using their google account and individual teachers have set classes and home learning tasks.

Username and passwords for www.pearsonactivelearn.com have been given out and students should have written their usernames and passwords for the different websites on the first page of their vocab booklets. If your child hasn't had access to this website, ask them to check with their teachers on Google Classroom.

Keep following us on Twitter too:

Mr Farrell- @MonsieurFarrell

French Department - @PH_rench

German Department - @PHS_GERMAN

Spanish Department@PHS_Spanish

GCSE Business

Our Year 10 classes have made an excellent start to the course learning about different types of business ownership as well as the skills and characteristics of successful entrepreneurs. This was shown in the excellent results achieved in all classes in the first assessed piece of work.

Home Learning for GCSE Business is set weekly mainly through Seneca, please ensure your child has a working login for Seneca and has joined their classroom.

Over the next few weeks we will continue to look at business types moving from smaller businesses to larger ones and even dabble with investing in the stock market.

A great way to help your child become more aware of the business world is to encourage them to watch the news, shows such as Dragon's Den or The Apprentice, read business related articles or podcasts.

In order to support their studies, the following revision guide and workbook is recommended

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/GCSE-Business-Complete-Revision-Practice/dp/1789080886/>

CNAT Enterprise and Marketing

Our Year 10 class have made a fantastic start to the course, learning about the different methods of market research and applying their knowledge to their first piece of coursework before designing a customer profile. They will receive the mark for this after half term. This year students will complete R068 and R068. Both of these involve a piece of coursework worth a total of 50% of their final grade. This year's tasks focus around designing and marketing a backpack and after half term students will begin their designs for their bags.

Computer Science

Welcome to all the Year 10 computer scientists, GCSE Computer Science has proved to be a very popular option choice this year, with students realising the importance of the subject and where it can take them. Students have been looking at units and data representation, such as bits and bytes. After half term, we will be moving onto designing, creating and refining algorithms.

With regards to programming at home, students have been recommended to install Python and use the IDLE, in order to improve their programming skills.

CNAT iMedia

Welcome to all the CNAT iMedia students. They have obviously been inspired by the teachers in Year 9, enjoying the creative elements of Computing, as it's the biggest cohort we have ever had! Year 10s have been introduced to the Graphics unit and have been studying different types of graphics and their target audience. After half term, we will be concentrating on the design elements of graphics and developing their skills in Photoshop and Illustrator. This unit is to be completed by February half term, when we will move onto a different unit.

Students are no longer allowed to work on their coursework at home. We encourage the students to attend drop in sessions at lunchtime in Room 28. There is also a session after school from 3.15 pm-4.15 pm on Thursdays in rm 28 with Mr Bemowski.

Art

Our Year 10 Art students have enjoyed making a start on their Natural Forms project and have produced some excellent observational studies and photographs. They are beginning to explore a range of artists who explore this theme and have been set some work on this to complete over the half term break. Parents should now have received an email regarding the Art Kits that students can purchase from the department, which includes all of the materials that the students will use throughout the course. Please get in touch if you have any further queries regarding this. Students are expected to complete a double page of work for each assignment in their A3 sketchbooks and all instruction guides for each task are set on their Google Classroom.

Photography

The Year 10 photographers have enjoyed using the school cameras to learn about the basic skills in photography as an introduction to the course. They have now set up their online portfolios on their Google Drive, which is where they will present their photos and complete all coursework tasks. All home learning tasks are set on their Google Classroom and students are expected to work on their online portfolios as part of the home learning. The students have been set some work over the half term break to continue to develop their online portfolios.

Textiles

Year 10 Textiles have been focusing on fibres and fabrics recently in their theory lessons. They have learnt both natural and synthetic fibres properties, the process of fibres to fabrics, including the different construction methods. Students have all produced a woven sample and a felted sample in

lesson. It is important for students to revise the content of these lessons in their own time. All students have a revision guide and workbook with homework questions set regularly on Google Classroom. Please could you remind students to ensure they bring their exercise book, revision guide and workbook to each theory lesson with Mrs Mottram.

During year 10's practical lessons with Mrs Browning students have been focusing on their pattern cutting skills. This is to prepare them for their NEA projects which will begin before the end of Year 10.

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Recently in their theory lessons Year 10 Food have been focusing on vitamins. All students have a revision guide and workbook with homework questions set regularly on Google Classroom. Please could you remind students to ensure they bring their revision guide and workbook to each theory lesson with their class teacher.

During year 10's practical lessons students have been focusing on their preparation skills. This is to prepare them for their NEA project which will begin before the end of Year 10.

Product Design

The students have made a great start to the year in their modelling challenge with Miss Corry. They have created some really high quality models of a stool $\frac{1}{4}$ of the size. This has tested their maths skills and also their skills in the workshop. Next they will be moving on to a challenge that will enhance their CAD/CAM, graphical and plastics forming skills.

In the theory side we have focussed on 'Timbers'. This will be the topic tested in their assessment on Thursday 3rd November and they should all have their folders at home so they can revise between now and then. Please can you remind them to bring their folders back in to continue the theory work in lessons after this time.

Cambridge National

Our year 10 students have made a fantastic start to their Cambridge National Qualifications with regards to both the theory and practical elements of the course. Our students have been working hard in their theory lessons to complete their first ever assignment within the R186: Sport and The Media assignment. In practical lessons, our students are currently participating in Football and Netball and are working hard in both drills and competitive matches which can contribute towards their final overall grade for the course. After half term, our students will be completing their second assignment: The Positive effects of media on sport. Our students will also be participating in badminton in practical lessons. We currently run an afterschool club on Thursday evenings for badminton and our Cambridge national students are both more than welcome and encouraged to use this opportunity to practice and potentially improve their performance. Well done for the truly excellent start you have made to the Cambridge National Course, Year 10.













Core PE



In PE over the first term students have complete a range of activities from invasion games to problem solving to Net and wall games to fitness to alternative games. The students will experience the activities for a 3-week block before moving to the next rotation. The first two blocks of activities have been completed and students have moved onto their next block.

With the weather now getting colder it is recommended that students now bring suitable PE kit for this weather, as some PE lessons will still be outside. Students can wear any of the following in addition to PHS PE kit to ensure they stay warm during outdoor lessons.

- Long sleeved t – shirt or under amour underneath their PE t – shirt
- Plain blue Jumper (No hoodies)
- Plain blue or black tracksuit bottoms
- Gloves

It has been fantastic to see so many students getting involved in the PE extracurricular activities at both lunch and afterschool. Please see below for the updated activities starting from the 31st October. Any student is welcome to join and they don't have to have been before. After school clubs require students to get changed and lunch time clubs' students can just turn up and play.

 PHS PE After School Activities 2022-23 			
Autumn Term (Starting WC 31st October)			
All pupils welcome to attend any PE extra-curricular club. Make sure you have your full PE kit to take part in after-school clubs			
Day	Activity	Time	Location
Monday	Netball (AKE, FAC, JLH, CAN) Week 1: Year 7 and 8 Week 2: Year 9 and 10 Year 9 Dance Club (CLH)	  3:15—4:15	Leisure Centre
		3:15 - 4:15	Dance Studio
Tuesday	Year 7 Dance Club (CLH)	3:15—4:15	Dance studio
	Girls Cricket (JLH)	   3:15—4:15	Gym
	Basketball (KAS)	3:15—4:15	Leisure Centre
Wednesday	Boys Football (CME ,KAS, MAH, NWR, SB)	  3:15—4:15	Field
	Year 10 and 11 Cambridge National Catch up (JLH)	3:15—4:15	Room 7
Thursday	Girls Football (JLH)	  3:15—4:15	Field
	Year 8 Dance Club (CLH)	3:15—4:15	Dance studio
	Badminton (CEW)	 3:15—4:15	Leisure Centre
	Rugby (CME)	3:15—4:15	Field

 PHS PE Lunch Time Activities 			
2022—2023			
All pupils welcome to attend any PE extra-curricular club. You just need to turn up to the leisure centre. Kit is not needed for lunch time clubs			
Day	Activity	Time	Location
Monday	Basketball (CME)	1:20— 1:50	Leisure Centre
Wednesday	Your Time Leadership programme (JLH)	1:20— 1:50	Gym
Friday	Week 1 Year 7+8 Indoor Football (KAS) Week 2 Year 9 + 10 Indoor Football	1:20— 1:50	Leisure Centre

Drama

This year we are starting the Drama GCSE with a brand new set text called the IT. Students have been working on this in class and have the opportunity to consider how they would stage it as actors, designers and technical directors. We are also watching a great piece of theatre by Frantic Assembly called Things I know to be True. They will be analysing what the professional artists do and seeing what ideas they would like to steal for themselves. In addition students will be working on small extracts of scripts from plays so that they can choose the pieces they'd like to do for assessment at the end of the year.

The best preparation for the GCSE exam is for them to go to the theatre. There are some great productions at the moment if ever families would like to go. We'd highly recommended the Royal Exchange, The Lowry, The Hope Mill theatre in New Islington and always to support local theatres like Poynton players who will be staging Twelfth Night shortly.

Students have also had the chance to sign up for this year's House Performing Arts Competition which will take place on the 19th and 20th December with judges from the performing arts industry ready to judge their pieces.

A huge thank you to those wonderful students who helped out at Open Evening. They were fantastic.

Dance

Year 10 Dance students have made an absolutely fantastic start to the course. Their energy and enthusiasm in lessons is infectious and they are working very hard to learn all of the new terminology. They have been choreographing their first mini assessment which will happen after half term. This will assess on their physical, technical and mental skills. Please quiz them at home about their understanding of what are physical skills, technical skills and mental skills are. Well done to all Year 10 Dancers.

Music

Component 1 : Understanding Music

The listening Examination paper tests the students' understanding of the AQA GCSE keywords and how to identify them in musical examples in a silent examination. The examination is one and a half hours in duration. Section A in the examination consists of listening to unfamiliar music (they do not know what tracks have been selected by AQA). They must use their listening skills to recognise which musical features/keywords are heard in the musical excerpt. There are usually around ten tracks with roughly six questions per track. The Year 10 group have made a good start learning the keywords associated with "Rhythm and Metre" and "Harmony and Tonality" so far.

Component 2 : Composing Music

During Year 11 the students must compose two compositions before the AQA Easter deadline. One composition is their choice (Free Composition) and the other is a composition set to a brief written by AQA. This term we have been looking at the theoretical knowledge needed to create a good foundation for a composition. During Year 10, we will learn about many compositional techniques and features used by a wide range of composers and the effects that they create.

Component 3 : Performing Music

The students have enjoyed performing as a group this term whilst also working on their solo performance. During Year 11 the students have to submit a solo recording and an ensemble

recording on an instrument of their choice, instrument or vocals. During this time they can record as many times as possible after school until they can not improve any further.

The department is open for GCSE students to work on their coursework during Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes and after school on a Thursday if they want some feedback or advice. If you have any questions regarding GCSE Music, please email cgw@phs.cheshire.sch.uk

Uniform

Details of our uniform policy can be found here:

<https://www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk/aboutus/schooluniform>

Equipment

- 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
- It would also be handy to have their own scissors and glue!

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/school-meals/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

Thank you

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 31st October.

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

Harriet Dovey (hdovey@phs.cheshire.sch.uk)
Director of Learning to key stage 4

Jennifer Aspinall (JAS@phs.cheshire.sch.uk)
Welfare Leader to key stage 4