



TRUE LEARNING  
PARTNERSHIP



# Poynton High School and Performing Arts College

Head Teacher: Mr M Dean

Sunday, 08 January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Best wishes to you and your family for the New Year. I hope that all our students and families have had a good break over Christmas and look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 9 January for the start of the Spring term.

The start of a New Year is traditionally a chance for us all to make resolutions and I hope that our students will resolve to be their best in everything that they do in 2023; academically, in extra-curricular activities and in how they support each other in school.

### **Develop a reading habit**

We have done a lot over the last couple of years to promote reading among students and developing a good habit of reading is one simple thing that students can do. It will bring them a huge amount of pleasure and will help them to make progress in all their subjects, as reading is at the heart of all learning. All students in Years 7-11 should bring a reading book to school every day. If they need a new book to read we have an excellent library, staffed by a specialist librarian, and I would encourage them to make use of that. Discussing their book with them at home is a great way to encourage your children to enjoy reading.

### **Developing strategies to build knowledge**

Successful learning is about knowing more and remembering more over the long term. At the end of last term we worked on our school approach to effective revision and retrieval of knowledge. This builds on our existing work and on the latest research and will ensure that all staff and students are using consistent language about revision from Year 7-13. This will make the process so much simpler for students and we look forward to sharing this with you so you can support at home. Expect to hear more about the preparation, performance and progress stages soon!

### **Looking out for others**

We know that there have been higher levels of respiratory infections circulating nationally in recent weeks and may have seen that over Christmas in our families and friends. If your child is unwell and has a fever they should stay at home until they feel better and the fever has resolved. If there is no fever then students can be in school but should continue to protect others by following the simple advice that they will now be well used to.

- Ensure good hand hygiene by regular handwashing and sanitising

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- Catch coughs and sneezes in tissues, bin them and then sanitise hands
- We will continue to fill up the sanitiser in school and will encourage good ventilation, while ensuring classrooms are a comfortable temperature for learning.

### **Get involved in extra-curricular activities**

Many of our students are already very involved in a wide range of activities and it was my pleasure to watch large numbers perform in the two Christmas concerts and the House Performance evenings held at the end of term. If your child is not yet fully involved in extra-curricular activities then a New Year is a great chance to get involved. We have a wide range of activities on offer and some of these can be found at [Poynton High School & Performing Arts College - Extra Curricular Activities and School Trips \(pchs.cheshire.sch.uk\)](http://pchs.cheshire.sch.uk)

### **Update on building work**

The window replacement work which was funded from a Condition Improvement Fund Bid was completed before Christmas. We now begin a project to replace one of the roofs in lower school. This will not require as many room changes as were needed when the windows were being replaced but students will need to continue to take care around the work. The contractors working on the windows were very complimentary about our students and I expect the same to be the case again with this project.

I look forward to updating you further as the term progresses.

With best wishes,



Matthew Dean  
Headteacher