



POOLE
SCHOOL HIGH
DORSET

Poole High News Autumn 1

Autumn 2026

Dear Families,

A warm welcome to the new school year, I hope you all had a lovely summer and were able to take advantage of the fantastic weather.



We have loved welcoming the children back this week and hearing the excitement around the site as they catch up and settle back into school life.

The school feels very vibrant this week, we are still celebrating the wonderful results that the children achieved this summer, they made fantastic progress from their starting points and we are so proud of them all.

We are now looking ahead to an exciting and busy year, the calendar is filling up with events and activities and we are so keen for all children to be engaged with something they love. Please keep an eye out for future communication on the full list of clubs and activities.

Thank you so much for your hard work along side us to enforce the uniform rules, the benefits for the children are so substantial. For parents new to the school, it's important to know that our consistency in uniform is a massive part of our anti-bullying work and allowing the children to be in school without the pressure of conforming to trends. I know it can be hard to understand sometimes, but it is truly liberating within our school environment.

With my best wishes for this term
Sian Phillips
Headteacher

Important Dates

TUE 8 SEPTEMBER

 Year 11 University Trips

MON 28 SEPTEMBER

 Year 12 Parents' Information Evening

TUE 29 SEPTEMBER

 Year 11 Parents' Information Evening

THU 1 OCTOBER

 Sixth Form Open Evening

MON 5 OCTOBER

 Year 10 Parents' Information Evening

TUE 6 OCTOBER

 Year 9 Parents' Information Evening

TUE 15 OCTOBER

 Years 7 & 8 Parents' Information Evening

FRI 23 OCTOBER

 School Closed • INSET Day

MON 26-30 OCTOBER

 Half Term Holiday

MON 2 NOVEMBER

 School Closed • INSET Day

TUE 3 NOVEMBER

 All Students Return to School

Smart Phones

Thank you for your support with our new Smartphone Policy. We are grateful to all parents and carers who are checking with children before school to ensure devices are not brought onsite by students in Years 7-11.

Students may bring an approved non-smart phone. If required, students may also bring a tracker, which should remain in their school bag.

For further information about bus travel with Morebus, [click here](#).

Summer Building Update

It has been a very busy summer at Poole High School.

Over the holidays, we have been working on several exciting projects to improve our facilities for students and staff. This includes a large building project for our new toilet block, and welfare rooms which will have such an impact for the children.

We have also worked on refreshing classrooms and social areas, new computer labs, groundwork and new PE facilities.

Unfortunately we have had some work considerably disrupted this summer. There have sadly been some social media crazes that have lead to children trespassing on the school site which has caused a knock on delay to work, as we have had to lockdown access to protect the site, contractors and materials.

It has certainly been a busy summer, and we are grateful to all those who have worked so hard to improve our school environment.



A LEVEL RESULTS

Congratulations to the class of 2026!

Through hard work, perseverance and ambition, our students have secured a wide range of exciting destinations and opportunities.

We thank staff, families and carers for their support along the way, and we look forward to hearing about the exciting stories that will follow at a future Alumni event.



UNIVERSITIES ACROSS THE UK

Including Oxford, Cambridge, Kings College, Exeter, Cardiff, Durham and Bath



EXCITING DESTINATIONS

Including university, apprenticeships, training, employment and gap years

75%
A*-C
GRADES
ACROSS
ALL
SUBJECTS



100%
PASS
RATE IN
APPLIED
COURSES

72% OF ALL UNIVERSITY APPLICANTS
SECURED THEIR FIRST CHOICE DESTINATION.

GCSE RESULTS

We are incredibly proud of the achievements of our Year 11 students, whose hard work and perseverance have been rewarded with a strong set of GCSE results.

We are thrilled that a significant number of students will be continuing their studies with us in Sixth Form, taking the next step towards their aspirations and future goals. We are equally proud of those who have secured places at local colleges, where they will continue to develop their skills, talents and interests.

We also congratulate the students who have successfully gained apprenticeship opportunities. In a highly competitive environment, securing an apprenticeship is an outstanding achievement and provides an exciting route into further training and employment.

Whatever pathway they have chosen, we wish all members of the Class of 2026 every success and look forward to following their future achievements.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Personal Development

At Poole High School, our personal development programme empowers every pupil to grow into a confident, compassionate, and ambitious individual.

Through a rich and inclusive curriculum, we nurture character, inspire curiosity, and encourage students to explore their passions while preparing them to make a positive impact in the world around them.

Our aim is to help pupils understand themselves and their place in society — to make thoughtful choices, embrace diversity, and contribute meaningfully to modern British life. We believe that personal development is not just about learning skills, but about shaping values, resilience, and purpose.

This is just a brief overview of some of the amazing opportunities in the first half term.



Date	Personal Development Event
	Extended Tutor time for all year groups: Welcome Back Year Group Assemblies: Core reminders - Vision, House Points, Attendance, Learning and Safeguarding.
7-Sep-26	Personal Development Day 1: Key Learning including Character, Passion, Ambition, Learning. Y11 Whole Year Group Trip: an inspirational visit to higher education establishment including Bath, Bournemouth, Head of Year Assemblies - Building character and setting expectations.
14-Sep-26	Progress Leaders Assemblies: Focus on ambition Y7 - 12 Leadership Interviews to join the Student Leadership Team. Extra-Curricular Clubs all start
21-Sep-26	Charity Event: Sixth Form lead the Macmillan Cake and Coffee Morning Silver Duke of Edinburgh Languages Assemblies: Celebrating European Day of Languages.
28-Sep-26	Sixth Form Open Evening Safeguarding Assemblies: DSL leads on key messages, staying safe and reporting. Student leaders meeting to continue planning 'Student Led House Charity Events' which are new for this year.
5-Oct-26	Y9 and Y10 Parents Information Evenings Mental Health Awareness Assemblies: MH champion leads on strategies to develop mental health.
12-Oct-26	Year 7 and 8 Student, Staff and Parents Roaming Evening Charity Event: Sixth Form 'Sleep Easy' Equalities Assemblies: An assembly that focuses on Black History Month. Headteacher Rewards: Appointed Student Leadership Team meet the Headteacher and Senior Leaders for congratulations and a QandA.
19-Oct-26	Personal Development Day 2: Focus on Misogyny, Equality through Music, Employer Encounters, Mental Health and Revision Strategies. Y7 Whole Year Group: London Museum Trip. Y12 Geography Field Trip Rewards and Recognition Assemblies: Heads of Year focus on those who have shown excellent Character, Passion and Ambition.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Missing one day a fortnight is the same as having four weeks off a year". The government recently published their findings concerning the link between progress and data: "Students with 95-100% attendance in Year 11 were 1.9 times more likely to achieve a Grade 5 or above in both English and Maths GCSEs than students with attendance of 90-95%". We're always amazed when we hear statistics like this. While it may not seem like missing the occasional day makes a difference, regular attendance is one of the biggest factors in a young person's success at school.

Missed Days		Missed Learning
Less than 5 days	95%+	Less than 25 lessons
Up to 10 days	94.9%-93%	Up to 50 lessons
Up to 19 days	92.9%- 90%	Up to 100 lessons
Up to 25 days	89.9%- 85%	Up to 125 lessons
More than 29 days	Below 84.9%	Over 150 lessons

Here are some more reasons to attend well:

Progress and confidence:

- Keep up with lessons and coursework.
- Develop stronger reading, writing, and maths skills.
- Achieve higher grades and examination results.
- Feel more confident in their learning.

Relationships and community:

- Build positive friendships.
- Feel connected to peers and teachers.
- Develop social skills and gain independence.
- Feel part of the school community.

Employability and life skills:

- Responsibility
- Time management
- Resilience
- Reliability



MISSING
(SCHOOL)=
MISSING
OUT!

Every day Counts!

Notices

Communications and Information

Our website should be your first point of reference for information about school life. It includes dedicated sections for parents and students, along with key updates and resources throughout the year.

You'll also find:

 **Parent Guide**

Useful information about school routines, expectations, support services and key contacts. We encourage all families, particularly those new to the school, to take a look.

 **Arbor Parent App**

Guidance on setting up and using Arbor, including reporting absences and updating contact information.

 **Term Dates**

Downloadable term dates for the academic year.

 **School Calendar**

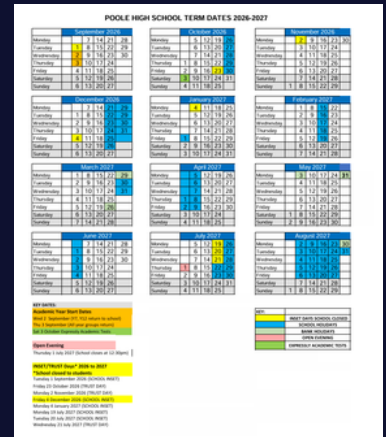
A calendar of key events, activities and important dates throughout the year.

 **Student Planner**

A valuable source of information for students and families. We recommend taking some time to read through it at the start of the year.



Poole High School
Parent Guide



Sixth Form
Parent &
Student Guide



Contacting the School

To ensure queries and concerns are directed to the right person as quickly as possible, please use the communication routes available through our website:

- [Pastoral Contact Form](#) - For any pastoral or student-focused matter, including academic concerns.
- [Attendance Form](#) - To request future absence or inform us of appointments.
- [Safeguarding](#) - To report any safeguarding concerns that are not specific to your child.
- [SEND](#) - To seek advice and support regarding SEND matters or examination access arrangements.
- [Arbor](#) - Our Student Information Management System can be used to report student absences and update contact details, helping us maintain accurate information and communicate effectively with families.

Thank you for your continued support. By working together and making use of these communication channels, we can ensure students receive the timely support they need to thrive at Poole High School.

Notices

PE Reminders

PE Kit

Please ensure that all PE kit is clearly labelled with your child's name. For some students, changing for PE can feel a little daunting at first. Practising changing in and out of PE kit at home can help build confidence and support a smooth start and finish to lessons.

Winter Kit Requirements

Students will need navy blue long socks this term. For football they will need shin pads. Please also remember that all shorts and tracksuit bottoms should be plain, with no visible logos.

Jewellery and Hair

For health and safety reasons, jewellery cannot be worn during PE lessons and all ear piercings must be removed before the lesson begins. Students with long hair should bring a hair band so that it can be tied back securely during activities.

Illness or Injury

If your child is unable to participate in PE due to illness or injury, they should bring a note in their planner explaining the reason. Students are still expected to bring their PE kit and get changed, as they will be involved in the lesson through alternative, non-participatory roles that support their learning.

Sports Leaders Programme

We are delighted to be launching applications for our Sports Leaders Programme in the second week of term. This is an excellent opportunity for students to develop leadership skills, gain valuable experience and contribute to sporting events within the school community. We encourage all interested students to apply.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another exciting and successful year of PE at Poole High School.

We are a Nut Free School!

To help keep all students safe, please remember that Poole High School is a nut-free school.

Several students have severe nut allergies and even small amounts of exposure can result in a serious allergic reaction.

When preparing packed lunches or snacks, please check ingredients carefully. Nuts can often be hidden in products such as chocolate spreads, cereal bars, biscuits, cakes and confectionery.

Please do keep us updated using the pastoral contact form if you have any concerns.

We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a safe environment for all members of our school community. Thank you.



*Nut
Free*

Notices

Road Closures

Important Traffic Update: Longfleet Road Gas Works

SGN has asked us to share a reminder about the next phase of essential gas main replacement works taking place on Longfleet Road. These works are expected to have a significant impact on local traffic and journeys to and from school.

Phase 2: Directional Road Closure

Starts: Tuesday 1 September

Duration: Approximately 13 weeks

Location: Longfleet Road and George Roundabout

A one-way northbound road closure will be in place on Longfleet Road between Elizabeth Road and Shaftesbury Avenue. Lane closures will also be in operation at George Roundabout, although the roundabout will remain open with traffic directed into appropriate lanes.

What this means:

- Vehicles will not be able to travel northbound between Elizabeth Road and Shaftesbury Avenue.
- Access to Poole Hospital and nearby properties within the closure area will be maintained via the southbound lane.
- Vehicles exiting the hospital car park will still be able to turn left or right onto Longfleet Road.
- Pedestrian and cycle access will remain available.
- Bin collection services are expected to continue as normal.
- Bus services may be affected. Please check with your bus operator for the latest route information.

Phase 3: George Roundabout Works

Starts: Monday 19 October

Duration: Approximately 6 weeks

Due to major connection works, access to the Taxi Rank on George Roundabout will not be available during this phase.

Please Plan Ahead

As this is a particularly busy area, parents, carers, staff and visitors are advised to allow extra time for journeys and consider alternative routes where possible.

Please allow extra travel time when coming to and from school during these works.



Flu Vaccinations **NHS**

To help protect vulnerable children ahead of winter, early flu vaccination appointments may be available for those with certain medical conditions. Please click on the link [Letter from the NHS](#).

Twynham Learning Partners with Schools Plus



Looking for a facility to accommodate your activity or club? Please click on [this link](#) below to learn more about Schools Plus.