



Poynton High School



Year 7 Parent and Carer Bulletin – July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find below our final parent/carers bulletin for the year. I'm sure you are wondering where the year has gone, especially as this time last year you would have been involved with all the transition and induction activities. It has been a great year, and they have all really grown up and settled in at high school. Next year they will move into Year 8 with Miss Hancock as their Director of Learning and Mrs Booth as their welfare lead. We hope you find the information useful and celebrate their first year at Poynton High School.

Please note: School closes at 12.30pm on Friday 18th July

School reopens on Wednesday 3rd September on week 1 of the timetable

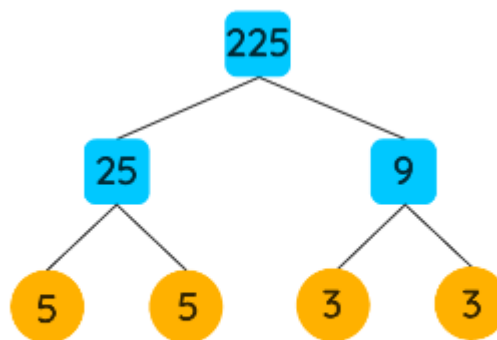
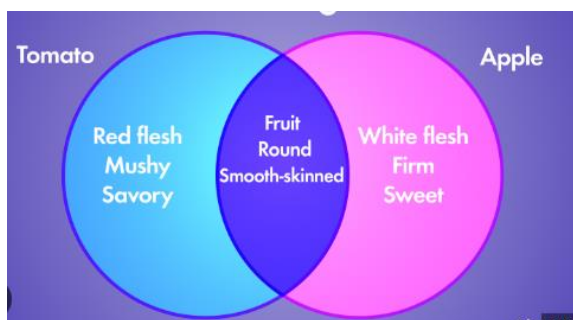
Please note that Year 8 students will start later on the Wednesday arriving from 11am, there will be signs directing students to their form rooms and during their first day back they will receive a new timetable for the year.

What to expect to find in the bulletin?

- Subject updates
- Mobile phone safety

Maths

Year 7 have been studying sets and probability this term. We've looked at Venn Diagrams and how to calculate probabilities as fractions, decimals or percentages. At the end of term, we've been looking again at prime numbers, factors and multiples using them with larger numbers.



$$225 = 3 \times 3 \times 5 \times 5$$

Looking Ahead

In September, your young person will be entering year 8. Over the Summer, please ensure they have full maths equipment; this includes pens, pencils, red pens, ruler, glue, compass, protractor and a calculator. The beginning of year 8 will explore ratios and scales and how they are used in real life contexts. This will be followed by multiplicative change which encompasses proportion problems and currency conversions. There will be open book assessments in the first half term based on these topics. There will be a closed book assessment in the second half term.



Summer Challenge

There will be optional homework set on Sparx which students can complete throughout Summer. Encourage your young person to access this to keep their mathematical brains switched on!

Where can you find maths during the summer holidays? Think about how many miles you might be travelling, how long something might take, can you do some baking which relies on measuring and proportion?

English

Science

This half term students have completed their final topics of Y7 which were:

- 7B4 The Environment
- 7C3 Acids and Alkalis
- 7P4 Space

In September:

New Y8 will start the following topics:

- 8B1: Food and Digestion
- 8C1: Gas tests and the environment
- 8P3: Energy 2

A stretch and challenge task for over summer

Over the summer if students would like to they could use the BBC bitesize website to start to look at the topics ready for September or look through the material available on Seneca.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zng4d2p>

MFL

YEAR 7 FRENCH and SPANISH

Coming up next year

In Y8, students will continue to build on the language they have learned in Y7, with topics including:

FRENCH

- Town and local area
- Festivals and celebrations
- New Year's Resolutions
- Holiday activities
- Leisure activities, celebrities and media

Outside of the classroom, students will also have the opportunity to take part in the French trip to Paris during the February half term. You should have received information about this trip via Evolve.

SPANISH

- Holidays
- Media and leisure activities
- Food and parties
- Going out with friends
- Sporting events and summer camps

In both languages, students will continue to build on their grammar knowledge with a big focus on learning how to form the past tense alongside recapping structures seen this year.

How you can support your young person

We encourage students over summer to keep up their exposure to French or Spanish in any way they can. This may be typical vocabulary revision using their vocabulary booklets, or more varied activities such as listening to music, watching films or TV series, or keeping up their language learning on apps like Duolingo to keep the language fresh in their minds. If you are lucky enough to be visiting a French or Spanish-speaking country, make the most of it by speaking to someone– even if you just start with 'hello', 'thank you' and 'goodbye'.

A stretch and challenge task for over summer

Here are some things to try over summer:

- Have a go at completing the lyrics to a French song using the website www.lyricstraining.com/fr
- Watch a French series or film (Netflix recommendations: 'Astérix & Obélix: The Middle Kingdom', 'Family Pack', 'Spoiled Brats')
- Watch a Spanish-themed film and change the language to Spanish (Disney+ / Netflix recommendations: 'Coco', 'Encanto', 'Canela', 'Book of Life', 'Zipi y Zape')

Geography

What another fantastic year it has been for our year 7 geographers. For many of them it has been their first real taste of geography, and they have learned so much – from our ‘Fantastic Places’ unit where many students not only discovered new places around the world through their map skills. We have looked at the processes creating glacial landforms and the climate and characteristics of our Polar regions. We also studied why they are increasingly threatened by human actions and then we challenged some perceptions of the magnificent continent of Africa where the students have realised what a diverse and exciting area of the world it is!

Coming up next year

In preparation for next year our students should continue to be interested in the world around them and what global events are taking place, from volcanic eruptions in Iceland which we will study in Year 8, to heatwaves across Europe and events closer to home in the ongoing plans for Poynton Park and Pool!

How you can support your young person

As always, we recommend that they continue to watch the BBC Newsround programme and then delve deeper into the topics that fascinate them. A favourite website of ours in the department is the <https://earth.nullschool.net/> live wind map where you can observe live wind patterns but also temperatures and change the dates to look at particular events going back as far as 2013.

A stretch and challenge task for over summer.

Why not try the Planet Planners activities where you use your geography decision-making skills to deal with challenges including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and coastal erosion. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zs6j2v4/articles/zdmkwnb> There are lots to choose from linked to our topics.

History

Year 7 have completed their first year of History at Poynton by learning about the impact World War Two had on Britain. This has included lessons on key aspects of the War for example, the Blitz and rationing but also looking at the longer-term impact of war like how spying became an integral part of warfare and how the NHS was created as a result of war. Next year students will begin their year by studying why William was able to conquer England in 1066 as part of the wider theme for Year 8, Power and the People.

How to support your young person:

Encourage students to refresh their minds about the Middle Ages they learned about in Year 7 in preparation for their first topic in Year 8 on 1066. A good website to visit would be BBC Bitesize.

Stretch and challenge activity:

We will be looking at Medieval castles in the first term of Year 8. Students could visit one of the more local castles to gain an insight into what was built during the Middle Ages. Castles to visit could include Chester Castle or Beeston Castle or any of the castles in North Wales.

RS

After Summer Students will begin Year 8 by looking in depth at Jewish Life and some of the key features in Judaism such as Bar and Bat Mitzvah.

How to support your young person:

Parents/carers can encourage their young person to reflect on what they already know about Judaism and prepare themselves to build on this knowledge.

Stretch and challenge activity:

As a challenge they could research key beliefs for Judaism such as Kosher food and items of religious clothing worn by Jewish people.

Computing

As we come to the end of Year 7, we want to recognise the excellent progress students have made in Computing. This year, they have been introduced to key digital skills including e-safety, using spreadsheets, basic programming, and understanding how computers work. They've shown curiosity and creativity throughout their learning, which has laid the groundwork for success in future years.

How to support your young person:

With summer approaching, here are some ideas to help your young person continue exploring Computing in a fun and engaging way.

- Discuss how technology is used at home and in everyday life.
- Encourage safe and respectful behaviour online.
- Explore creative platforms like Scratch to build simple games or animations.
- Challenge them to solve puzzles or logic games that build computational thinking.

Stretch and challenge activity:

A great stretch challenge task for over the summer, could be to encourage your young person to create a game or animation using scratch

- Visit <https://scratch.mit.edu> and create a free account.
- Design a short animation or simple game about a summer adventure.
- Use code blocks to include motion, sound, and interaction.

Useful Resources

- <https://scratch.mit.edu/> – Beginner-friendly platform to create games and animations
- <https://code.org/> – Fun, interactive coding courses
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z34k7ty> – KS3 Computing content (BBC Bitesize)
- <https://www.typingclub.com/> – Improve typing speed and accuracy

Product Design

This half term students will have added the finishing touches and finished their Blockhead. This has been a fantastic project for students this year as they have been able to learn a wide range of skills and put them into practice.

Our department Instagram account is: design_poynton. Please give us a follow to see what we are up to!

In Year 8 we will be introducing a **brand-new** clock project! Students will get the opportunity to design and make a fully functioning clock. Students will design it themselves with influence of a range of designers before being introduced to new tools in the workshop to create their clock.

Stretch and challenge activity:

Over the Summer break it would be great if students could visit a design museum or even look into potential designers which they could use to influence their designs next year. We look forward to hearing/seeing your findings!

PE

Sports Day 2025

On Tuesday 8th July, we held our Whole School Sports Day. It was fantastic to see so many students take part in the events throughout the day. The results for each event are...

Year 7 Boys Javelin	Legh	T Cunningham
Year 7 Girls Javelin	Davenport	A Ward
Year 7 Boys Shot	Legh	J Barker
Year 7 Girls Shot	Newton	A Quigley
Year 7 Boys LJ	Legh	C Thomas
Year 7 Girls LJ	Legh	A Barratt
Year 7 Boys Basketball	Legh	A Guerin

Year 7 Girls Basketball	Legh	J Mowbray
Year 7 Boys Target	Vernon	B Lockton
Year 7 Girls Target	Legh	M Bamford
Year 7 Boys Welly	Davenport	K Gaskell
Year 7 Girls Welly	Legh	A Cooper
Year 7 Boys 800m	Newton	L Naylor
Year 7 Girls 800m	Legh	F Hudson
Year 7 Boys 400m	Vernon	R Warburton
Year 7 Girls 300m	Newton	F Pickup
Year 7 Boys 200m	Newton	P Hay
Year 7 Girls 200m	Vernon	B Corbett
Year 7 Boys 100m	Newton	L Naylor
Year 7 Girls 100m	Newton	A Barratt

Overall Sports Day Results

4th = Newton – 790 points

2nd = Vernon – 818 points

2nd = Davenport 818 points

1st = Legh – 876 points

Dance

Well done to all those who took part in the House Dance Competition. It was so wonderful to see all your choreographies and it was great to see so many different genres and pieces of music. Congratulations to Newton won the competition. Dance Clubs will resume next September on the same day as you have had this year.

Tuesday - Year 7

Wednesday – Year 9

Thursday – Year 8

All new members welcome!

Mobile phone safety

Summer holidays often mean more screen time, travel, and outdoor activities—making mobile phone safety more important than ever. Here’s how parents can help keep their children’s phones (and digital lives) safe:

1. Set Clear Rules & Expectations

- **Create a holiday phone plan:** Agree on screen time limits, acceptable apps, and daily phone-free times (like mealtimes or family outings).
- **Discuss online behaviour:** Remind kids not to share personal information, click suspicious links, or chat with strangers online.

2. Enable Safety Features

- **Use parental controls:** Tools like Family Link (Google) or Screen Time (Apple) let you manage app access and screen time remotely.
- **Turn on location sharing:** Use apps like Find My iPhone or Life360 to know where your child is, especially if they’re going out alone or with friends.

3. Teach Responsible Social Media Use

- **Talk about posting responsibly:** Summer fun should be shared safely—no personal addresses, school uniforms, or vacation plans.
- **Remind them of digital footprints:** What they post now could affect them later.

4. Stay Involved, Not Intrusive

- **Have open conversations:** Make it safe for your child to come to you with online issues or if something feels off.
- **Check in regularly:** Instead of spying, focus on building trust and discussing phone habits openly.

Students in the year group have been participating in many extra-curricular activities, STEM club, sports teams, cooking competitions, Kendama, junior choir and many more. We hope students continue this into Year 8 as it has been great to see so many get involved and it has had a positive impact.

It has been fantastic to work with the young people of Year 7 this year and we wish them all the best as they move up through the school.

Enjoy the Summer and we will see you on Wednesday 3rd September.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Annie Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Annie Kennedy

Director of Learning: Year 7 & Transition

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alistair Hunter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Alistair Hunter

Head of Year 7 & Transition

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