

PHS Sixth Form Information Evening

WELCOME



In this session...

- Introduce you to the Sixth Form Team
- Explain our daily expectations of our students
- Explain the school's systems for:
 - Academic monitoring
 - Attendance monitoring
 - Supporting study
- Highlight key events in Year 12 and progression to Year 13
- Consider our approach to teaching and learning in the Sixth Form



The Sixth Form Team



Mrs Hardicre
Head of Year 13



Mrs Cutler
Head of Year 12



Mr Bennett
Director of Sixth
Form



Mrs Tupman
Sixth Form
Welfare Officer



Mr Shaw
Assistant to Sixth
Form

Tutors:

12CWH – Mrs Whitmore/ Mrs Spinola

12SLO – Mr Lonergan

12CEH – Mrs Hardman / Mr Latch

12ZDO – Mrs Dornan/ Mrs Guest

12NWR – Mr Wright / Mrs Guest

12CVH – Mrs Hall/ Mrs O’Loughlin

12GAI – Miss Ainsworth



Mrs Bibby
Sixth Form Support
Officer
Monday to Wednesday



Mrs Lawson
Sixth Form Support
Officer
Wednesday to Friday



A small sample of our student destinations

Hayden Wong, Mechanical Engineering
University of Glasgow

Alexandra Hudson, Criminology
Lancaster University

Louis Cadwallader, Medicine
University of Liverpool

Adam Lynam, Medicine
University of Manchester

Crow Bateman,
Theatre & Performance Practice
University of Salford

Louie Lawler, PE
University Academy 92

Max Waterman, Degree Level
Apprenticeship. WSP Engineering

Amelie Marshall, Product Design
Bangor University

Charlotte Barr, Geology
University of Birmingham

Roan Garside, Ancient History
Swansea University

Eunice Chau, Chemistry
University of Bath

Matthew McDermott,
Archaeological Practice
University of Winchester

Jacob Barton, Environmental Science
Northumbria University

Nina Taylor, Politics with
International Relations
University of York

Owen Jones, Biology
University of Leeds

William Edwards, Biomedical Science
Leeds Beckett University

Isaac Stockdale, Physics
University of Nottingham

Kheimeron Phoeuk,
Mechanical Engineering
Loughborough University

James Rolfe, Economics
University of Warwick

Anna Martin, Natural Sciences
University of Cambridge

Hannah Blake, Degree
Apprenticeship in Data
Science, Amazon.

Joseph Parrott, History
University of Cambridge



PHS Sixth Form - Welcome

- Achieve **academic excellence**
- Experience **outstanding enrichment**
- Prepare well for **informed next steps**
 - Develop your **time management**
- Learn how **reflecting can improve your future outcomes**

**THE START OF OUR FIRST
ASSEMBLY WITH YEAR 12 THIS
YEAR**

Our offer is excellent...your commitment is
the key to your success.





The lazy sixth form desire path:

- Stash my notes in my bag after each lesson 'I'll sort it out later'.
- I'll skip registration and come in late for my lesson, it doesn't matter if I miss out on important info, I'll waste someone else's time later asking them.
- 5 more minutes before I head off, it doesn't matter if I miss the Do Now and arrive late, the teacher will catch me up.
- I'll just blast this homework, get it done with as little effort/thinking as possible.
- I'll worry about revision just before the exams, no point worrying about it now I'm better of getting more shifts in work.
- Forgot my lanyard, doesn't matter someone else will let me in. I know it's a safeguarding concern but I'm happy for staff to get grief about it as long as I'm not inconvenienced.

Positive Student Habits – The Right Path!

I like to ask questions in lessons and make contributions

I know the skills required in exams and tests, often I've practised using a range of unfamiliar data, photos, graphs, maps, questions etc so it doesn't matter if the wording is different on the day or examples are unfamiliar

I have 'personal bests' I'm trying to beat when I submit work, or have another class member I compete against

I have identified my weaker areas of understanding and focused more time on these areas

I generally focus on written feedback rather than the mark or grade alone

Even when lots of deadlines come at once, I manage to work out how to finish and submit everything

I seek help and support from peers and teachers when needed – I don't feel this is a sign of weakness

I use text book questions and exam questions to practice the things I find hard, dipping in and out like mini-exams

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN UNSUCCESSFUL SIXTH FORMER

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13EgxB9Dj9xgPJQu23otM5QhS8AjkO/view?usp=sharing>

Student Contracts

As a student you will:

- Attend all taught sessions, where absent due to illness this will be communicated appropriately to Mrs Tupman.
- Attend form tutor periods and assemblies. These are important times where we are able to share messages with you about your wider opportunities and key events. These periods of time also allow us to deliver an ambitious curriculum of personal development tailored to Post-16 education.
- Ensure that all Student Development Day activities are attended and that you take these opportunities to engage with guest speakers and the content of the sessions. These days are a statutory requirement of all PHS Sixth Form students. We work with students to review and reflect on the development of these days year on year.
- Attend required educational visits needed for both your courses and personal development.
- Work independently outside of taught sessions reflecting on your learning, utilising our Prepare Perform Progress revision strategy and actively testing your recall throughout your courses.
- Ensure that you meet all deadlines, both internal and external to PHS Sixth Form.
- Maintain well-ordered study notes and keep your Google Classroom and Google Drive accounts in order – checking these daily for any messages.
- Respond to staff feedback, both verbal and written, in a timely and detailed manner.
- Engage with monitoring and intervention processes where staff are concerned about your progress. For example, attending our staffed study space when required.
- Identify yourself as part of our community by wearing your lanyard on site and dress appropriately for an 11-18 site. This is a key safeguarding tool which allows us to offer casual dress as our clothing policy.
- Recognise that you are a role model for younger students, displaying excellent behaviour for learning and strong community values, being respectful to staff and peers – following our Educate Challenge Empower charter at all times.

- Student Contract
- Plagiarism Contract
- ICT Contract

Deadlines established for NEA and BTEC work are shared with exam boards. They are not flexible.

Signed – The Sixth Form Team

★ D Bennett
A. J. J.
G. Tupman

Ally Potts

Sign your **CENTRAL AGREEMENT SHEET**

Monitoring Progress

- ▶ Students will all be issued with Guidance Grades which are calculated using the ALPS Performance Indicator System. The targets are based on the students' prior attainment at GCSE and we will use these to chart a student's progress.
- ▶ First Month's check (internal), October 2025 – graded 1, 2 or 3 to show initial level of engagement with course. Parents will be contacted where concerns are raised.
- ▶ 24th November, first data collection from subject tutors. Criteria relate to: Effort, Meeting deadlines, Attainment, Attendance.

A copy of this is sent home to parents at the end of November



Monitoring Progress

- 3rd to 7th November Internal Assessment Week - subject tutors assess students' performance against Guidance Grade data. Results of these assessments issued to parents in first reports at end of November.
- 9th to 13th February – Internal Examination week.
- 21st April – 1st May – Mock Exams
- 3rd June – Full Year 12 Reports Issued
- 18th June – Parents Evening

PLEASE NOTE BTEC/AAQ and COURSEWORK DEADLINES AND DATES
WILL BE SHARED BY SUBJECT STAFF.

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Student Attendance

- If a student is not able to come to school, please ensure you telephone the Sixth Form absence line on the morning of the absence (01625 871 811 ext 2140) or email (sixthformabsence@poyntonhigh.org.uk) Non-emergency dental/doctor/hospital/optician etc appointments should be booked OUTSIDE of lesson times.
- Students must complete a form for any exceptional leave requests, this can be collected from the wall dispenser overlooking upper study area.
- Driving lessons should NEVER be booked at a time that overlaps with registrations, lessons or any other school activity.
- Where we have concerns regarding a student's attendance, parents may be contacted.

Staffed Study Session

Monday's 3.15-4.30 in S07

Where staff have concerns that tasks are being missed or further monitoring of a student's study is needed they may book them into our staffed study sessions.

When students who are invited fail to attend the sessions we will contact home by copying you into our email communication with the student.

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16-19 Bursary Applications are open.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR A BURSARY? In order to assess your eligibility for support certain details of circumstances and income are necessary, so we ask you to complete an application form which is available to take tonight or to download from our website www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk/sixthform/financial-support

WHEN DO I APPLY? You may apply as soon as you have enrolled at School and all applications must be handed in by 3rd October 2025. Applications may be made throughout the year, particularly if your financial circumstances change, but the School cannot guarantee that funds will still be available for applications received later in the year or that a student will receive the same level of funding, pro-rata, that students applying at the start of the year receive.

Please ensure that you have completed all relevant fields on the application form and that you submit all appropriate supporting evidence with your application. Failure to fully complete your form or to provide evidence with your application will result in your application being delayed or rejected.

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Pastoral Support

Students' emotional wellbeing is always closely linked with good achievement. Students can seek support from:

- Their Form Tutor
- Mrs Cutler, Mr Bennett.
- We work in close partnership with a number of external agencies

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What are you getting involved in?

Throughout sixth form I took on the role of Computer Science Ambassador. As part of this role, I independently formed a programming club for Year 9 students, giving them the opportunity to learn how to code.

I took part in a MOOC. The course was on Geoscience: the Earth and its Resources by Delft University of Technology, my favourite module was Geothermal energy.

Reading "Invisible Women", I was struck by the data on gender bias in healthcare leading me to do my EPQ on health inequalities.

I've worked in dozens of shows in my 13 years in youth theatre, including leading and co-directing a cast of 150 young people.

Whilst undertaking work experience in a gastrointestinal ward, I was inspired by the fluidity of the multi-disciplinary team during their "huddles", witnessing firsthand the importance of teamwork and problem-solving skills in high-pressure situations.

In May 2024, I spent a week volunteering for the Wellspring Organisation, a Stockport charity made to give homeless people or those at risk of homelessness a hot meal, shower and support. I completed the Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh awards which all taught me valuable skills in teamwork, preparation and decision making.

Pursuing an EPQ was my first opportunity to learn more about the brain and its plasticity. I focused my research on the physical and emotional impacts of child maltreatment, in order to determine a suitable punishment for abusers.

In May, I completed work experience assisting teachers in a local primary school. In my given role I used communication skills to interact with my colleagues and the pupils.

A sample from last year's personal statements

MONDAY'S ASSEMBLY

One form per row

Row 14 – 13CGM

Row 13 – 13CRK

Row 12 – 13SCH

Row 11 – 13SBU

Row 10 – 13GF

Row 9 – 13RL

Row 8 – 13KMG (VCO)

Row 7 – 12GAI

Row 6 – 12CVH

Row 5 – 12NWR

Row 4 – 12ZDO

Row 3 – 12CEH

Row 2 – 12SLO

Row 1 – 12CWH

FRONT OF HALL

Career Aspire Programme

- Replaces Career Ready
- Mentoring
- Masterclasses
- Workplace visits
- Support in applying for internships
- It's about making better choices in the future and employability skills

Application deadline: Monday 29th September.



APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

CAREER
Aspire

Application Deadline 
Monday 29th September

3PM 

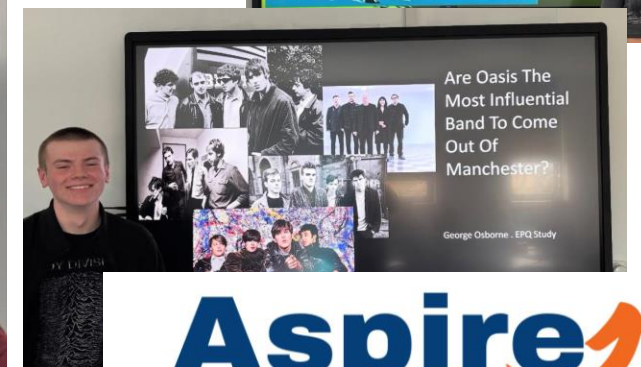
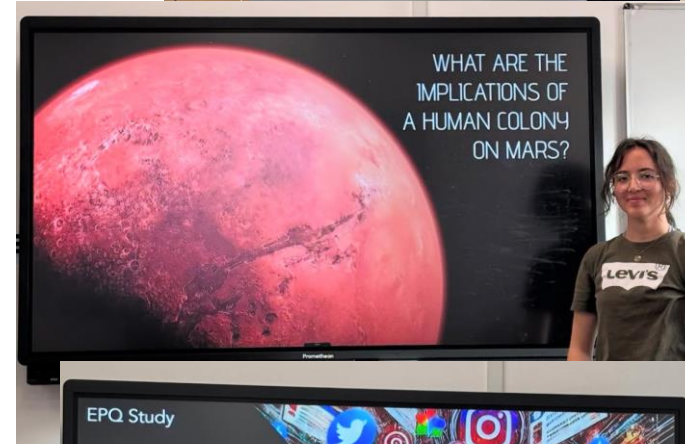
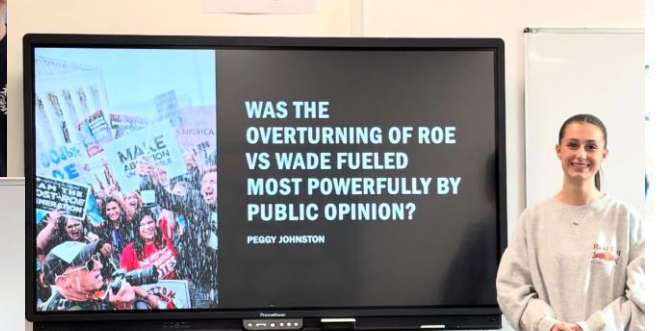
APPLY NOW

Hand completed forms in to Mrs Bibby or Mrs Lawson.
Application forms available outside their office.

The poster features several images: a group of students holding certificates, a group of students in front of a modern glass building, and a group of students in an office setting. The text "APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN" is in orange at the top left. The "CAREER Aspire" logo is in a blue rounded rectangle. The application deadline information is on the right, including a calendar icon and a clock icon. An orange "APPLY NOW" button is at the bottom right. The bottom text provides instructions on where to hand in forms.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

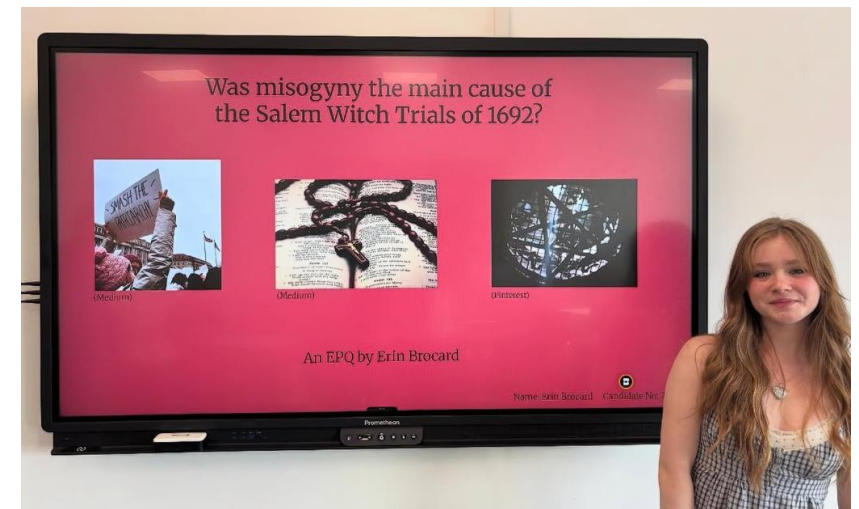
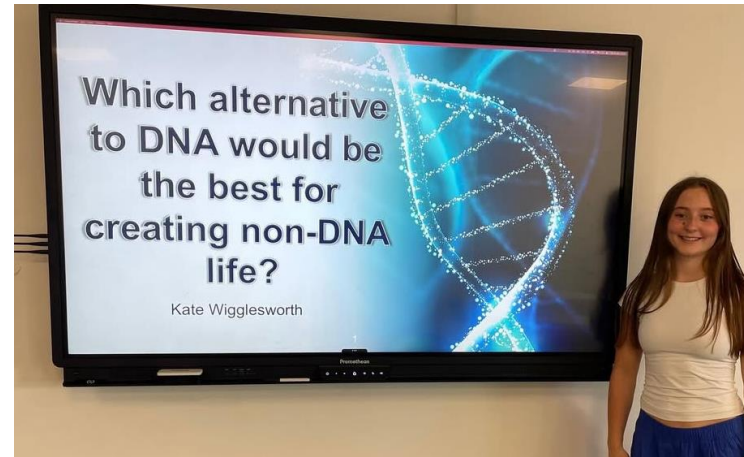
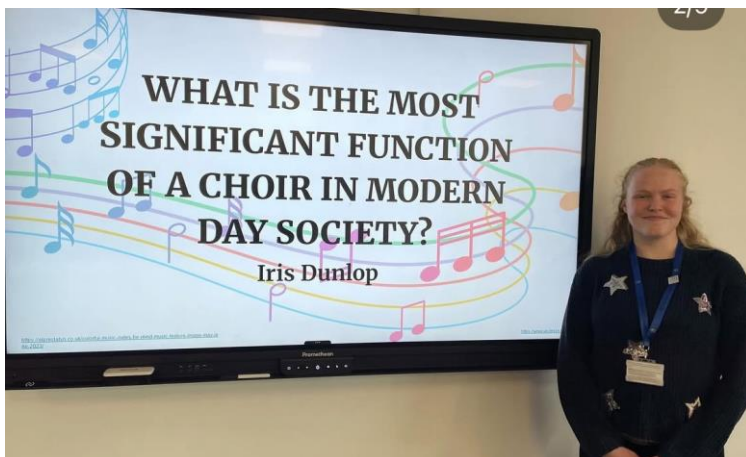
- The EPQ is a research project that will run throughout Year 12.
- Launch meeting Thursday 25th September at lunch in S10.
- It is worth half an A level:
- A* grade is worth 28 UCAS points
- A grade worth 24 UCAS points
- A very highly respected and sought after qualification



What does the EPQ involve?

- The focused and detailed study of a topic of the candidate's choosing.
- A research log documenting their research methods and progress and critical evaluation
- Two Future Learn courses and teaching sessions on study skills, research methods and critical analysis
- A 5000 word essay OR product
- A presentation to an audience with a live Q&A

- Results will be available in August so the qualification is complete ahead of UCAS applications.



Examples of EPQ 'Products'



- Students in the past – instead of the essay have chosen to do:
- Art work and installation pieces
- Short stories
- Drama and Dance pieces
- Events
- Models of architectural designs
- Computer Programs
- Lighting designs for shows

For more information visit:

<https://youtu.be/5gAyXHzovlk>

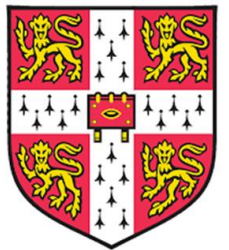
This presentation (with link) will be shared on our website after the evening.

'Early Entry' Group

Students considering making applications to Oxford or Cambridge University, or to study Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Medicine must sign up to this group.

Events coming up:

- Launch of the OxNet Programme - an outreach programme led by Oxford Uni designed specifically for Year 12 students (current Year 13s attended this programme and have highly rated it). *We have arranged to see join the launch event remotely via Zoom and will screen this in S03 on Thursday 25th between 9.30 and 10.30.*
- Fitzwilliam College Cambridge are coming in to host a session with us on the afternoon of the 21st October.
- Getting into Medicine or Dentistry – Medic Mentor courses have been advertised to students via Google Classroom, a number of students have already signed up. (Medicine 28th Sept, Dentistry 27th Sept)
- Allied Healthcare Virtual Work Experience starting Sunday 5th October shared via Google Classroom
- UCL Weekend Programme – Sessions for a range of course areas including Veterinary Medicine, Medicine and Dentistry advertised via Google Classroom



Further Supercurricular opportunities

We have invested in a platform called Unifrog which has brilliant online lectures, events and courses for students to attend. Here's a sample of the sessions we have already shared with the students:

- **The green chemistry revolution: rethinking how we make (pretty much) everything. Tuesday 16th Sept 4.30 (Uni of Southampton)**
- **Explore earth sciences. Tuesday 16th Sept 5.30 (Uni of Southampton)**
- **Games every designer should play. Wednesday 17th September 4.30 (Uni of Hull)**
- **The civil rights movement in the American media. Wednesday 17th Sept 5.30 (Uni of Hull)**
- **Criminology taster session: what makes a psychopath? Thursday 18th Sept 4.30 (Uni of Manchester)**
- **From TikTok to Tesla: how AI is already shaping the world around you. Thursday 18th Sept 5.30 (Uni of Southampton)**
- **Let's talk about university. Monday 22nd Sept 4.30 (Unifrog)**
- **Let's talk about apprenticeships. Tuesday 23rd Sept 4.30 (Unifrog)**
- **Let's talk about gap years. Tuesday 23rd Sept 5.30 (Unifrog)**
- **Designing tomorrow's festivals: a creative industries taster. Wednesday 24th Sept 4.30 (Lancaster uni)**
- **Healthcare: master your application and find your dream role. Thursday 25th Sept 4.30 (Uni of Southampton)**
- **Where can a law degree take you?. Thursday 25th Sept 5.30 (Uni of Southampton)**
- **Top tips on acing your portfolio for university creative arts courses. Tuesday 30th Sept. 4.30 (Unifrog)**
- **What to expect when applying to medicine and dentistry courses. Tuesday 30th Sept 5.30 (Unifrog)**
- **What to expect from a university course interview. Wednesday 1st Oct 4.30 (Unifrog)**
- **The best of both worlds: study business and make a positive difference. Thursday 2nd Oct 4.30 (UCL)**
- **The future of work 2030: how to develop high impact "un-LLM-able" skills. Thursday 2nd Oct 5.30 (UCL)**
- **Careers in renewable energy: watt's it like? Monday 6th Oct 4.30 (Unifrog)**

unifrog

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Aspire

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Further Supercurricular opportunities

Opportunities		⋮
 Discover STEM (and Medicine relate) Car...	Due Oct 3, 9:05 AM	⋮
 Allied Healthcare - Virtual Work Experien...	Due Oct 3, 9:05 AM	⋮
 LSE Undergraduate Political Review's Es...	Due Oct 3	⋮
 Leeds Uni Webinars - Exploring Environ...	Due Sep 30	⋮
 Sign up for Early Entry cohort -consideri...	Due 3:15 PM	⋮
 Unifrog Events over the coming days...w...	Due Sep 19	⋮
 Career Aspire - Application Forms now a...	Due Sep 26, 3:00 PM	⋮
 Become an AQA Student Advisor. A uniq...	Due Sep 17	⋮

We will share opportunities both through discussion in form time and also on Google Classroom.

There are already many activities for students to get involved in, including:

- UCL STEM Sessions in a range of subject areas.
 - London School of Economics Political Review's undergraduate essay competition.
 - Leeds University webinars on Environmental Pathways.
-plus many more.

Students have also signed up to enrichment activities with ourselves, the staff leading these will contact students directly.

Careers Advice and Events

Careers Advisor

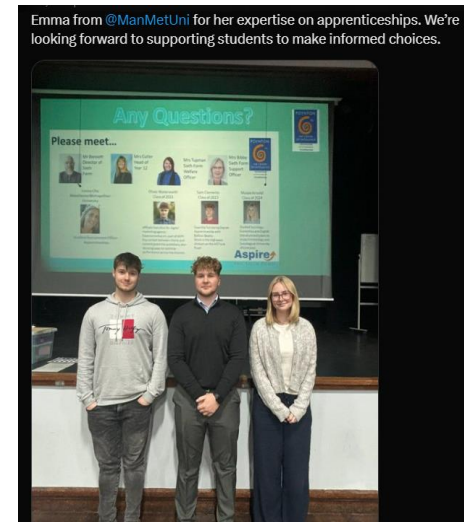
We have an independent Careers Advisor who works in school two days each week. Students can request an appointment to meet with our Careers Advisor via Mrs Hicketts our Careers Leader at any time.

lhicketts@poyntonhigh.org.uk

UCAS Convention - 4th March

We take the whole of Year 12 to the UCAS Convention each year in March. This careers event offers:

- Live application clinics and personal statement workshops
- Careers Zone for apprenticeships and other non-university options
- Course and careers taster sessions
- Student talks and Q&As
- Expert advice on how to research and choose what's right for you
- The chance to explore and meet unis, colleges and employers face-to-face



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PHS SIXTH FORM

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6th
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Work Experience Week 2025



YEAR 12

WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK

5th to 8th May (Bank Hol Monday)



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WHY?

So you can....

- gain experience of a workplace, develop work skills, industry knowledge and experience.
- develop understanding of a role your young person may like to do in the future.
- develop confidence in their abilities and enhance their interpersonal and communication skills.
- meet entry requirements for some university courses or apprenticeships as needed.
- add work experience and skills to their CV

Students are required to secure their own placement – school does not provide placements.

Students all have different interests and career plans. They will gain more by being actively involved in securing their own placement.

HOW?

What has worked for students in the past?

Asking family (parents, siblings, grandparents etc), family friends, neighbours -where do they work? Could they work in their company for the week? If it seems too much to work with one person all week, could they rotate around different departments?

Parents of their friends – if they don't want to go to their own parent's workplace, could they swap and go to each others parent's workplaces?

Contacting companies directly is also a good idea – being self motivated to do this makes a great first impression! **However**, sending lots of speculative emails to general email addresses very rarely works. Students need to research who would be the right person to contact in each company and follow up their email with a telephone call or an in person visit after a few days.

Some feedback from last year – we hope your young person will gain as much from their placements.

It has been a pleasure having Jacob with us at TSK. He has adapted remarkably well to a busy schedule that included travel to London and visits to various sites. Throughout his time here, Jacob has demonstrated a keen interest in understanding how our business operates, particularly in the context of sustainability.

Jacob asked numerous insightful questions about our business processes and has shown a clear understanding of how sustainability is integrated into TSK's project lifecycle. His curiosity and eagerness to learn were evident in his active participation and engagement during his time with us.

Throughout the week, Jacob undertook a research task focused on the various sustainability themes that a client might consider when opening a new office space. He performed this task exceptionally well, culminating in a productive discussion on his final day when he presented his findings to me. His thorough research and well-prepared presentation highlighted his ability to grasp complex concepts and communicate them effectively.

We also visited the Greater Manchester Green Skills Academy in Trafford Park. This visit provided Jacob with valuable insights into potential careers within the sustainability sector and the various pathways to employment. I hope this experience was informative and helpful for his future career planning.

Overall, Jacob left a very positive impression on us at TSK. We wish him all the best for his future endeavours and are confident that he has a bright future ahead.

This past week, we had the pleasure of hosting William for a work experience placement at Walker Lovell. William demonstrated exceptional enthusiasm and a keen willingness to learn from day one. He quickly adapted to our company culture and exhibited a proactive attitude, eagerly taking on a variety of tasks.

Throughout the week, William showcased strong communication skills with the team. His ability to understand and follow instructions accurately was commendable, and he consistently worked hard.

Overall, William has been an outstanding addition to our team during his work experience. His professionalism, dedication, and eagerness to learn make him a promising talent for the future. We highly recommend William for any future endeavours he chooses to pursue and wish him all the best in his academic and professional journey.

We own and operate a fleet of vintage Tiger Moths from Derby Airfield, Clara assisted with the routine maintenance of these, as well as stripping a wing for a Tiger Moth we are restoring.

We are just in the process of finalising the build of a WW1 Replica Fokker DVII, this is being scratch built from plans and Clara assisted our Engineer with this.

Last, but not least, we have a full scale flying replica of a Fokker DR1 Triplane down at Duxford, and a 7/8 scale model of a British SE5A. Clara spent a day down at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford, behind the scenes, assisting with the preparation of these for our next airshow.

Clara will be an asset to whatever organisation is lucky enough to employ her in the future. She impressed everyone she came into contact with at Derby and Duxford. She is well mannered, and communicates well with all ages and aptitudes. We greatly enjoyed having her as part of the team.

Please encourage students to:

- ❖ Limit the time they spend in paid work.
- ❖ Be independent learners taking responsibility for their own futures.
- ❖ Become involved in activities which will impress admissions tutors and employers.
- ❖ Maintain a balance between academic work and their social lives.
(They should spend at least 15 -20 hours a week outside lessons on academic work).
- ❖ Be resilient in the face of difficulties.
- ❖ Avoid gaming/computer/phone use that damages sleep patterns.

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Key Dates

Year 12:

- 23rd September – **Meet the Tutor (+ Parental Info) Evening (5.30 – 6.45)**
- 24th September – Whole Year Group **Edge Hill University Careers Event.**
- 29th September – **Teachers report ‘Early Signs’** rating students 1-3 based on their initial start. Data used internally we will share any concerns with you.
- 3rd – 7th November – **In Class Assessments**
- 4th, 6th November – **English GCSE Resit Exams**
- 5th, 7th, 10th November – **Maths GCSE Resit Exams**
- 13th November – **Sixth Form Open Evening (5.30-8)**
- 24th – 29th November – **School Show Performances**
- 24th November – **Staff reporting on progress and effort.**
- 25th November – **Student Development Day**
- 11th – 14th December – **German trip**
- 7th January – **BTEC Sport exam**
- 29th January – **Sixth Form Conference**
- 9th – 13th February – **In Class Assessments**
- 18th March – **Staff reporting on progress and effort**
- 27th April – 3rd May – **Mock Exam Period** – timetabled lessons collapsed for A Level classes, BTEC and resit classes continue
- 4th March – **UCAS Discovery Event** – University and apprenticeship providers
- 25th March - 14th April – **Mock EPQ Presentations**
- 5th to 8th May – **WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK**
- 12th & 20th May – **Core Maths Exams**
- 17th – 19th May – **Gold DofE Practice Expedition**
- 3rd June – **Staff completing full reports** on progress, effort, strengths and areas to develop
- 18th June – **Parents Evening** on site
- 9th July – A Level **Drama Performances**
- 12th – 15th July – **Gold DofE Expedition**

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Your support

- Only take holidays in school holidays, continuity is an essential part of A level study.
- Continue the partnership many of you have established with the school. To the parents of our new entrants – welcome to the partnership.
- Share your concerns with us.

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Thank You

Any Individual questions, please email the appropriate member of staff:

StaffName@poyntonhigh.org.uk

For progress concerns – Mrs Cutler, Year Leader

acutler@poyntonhigh.org.uk

Please follow us on Instagram for information and updates:

@poynton_6th_form