



10 March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this finds you well.

Student voice

Plymouth High led the way this week at the Trust wide student voice committee. Poppy, our head student, presented to the Trust Executive board on topics that students from across the Trust thought were important issues. Poppy represented the South West hub (schools in Plymouth and Torbay) with students from the other hubs representing their schools. It was a really positive meeting resulting in a number of action points around reducing our impact on the environment, increasing student involvement in the creation of our 'Be your best self' journals, the quality of culturally diverse foods served at school and how charities are selected and supported.

We think this may be one of the first times a Trust Executive board have sat down with a group of student representatives to hear their views, and it's really exciting for our student leaders that Plymouth High has such a prominent role in this initiative.

Thinking, teaching and learning bulletin issue 4

In order to help parents and carers have a clearer idea of how we use thinking in lessons and how we encourage students to use thinking for their independent study, we have posted on our website [here](#) (and scroll down to student and parent bulletins) bulletin number 4. This issue provides a reminder to parents about the Thinking hats and Maps.

Attendance

Thank you for all you do to support us with ensuring that students have excellent attendance. The attendance figures at school are really encouraging with many tutor groups recording figures of over 97%. We are here to help if parents would like to

discuss attendance. Miss Osborne, Barbara.Osborne@phsg.tsat.uk is our attendance improvement coordinator and is on hand should parents or carers like some support.

Industrial action

You will know that the National Education Union has announced that the 15th and 16th March will be industrial action days. We will have the same arrangements for these days as we did for the previous day of action.

Year 7 will be the only whole year group in school. We will invite our vulnerable children into school along with the children of key workers who have requested a place. Teachers not taking part in the industrial action will be in school to teach their year 7 classes and will set work on Teams for other year groups to work on independently at home.

School arrangements for year 11 and 13 for the public examination period

Year 11.

The timetabled classes will continue as normal up to, and including, Thursday 11th May. The year 11 celebration event will take place on Friday 12th May from 9am-12pm at school. Students will then leave the site at 12pm. If you would like us to provide a safe place for your child to remain in school until 3.30pm, please contact Mrs Nicol-Boyle at Zoe.Nicolboyle@phsg.tsat.uk who will be happy to arrange this.

From the 15th May until the May half term holiday, lessons will continue for those students who do not have to miss their class because of a public examination. Students who do not have a public examination can choose to attend these classes if they wish or study at home.

Students who come into school for 8.40am must go to their tutor room to register.

All students who come into school after 9.05am, whether this be for a session with a teacher or for a public examination, must sign in at reception.

All students attending sessions with teachers must sign out if they leave the school site before 3.30pm.

Invigilators will explain to students the signing out procedure following a public examination.

After the May half term holiday, we are not expecting year 11 students in lessons due to the frequency of the examinations, however students can make appointments with their teachers to come in and see them for revision if they wish. The signing in and out arrangements remain the same.

Year 13

The timetabled classes will continue as normal up to, and including, Wednesday 10th May. The year 13 celebration event will take place on Thursday 11th May from 9am-12pm at school. Students will then leave the site at 12pm. If you would like us to provide a safe place for your child to remain in school until 3.30pm, please contact Mr Jenkins at Alan.Jenkins@phsg.tsat.uk who will be happy to arrange this.

From the 15th May until the May half term holiday, lessons will continue for those students who do not have to miss their class because of a public examination. Students who do not have a public examination can choose to attend these classes if they wish or study at home.

Students who come into school for 8.40am must go to their tutor room to register.

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All students attending sessions with teachers must sign out if they leave the school site before 3.30pm.

Invigilators will explain to students the signing out procedure following a public examination.

After the May half term holiday, we are not expecting year 13 students in lessons due to the frequency of the examinations, however students can make appointments with their teachers to come in and see them for revision if they wish. The signing in and out arrangements remain the same.

Year 11 and 13 parents

I would be grateful if year 11 and 13 parents would complete the [form here](#) to confirm that they have read and understood our arrangements for the public examination period. If you would like further details about our public examination arrangements please contact your child's Head of year who will be happy to assist you.

Year 8 parents evening

The year 8 parents' evenings are spread across two evenings, the 23rd and 30th March. Parents may find that they are offered appointments on both evenings, this is to increase our chances of being able to offer everyone an appointment. If you are unable to make an appointment with one of your child's teachers, please contact Miss Taylor, Head of year 8 at Tess.Taylor@phsg.tsat.uk who will look to try and find a solution. The parents' evenings are online and we will contact parents with the booking information in due course.

Deputy Headteacher post

You may remember that Mr Langmead replaced Mr Willis as Deputy Headteacher in September 2023 and that Mr Langmead has now left to take up his first Headship. We are currently advertising for a new Deputy Headteacher and in the meantime Miss Roughton has stepped up to become our interim Deputy Headteacher. I will write to you with the details of our new substantive Deputy Headteacher as soon as the appointment is made.

Very best wishes,



Simon Underdown.
Headteacher.