



PHILIPS HIGH SCHOOL

SUCCESS, TOGETHER, ASPIRE, RESPECT

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER - 2022

TERM DATES 2022-23

End of Autumn Term

Friday 16th Dec 2022

Start of Spring Term

Thursday 5th Jan 23

Half Term

20th Feb - 24th Feb 23

End of Spring Term

Friday 31st March 2023

Start of Summer Term

Monday 17th April 2023

Bank Holidays

Monday 1st May 2023

Monday 8th May 2023

Half Term

29th May - 2nd June 23

End of Summer Term

Wednesday 19th July 23

Introduction

Another Year is soon to be over and I am delighted to present to you this Newsletter which showcases the many events and activities taking place at Philips High School. Trips to Cleveleys, Ingleton Waterfalls, and Malham Cove have already taken place this year and for the first time since the Philips High School Combined Cadet Force has been established, 26 Cadets were able to attend and experience the many delights of Summer Camp at Altcar. This included putting into practice their marksmanship principles and firing drills and many other exciting military type activities. We have lots of other exciting trips and opportunities planned for 2023 including a trip to Paris and Skiing in Europe!

The Christmas Celebration Concert took place on Wednesday 7th December and was a great success showcasing music and dance from some of our very talented pupils.

Trips Day on Friday 9th December took pupils to a number of different venues including the Trafford Centre, Hollywood Bowl, Rollercity, Bury Arcade Club and year 7 pupils visited the Middleton Area to watch Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

Y7 pupils have pioneered charity collection for Wood Street Mission this festive season. The local charity supports struggling families across Manchester to provide toys to their children at Christmas. Students and staff have generously donated over £350 and donated over 100 toys!

Mrs Bailey's Pupil Leadership Team took part in the Bury Hospice Business Innovative Challenge working with a Mentor from Price Waterhouse Cooper which proved to be a great success and amazing business opportunity for our young pupils to get involved with.

We were also able to put on our first musical production since the Pandemic - Annie Jr The Musical which was an amazing success and all of the students who took part did the school proud.

We continue to be proud of everything our pupils have achieved and you will see many more examples throughout this Newsletter together with other useful information.

Expectations

Could I politely remind parents of our high expectations at Philips – pupils are expected to come to school smartly dressed, on time, fully equipped and ready to learn.

Please ensure pupils return to school in the New Year with a positive mindset and a set of goals to aim for as per our Ethos and Values:-

Success - Strive for success in all that you do

Together - Work together, look out for each other and support each other in good times and bad

Aspire - Reach for the top and aspire to be the best you can be

Respect - Demonstrate respect and you will earn respect

Finally, all the Staff, Governors and myself would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

Ms T Owen

HEADTEACHER

Christmas Card Competition

Congratulations



Jessica Hibbert 8N

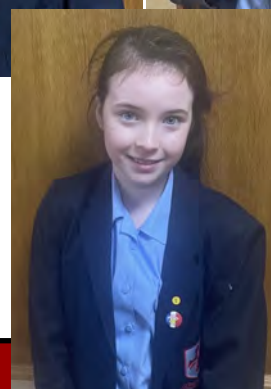


Katie Waters 8C

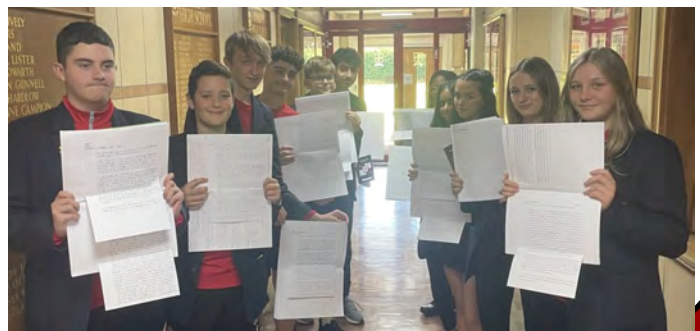
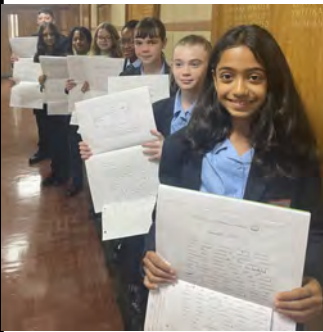
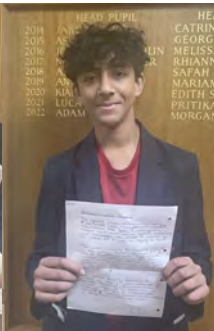
Four Star Award Congratulations



Star Award Congratulations



Recognition of outstanding work



ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLIES

Congratulations to the following pupils on achieving the Head Teacher Award for their year group;

Zaina Jabbar 11O

Linda Ndlovu 10E

Fauziyah Olatokunbo 9O

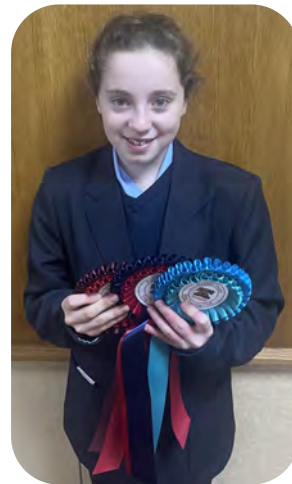
Lidia Jimenez 8R

Amelia Malik 7O

RECOGNITION AWARDS CONGRATULATIONS



BLGC Young Change
Makers Award



Dog Agility Awards

COMBINED CADET FORCE

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

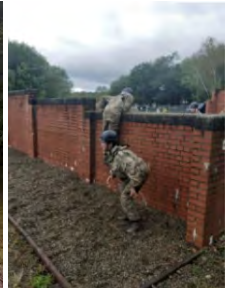
Once again, our senior cadets worked hard to raise funds for the Royal British Legion by selling Poppies around school. For the third year, the Philips High School CCF were present at the Whitefield Cenotaph and this year our cadets also attended the Church service before parading. They all looked very smart and received a lot praise from the local community.



FUSILIERS MUSEUM

This term our new recruits visited the Fusiliers museum in Bury. The cadets got to learn about the history of the Fusiliers and their link with Bury and surrounding areas. At the end of the tour, they were also given the opportunity to get up close and personal with some of the weapons used in previous wars.

Holcombe Moor Residential Work Experience. They finalised their experience with an obstacle course before receiving their certificates



50 cadets from Y8 & Y9 enjoyed a day out over the weekend at Fulwood Barracks, Preston. They have been learning about how STEM skills are used within the Army and

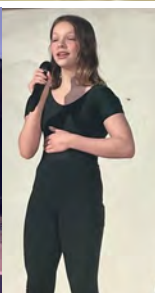


The Philips High School CCF continues to grow from strength to strength. If you would like to get involved volunteering for the contingent, please contact Lt McCarthy.

Music Department



A massive well done and thank you to all involved with the Christmas concert.
It showcased singing, dancing and acting and was a lovely evening.



Library - Autumn Term

This term has been an extremely busy one in the school library. Year 7 pupils have had their library inductions during one of their English lessons, where they learnt about what the library has to offer and how to use the Library Web App system to find and reserve books. Year 8 pupils have had a refresher library induction, as well as an activity session in the library looking at a variety of books, creating their own 'ideal' book based on genres and themes they enjoy, and learning top tips to help them find a book they will enjoy reading.

Library Clubs

Book Club takes place during Friday Lunch Time, Week A. This term we discussed a list of '100 Best Children's Books of All Time' and came up with a 'Best of the Best' book recommendations list. Come to the library to borrow one of these amazing books!

'Best of the Best' Book Recommendations

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

Wonder by R. J Palacio

How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl

In December we have also enjoyed making Christmas Trees and other decorations out of old books.

Creative Writing Club takes place during Friday Lunch Time, Week B. We play writing games and practice our writing techniques. In December we have been writing acrostic poems and haikus about winter.



Snow fights everywhere

No jumping on the roof tops

On the sleigh, lots of presents

Winter is coming, time to decorate

(Year 7 pupil)

Winter Haiku

Alone in the snow

Nothing around me but trees

Finally at Peace

(Year 10 pupil)



Manga and Comics Club takes place in the library after school on Wednesdays, 3-4pm. We enjoy hosting and writing quizzes, discussing our favourite manga and comics, and playing comic-related games. During one session we learned about Japanese culture from Miss Chachula, and tried our hand at drawing our own manga characters. Pupils in all year groups are welcome to come along.

Advent Calendar



Every morning in December, form tutors are opening the door of the virtual 'Book Advent Calendar' with their form groups. Each day a book is revealed, and one pupil in school receives a copy of the book as a gift. All books featured are available in the library to borrow.

Film Night

In October, Year 7 and 8 pupils enjoyed a Halloween Film Night, watching *Coraline* with popcorn and snacks.



Whole-School Reading Initiatives

Children's Book Week

This year for Children's Book Week (7th-13th November), pupils celebrated children's books and reading throughout the curriculum. Here are just some examples of what pupils did in their lessons during the week to celebrate stories, books, and reading:

History – Pupils completed starter tasks that explored '*The real magic of Harry Potter - How are the Harry Potter books linked to History?*'

Religious Studies – Pupils learnt about stories related to RS, such as Creation Stories, Aesop's Fables and the Story of Khalsa.

Drama – Pupils created freeze frames of their favourite moments in books.



Art – Pupils took part in a competition to create a work of art, sculpture, or illustration based on a book chapter.

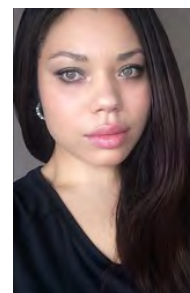
Maths – Pupils completed an activity comparing word length and sentence length in two contrasting texts.

Get Caught Reading

To promote and encourage reading for pleasure, pupils who are 'caught' reading a book around school, now receive an achievement point. Every term, the pupil with the most 'Caught Reading' achievement points will win a book token, as will another randomly selected pupil who has received an achievement point for reading that term.

Coming up in 2023 - Author Visit – 11th January 2023

In January, we will be welcoming award-winning author Danielle Jawando into school. She will be doing a talk about becoming an author, a reading from one of her novels, and a Q&A session in the school hall, before running two creative writing workshops with pupils in the Equality Party.



Danielle Jawando's debut Young Adult novel, *And The Stars Were Burning Brightly*, is a powerful and arresting story about loss and the courage to speak up. The book won best senior novel in the Great Reads Award and was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, the YA Book Prize, the Jhalak Children's & YA Prize, the Branford Boase Award and was longlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal, the UKLA Book Awards and the Amazing Book Awards.

Her second novel, *When Our Worlds Collided*, is another powerful story depicting the lives of three teenagers who witness a stabbing outside Manchester Arndale Centre, and who are all subjected to institutional and everyday racism. The Year 9 and 10 pupils taking part in the creative writing workshop with Danielle have all been given a copy of the novel to keep and read in advance of her visit.



Both novels are excellent, and both are set in Manchester. It is wonderful to read books about life in our very own city. Miss Masztalerz encourages pupils in Years 9-11 to read them! The school library has copies ready and waiting to be borrowed.

ENRICHMENT DAY 9TH DECEMBER



Year 7 went to see Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at Middleton Arena.

The whole thing was really funny and enjoyable. My favourite bit was the 3D part....we had to use 3D glasses and we had ghosts, spiders and snakes coming at us.

Jessica Molyneux 7C

CYBER Safety

Molly Cooper (8Q), James Parkinson(8Q), Zoya Sajid (8Q) and Khdiya Imran (8E) attended a cyber safety conference along with lots of other schools from the Bury area. At this conference they learnt all about the way in which technology impacts our daily lives, our connections both online and in person and the real-world implications that social media can have.



They each represented Philips High to the highest standard.

To demonstrate all they had learnt they performed a drama piece to everyone present and received fantastic feedback.

The GMP Officer representing the Cyber Crime Unit said;

“If I had a Golden Buzzer, I would be pressing it for that performance” Impressive!

Mrs Taylor

Careers Morning



Some Year 10 pupils were given the opportunity to learn more about careers within professional football followed by a Museum & Stadium tour!

It was an amazing morning and ended with a careers talk in the Megastore.

Mr B Gilchrist

MUFC School Partnership Officer

ART DEPARTMENT



School Zine.

Meet in G26 on Monday at 3pm to find out how you can contribute. It's an amazing opportunity to be involved in the making of an online school magazine and make new friends.



Pupils have been working on areas of personal interest.

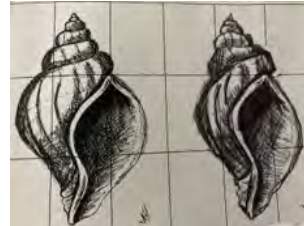
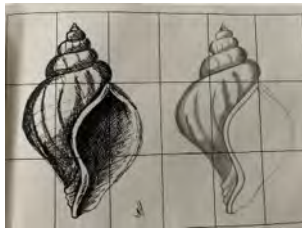
They have created a review of Marvel's Spiderman game, created a gallery of photographs on the theme of nature and interviewed Science teacher Mrs McCarthy about head coverings



Art Department News

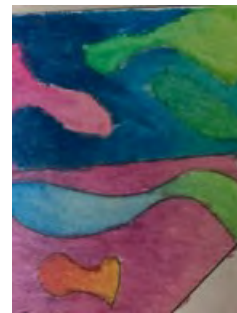
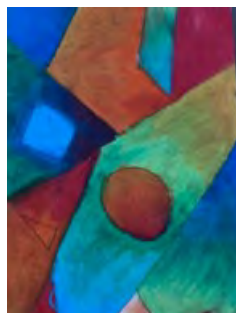
Y

ear 7 have been busy learning about colour theory and have moved on to applying their knowledge to natural forms, working in the style of New Zealand artist Amiria Gale.



Y

ear 8 are just completing their studies on abstract art, producing some outstanding independent studies.



Y

ear 9 have been completing media and techniques workshops whilst learning about styles of architecture. They have also produced some outstanding independent study on artists who use architecture as a theme.



Y

Year 10 Art have completed workshops on a variety of media and techniques that they will need for their BTEC assignment on narratives.

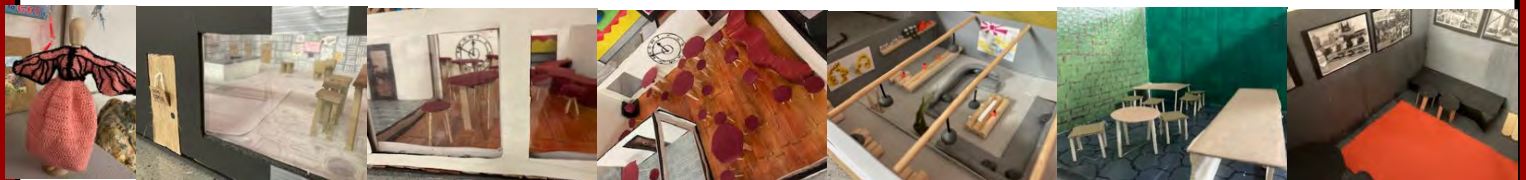


Year 10 Photography have been learning how to answer the assessment objectives and have completed a project on formal elements, their first independent study on a starting point and are part way through their first portfolio project on Natural Forms.



Y

Year 11 Art have just completed their chosen BTEC assignment on either species, coffee shop or weather apps. They are currently preparing for their exam which takes place from February to April 2023.



Year 11 Photography have completed a project on Slinkachu and are currently reviewing and modifying their portfolio in preparation for the exam which takes place from January until March 2023

Next term we are preparing for the Y11 examinations, planning a series of KS3 trips and getting ready to welcome back Caroline Slifkin, who we have worked with pre pandemic on several occasions. She will be delivering a Holocaust education art project with Y10 photographers and creating work that will be displayed at the Holocaust Yom Hashoah remembrance event.

Kai's Nature Gallery



DRAMA DEPARTMENT



Year 11 BTEC Drama group took a trip down to Hope Mill Theatre to participate in a characterisation workshop. Fab day out and the students are excited to apply their new skills to their upcoming performances





DANCE DEPARTMENT



The Y10 BTEC dance pupils enjoyed a trip to watch Matthew Bourne's *Nutcracker!* at VUE cinema in the Printworks. They are studying the professional repertoire, an adaptation of the 1892 ballet choreographed by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov with a score by Tchaikovsky's as part of their course. The girls (and Miss. Schofield and Miss. Gilks) were thrilled to find out that the screening was in the **'posh screen with reclining seats'** which made the evening even more magical.



The girls were in awe of Bourne's trademark wit and magical fantasy, *Nutcracker!* which follows Clara's journey through a shimmering, ice-skating wonderland to the scrumptious candy kingdom of Sweetieland, influenced by the lavish Hollywood musicals of the 1930's.

Impeccable behaviour was displayed by all, myself and Miss. Gilks had a lovely evening, thank you girls.

THE GREATEST SCHOOL DAY EVER

Great day with the Y9's yesterday at Old Trafford!

They took part in 'The Greatest School Day Ever', engaging in 3 different lessons around different areas of Old Trafford where they focused on all of the *Sport Science, Scouting & GPS* which goes on at Manchester United Football Club.

They gathered an insight into all the different types of careers within a professional football club and the different pathways they can follow.



PGL, BOREATTON PARK

OCTOBER 2022



Seventy pupils and nine staff spent the weekend at PGL. Activities included a sing along by the campfire, but that was where the comfort ended and the challenges really started! The Giant Swing tested our head for heights whilst building the strength and stamina of the team pulling the ropes. The Challenge Course allowed for us all to get as muddy as we could possibly want. Abseiling tested the nerve of even the bravest amongst us, so that Rock Climbing seemed quite pleasant! Jacob's Ladder really tested our teamwork and communication skills, which also came into good practice with the Raft Building. Mr Patel jumping into the freezing water at the end really raised a cheer! It was fantastic to see the pupils enjoy themselves at the disco after working so hard during the challenges. Luckily, the weather was warm and sunny and all enjoyed a full English breakfast in the morning with hot food at lunch and tea time – keeping those energy levels topped up throughout!

Harrison Allcock 7U

"PGL was an amazing experience, if you like heights! PGL is good for you. The staff were great and friendly. Raft building was great. We all jumped in the water. It was freezing. The food was great and did not disappoint. The harnesses were very strong and reliable. We were very tired on the coach back home."

Mrs R Williams

Fantastic Fundraising



Bake Sale raised £202



Monday 12th December



Bury Council Safety Day 2022 Conference in support of AntiBullying Week .

Pupils and staff wore Odd Socks on the 14th November to raise money



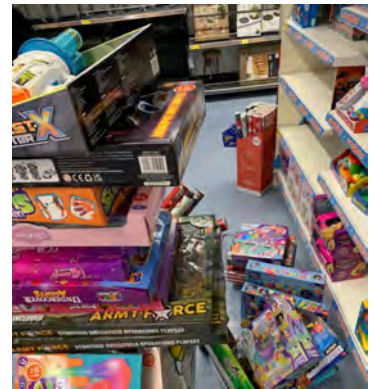
Our Pupil Leadership Team supported Wood Street Mission with support from staff/parents/carers/ community who donate to school unwrapped new/toys/ gifts/books for 014 year-olds, selection boxes and wrapping paper.

A big thank you to all who made such generous donations.

WOOD ST MISSION APPEAL

Wood Street Mission supports struggling families in Manchester and Salford 365 days a year. At Christmas, families are able to select toys for their children so they have something to open on Christmas day.

Year 7 have worked hard to raise and donate money to Wood Street Mission Christmas Appeal. With two bake sales and cash donations totalling over £350. All money was used to buy toys that will be donated alongside whole-school donations to the charity.



CULTURAL AWARENESS DAY

THE MET, BURY

I loved going on the cultural awareness trip. It was a really fun experience. The workers there were so helpful. They also made it easy to understand the importance behind blind, deaf and LGBTQ+ awareness.

When we learnt about LGBTQ+ awareness we did a crossword. It made learning about all the different sexualities so fun and amusing. Then one of the workers walked us through some old newspapers from when he was younger.

Then when we learnt about deaf awareness we did some sign language. Now I can sign my name off by heart. It was so fun trying to remember all the letters.

Last, we learnt about blind awareness. We got to use glasses that mimicked different types of blind disabilities. We did a word search with them on and spoke about how hard it would be living with those disabilities.

ATTENDANCE



Aim for Excellence

100% Attendance



Grades are affected if attendance is below 96%

Punctuality

It is important that pupils arrive at registration and lessons on time. If pupils are late they will receive a late mark on the register and a strike on their Star card.

Reporting an absence

If your child is ill please report their absence as soon as possible on the first day of illness to attendance@philipshigh.co.uk or 0161 3512200 option1.

Please update school each day.

UPDATE from DfE

Philips High School attendance is at 92.6%
Against the national average of 90.1% (DfE figures)

Keep up the good work!

Canteen Menu

Week 1 Menu

- Monday*
Chicken Tikka, 50/50 Rice
Naan Bread
Halal & Vegetarian available
- Tuesday*
Beef Lasagne, Chopped Salad
Crusty Bread
Halal & Vegetarian available
- Wednesday*
Beef Balti, Onions Bhaji
Halal & Vegetarian available
50/50 Rice
or
Indian Pot (Veg Samosa,
Onion Bhaji, Asian Slaw
in Chapati)
- Thursday*
Peri Peri Chicken, 50/50 Rice
Mini Corn Cob
Halal & Vegetarian available
- Friday*
Southern Fried Chicken Strips
Halal & Vegetarian available
Battered Fish
Chips & Peas
Beans & Gravy available (extra)

Jacket Potatoes with Coleslaw, Cheese, Beans or Tuna Mayo
available Daily

Week 2 Menu

- Monday*
Hunters Chicken
with Spicy Wedges & Mixed Vegetables
Halal & Vegetarian available
- Tuesday*
Beef Chilli Pot
50/50 Rice & Nachos
Halal & Vegetarian available
- Wednesday*
Chinese Chicken Curry
With 50/50 Rice & Flat Bread
Halal & Vegetarian available
- Thursday*
Sweet & Sour Chicken
with 50/50 Rice & sweet Corn
Halal & Vegetarian available
- Friday*
Southern Fried Chicken Strips
Halal & Vegetarian available
Battered Fish
Chips & Peas
Beans & Gravy available (extra)

Jacket Potatoes with Coleslaw, Cheese, Beans or Tuna Mayo
available Daily

Week 3 Menu

- Monday*
Pasta Bolognese
with Garlic Bread
Halal & Vegetarian available
- Tuesday*
Salt & Pepper Chicken
50/50 Rice
Halal & Vegetarian available
Vegetable Frittata
with Potato Bravas
- Wednesday*
Cottage Pie
Halal & Vegetarian available
Macaroni Cheese
with Crusty Bread
- Thursday*
Sweet Chilli Chicken Bao Bun
Chopped Salad & Spicy Wedges
Halal & Vegetarian available
- Friday*
Southern Fried Chicken Strips
Halal & Vegetarian available
Battered Fish
Chips & Peas
Beans & Gravy available (extra)

Jacket Potatoes with Coleslaw, Cheese, Beans or Tuna Mayo
available Daily

Breakfast

Canteen open

8am – 8.30am

Hot Chocolate

Coffee

Tea

Juices

Toast 30p

Cheese on Toast 80p

Bagels free

Morning Break 10.55 – 11.15

Daily ~

Bacon Muffins £1.60

Bacon & Egg Muffins £1.60

Mini Pizzas £1

Cheese on Toast 80p

Toast 30p

Crumpet 45p

Monday's

Poached Egg on Toast 85p

Crispy Bacon & Cheese Flatbread £1.80

Tuesday & Thursday

Sausage Rolls £1.25

Wednesday

Sausage Dogs £1.25

Friday

Hash Browns £1.15

MENTAL HEALTH

We know that many of our young people will be struggling with their mental health which has only been exacerbated by the pandemic.

We know that anxiety is at an all-time high and whilst the holidays will be a welcome break for many it can bring its own stresses and worries for young people. You will find links to assist you supporting your child on our Philips High School website under the 'Pastoral Care' section:

https://www.philipshigh.co.uk/?page_id=17442

Screen time

Screen Time How long is too long?

Unfortunately – there is no magic number; children use their devices and computers for lots of different reasons – to learn, to play, and to socialise. The most important thing is to set clear boundaries on screen time and set a good example. 'Screen time' is an obsolete concept. As digital media becomes integrated into all aspects of daily life, it is more important to think about what your child is doing online and who they are doing it with than to consider arbitrary rules about time.

Parents should find out whether their child is being productive versus passive online. Is your child learning online, doing homework or are they spending their time scrolling through social media?

The internet can be a wonderful resource for children and teens, allowing them to learn, create and grow – but only if they are using it productively. Passive use of the internet, such as scrolling through social media can have negative effects on well-being.

Video link: <https://bit.ly/3heWTRI>

1. Agree on a clear set of rules with your child on screen time in the home. Do as you say.
2. Restrict the use of computers/devices in the bedroom.
3. Buy an alarm clock for your child's bedroom and charge their phones in your room at night time.
4. Pick one evening a week where you do a family activity together.
5. Join in - take an interest in their gaming/ online lives.
6. Try not to rely on screens too much to keep the kids amused.
7. Don't have screens always on in the background.
8. Talk to your child about what they do online. Additional parental guides on security settings on devices and apps can be found at <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas!

Ms A Kansik

Safeguarding Officer (DSL)

Useful Contacts



Emergency Housing - 0161 253 5537 (9am-5pm Monday-Friday)

In an emergency after 5pm 0161 2536606

Care and Support Service (CASS) 0161 253 6606

Fairfield Hospital - 0161 624 0420

Hardship Help - <https://www.bury.gov.uk/hardshiphelp>

Health Young Minds (Young people) - 0161 716 1100

Manchester Rape Crisis Line - 0161 273 4500

NSPCC (Adults) - 0808 800 5000

NSPCC (18 or under) - 0800 1111

Police - 0161 872 5050 or 101

Mind.org.uk - Self-harm support - 0300 123 3393

Shelter Free housing Advice helpline 0808 800 4444

Available Mon-Fri 8am-8pm , Weekend and Bank Holidays 9am-5pm

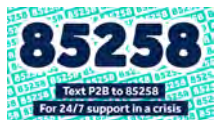


Call Free 24/7 on

116 123

www.samaritans.org

Streetwise @ Early Break - 0161 723 3880



Shout is a free, confidential, 24/7 text messaging support service for anyone struggling to cope



Citizens Advice Bureau (Bury & Bolton) New Premises;

1 Victoria Plaza, Oxford Street, Bolton, BL1 1RD

Bolton Drop In available Thursdays 10am – 3pm

Freephone Advice line 0808 278 7804 or visit cabb.org.uk



For women and children.
Against domestic violence.



Friendly, confidential drugs advice

Talk to Frank, 24 Hour Helpline

National Domestic Abuse 24-hour Helpline

0808 2000 247

0300 123 6600 or text 8211

This information was correct as of 6th December 2022

Top tips on how to talk to your children about their feelings

It can be so tricky to bring up difficult topics, and talking about emotions with your children can sometimes feel more than a little daunting for parents and carers. You may worry about saying the wrong thing, making your child feel uncomfortable, and even worry about making them feel worse. But the fact you want to explore emotions with your child is enough, even if sometimes it doesn't go as you planned!

Here are some handy tips on how you could begin talking to your children about their feelings.

Think about whether your child feels ready to talk

Just because you want to talk doesn't mean they feel ready to. Look out for the things they say, and their body, too, for indicators on whether they really want to talk about their feelings.

Ask them what they need

It can be tough to talk about how you feel, and when we want to talk about things as parents, children don't always want to or feel ready. Asking what a child needs from you can help them feel more in control, heard, and respected.

Children might also not know what they need, so suggesting a few options can be a good starting point. For example, do you need some space right now?

Think about the setting

Talking about feelings can be really sensitive, so making sure the space is private, comfortable, and feels safe for your child can be key to a positive outcome.

Choose your timing wisely

Talking about feelings, or any difficult subject, can be quite sensitive. Choosing a time when you are both calm and relaxed can be more useful than choosing a time when there are any heightened emotions already at play.

Name it

Sometimes it can be hard for children to identify their feelings. Naming what you observe can help them to do this. For example, when talking to a young child, you might say, 'You seem really angry today. I can see you are clenching your hands, and you don't have a happy face. I wonder if anything has made you angry or upset?'

Practice asking open questions (rather than closed ones)

Talking about feelings, or any difficult subject, can be quite sensitive. Choosing a time when you are both calm and relaxed can be more useful than choosing a time when there are any heightened emotions already at play.

Model it

Being more open and honest about how you yourself feel (in an age appropriate way, of course) can normalise the idea of talking about emotions. Children who see that adults also have big feelings, doubts, get scared or anxious, get frustrated with others at work, etc. might feel more comfortable opening up themselves.

Take away the intensity

It can be pretty daunting (on both sides) to sit down to talk about something as important as feelings. But decreasing some of the intensity can sometimes reduce the pressure and make things a little less stressful.

Get creative

We might feel a pressure to have all the answers and say the right things, but sometimes, we just need to think a little differently. Helping our children express their feelings through play or using art materials can be just as important and useful, especially for much younger children whose natural language is often play.

Listen carefully

This sounds pretty straightforward, but sometimes, when we care, we may jump into problem-solving mode a little too hastily. And while it might come from a really good place, it's not always helpful.



If you are struggling to talk to a child in your life about their feelings, or you want to talk to the team about anything at all, you can reach out to us by logging into qwell.io



Free, safe and anonymous mental health support

For all ages in **Greater Manchester.**

For ages 10-25: kooth.com

For ages 26+: qwell.io





Philips High School track and monitor homework using online tool,
Satchel One, to help you keep track of your child's homework.

This gives you;

- 24/7 access to your child's homework
- A view of the quality and quantity of homework
- Free apps for your iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch and Android devices
- Automated notifications of homework due date

For more information please read the help sheet on the school webpage.

Any questions email smhw@philipshigh.co.uk



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Philips High School Mobile Phone Policy

- Pupils seen with mobile phones/headphones in the school building (inc all classrooms/corridors/canteen/pupil entrance) between 08:00 and 16:45 will have them confiscated.
- **Pupils are only permitted to use phones during break and lunch outside the school building (playground/field/astro turf).**
- If mobile phone/headphones have been confiscated, pupils can collect them on the same day at 3:30pm from the School Office.
- 3rd time offenders - the phone/headphones will be kept in the school office safe until parent/carer comes to collect, if continues, sanctions will escalate.

PLEASE NOTE

- **Repeat offenders will be referred to Senior Leadership Team.**
- **Philips High School do not accept responsibility /liability for loss or theft of mobile phones.**

PUPIL ADVICE

Keep your mobile switched **OFF** and **OUT OF SIGHT** (keep at the bottom of your bag) whilst in the building during school hours. **No Excuses accepted!**

Safeguarding School Rules

Appointments

Please try to make appointments out of school hours. If this is unavoidable then please ensure pupils are aware at what time they need to meet you at the school office. Please provide school with prior notice of any medical appointment either by leaving a voicemail message for the attendance officer (0161 3512200, option 1) or sending the medical evidence via email to attendance@philipshigh.co.uk.

It would also be helpful if you write the appointment in your child's planner and remind them they have an appointment and what time they should meet you at reception. Thank you.

Years 7-9

All pupils **must** be collected from reception by a parent / carer or responsible adult aged over 18 years. A letter or appointment card must be handed in at reception when signing out.

Years 10 & 11

Pupils are allowed to make their own way to appointments if they have a letter of authorisation from a parent / carer or a phone call has been received by office staff (letters **must** be handed in at reception and either copied or kept as confirmation evidence).

Unwell Pupils

Head of Year **must** authorise pupils to go home (unless medical emergency).

All pupils to be collected from reception by a parent / carer or responsible adult over 18 years. Depending on the nature of illness some pupils are allowed to be sent home via taxi if the parent / carer requests – Head of Year **must** authorise this.

Contact Details

Please ensure all contact information is kept up to date, in particular mobile telephone numbers and email addresses. You can check the details held by school through the parent app.



Parking around Philips High School

Dear Visitor, Where possible we ask that all visitors park off site in a safe manner, being courteous to our neighbours. Parking on school grounds is limited and in order to safeguard our pupils at the start and end of a school day **please note the following:**

- No vehicle access to the Art Block for deliveries between 8am –9am.
- Movement of traffic is prohibited around the school grounds.
- Parking on site is very limited and where possible we ask you park off-site.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Letter from Ofqual:2023 exam and assessment arrangements

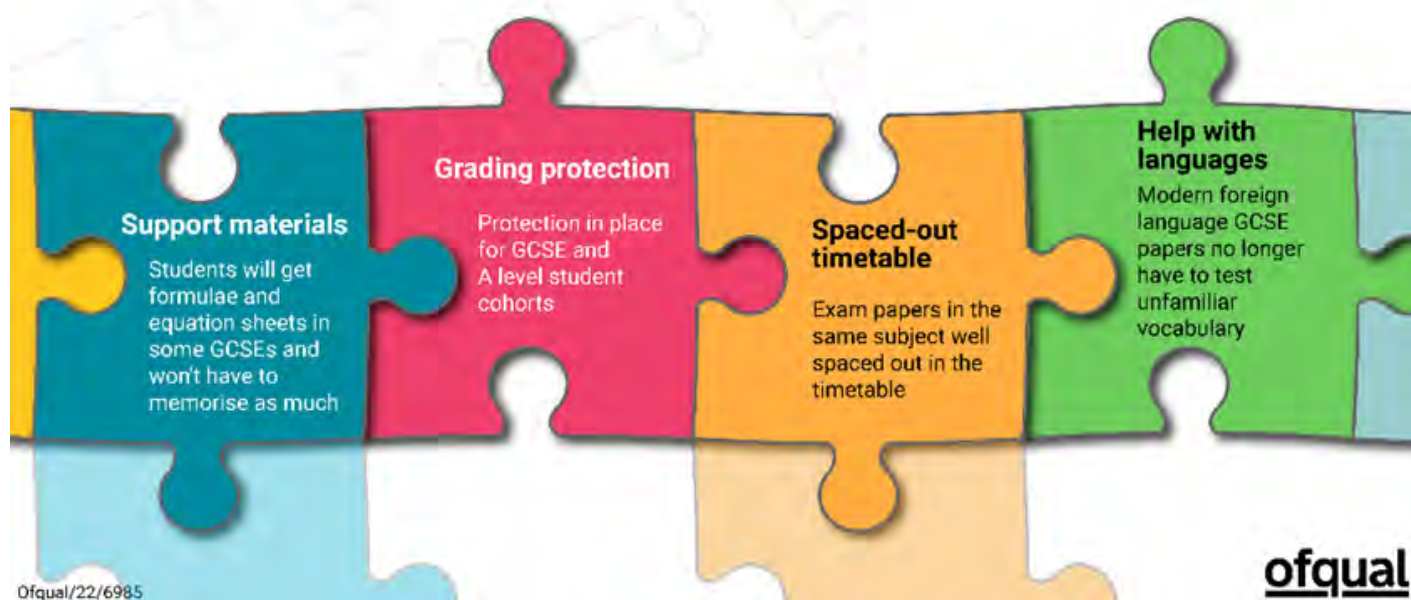
Dear student,

You have shown so much resilience during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and continue to do so as we move towards normality as a country.

As Chief Regulator my job is to make sure that the exams and formal assessments you take are as fair as they can be, setting you up for the right opportunities in the next stages of your education, employment and life.

I've listened to students who were taking their qualifications in the summer of 2022 and the arrangements for 2023 have been made very much with that feedback, and your best and long-term interests, in mind. Below you will find a summary of what we are doing to support you in your forthcoming exams and assessments.

Support for students: summer 2023



Arrangements for GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2023

Formulae and equation sheets will be given in GCSE maths, physics, and combined science exams, so students do not need to memorise as much. In GCSE modern foreign languages, the exams do not have to test unfamiliar vocabulary. Exams may still contain unfamiliar vocabulary, but exam boards can give meanings for words that are not on their vocabulary lists.

Exam boards have also set aside 'contingency days' in the exam timetable. These days would be used in the unlikely event that exams had to be moved because they could not take place when planned. These are the afternoons of 8 and 15 June, and on 28 June, so students need to be available.

Grading for GCSE, AS and A levels in 2023

Grading will be back to normal this summer. But there is some protection in place for GCSE and A level student cohorts this summer.

Broadly speaking this means that a typical student who would have achieved, say, an A grade in an A level qualification before the pandemic will be just as likely to get an A in 2023, even if their Performance in the assessments is a little weaker in 2023 than it would have been before the

pandemic.

Contingency arrangements

Ofqual has provided guidance for teachers so that they can save evidence of student performance. This evidence would only be used to determine Teacher Assessed Grades in the very unlikely event that exams could not go ahead.

Schools and colleges have been told that evidence should come from the mock exams that students normally take. Teachers should let students know when they are taking assessments that could be used, but students should just approach them as they normally would.

Vocational and Technical Qualifications

For vocational and technical qualifications (VTQs) taken in schools and colleges, there will be a return to normal standards. Many students will be taking VTQ assessments over the winter. To help students feel prepared in taking assessments Ofqual has put together [resources for students](#).

You may be aware that some students were affected by late or incorrect vocational qualification results last summer. We are working to make sure that you will not experience this again in 2023 and that you receive the results you need for progression when you expect them.

Student guide

Ofqual will also be publishing a Student Guide in the spring term, with all the information students need on exams and assessments in 2023. You will find this on the [Ofqual website](#).

Everyone at Ofqual joins me in congratulating you on the commitment to your studies you have shown so far, and to wishing the very best for your qualifications as we head in to 2023.

With best wishes,



Dr Jo Saxton, PhD.,
Chief Regulator

GOODBYES

Sadly we say goodbye to the following colleagues whom we wish all the very best for the future;

Mrs A Wilson - Maths - 7 years service

Ms E Trantor - LSA - 3 years service

New Staff Welcome

Mr A Szczap - Maths



All Pupils return to school on Thursday 5th January 2023.

All pupils should arrive for 10:45am and go to their allocated zones.



Produced and edited by Mrs L Waring