



The
Portsmouth Academy

Week 16B

w/c 10 Jan 2022



Parent Newsletter

Message from Mr Dolphin, Senior Vice Principal



Dear Parents,

I hope that you had an enjoyable and restful Christmas period. Thank you so much for your support with our phased return back to school testing of all students before they return full time. We have had some wonderful feedback about the quality of work produced during the period of remote learning.

I would like to take the opportunity to remind you that it is a national requirement for students to wear face coverings in the school building at all times until at least 26th January 2022. As per Miss Sheppard's letter before Christmas, it makes life a lot easier if students arrive to school correctly equipped with their face covering and understanding that it is a requirement for them to wear it at all times. In doing so, they reduce any opportunities for challenge which in some cases leads to unnecessary conflict. I am asking for your cooperation in this matter as by us all working together, the opportunity to put learning first at the heart of everything we are doing becomes a lot easier. Thank you.

With the new year comes new staff joining our wonderful #TeamTPA! I would like to welcome:

- Dr Alasah - Teacher of Geography
- Mr Crouch - Teacher of English
- Mr Farrar - Student Engagement Worker
- Miss Bee - Student Engagement Worker
- Mr Houston - Student Engagement Worker
- Mrs McLeod - Student Engagement Worker
- Miss Friend - Student Medical and Wellbeing Officer
- Mrs Clewley - Senior DT Technician
- Miss Jones - Receptionist & Admin Assistant
- Miss Audin - Midday Meals Supervisor

Have a wonderful term!

Regards,
Mr L Dolphin

Making Excellence a Habit– Mr Hatherley, Vice Principal

The school have implemented some new rule changes for the start of the new term.

Break and Lunch

- No food and drink are to be consumed in the school corridors. Food purchased from the canteen must be eaten in Dining Hall.
- Food bought outside from the Grab and Go or the Cube must be eaten outside and any rubbish must be put into the bin.

Truancy/Lateness

- Teachers will be logging on Class Charts how many minutes students are late and Heads of Year will be monitoring this data. The Behaviour Team will pick up any students truanting around the school and action sanctions. Students who are truanting will be put in Internal Exclusion.

Coats in building and corridors

- Coats can be worn in corridors and lessons to ensure there are no barriers to ventilation in classrooms.

Masks

- Masks should be worn in classrooms and communal areas, so students need to take responsibility for this.

Attendance

It is important that all students attend school and are on time each day. Please make sure your child is on time with full school uniform. If a student is late they will receive a 20 minute late detention. School starts at 8.40am so all students need to be on site and ready to learn by this time. Being late is unacceptable. We will be monitoring uniform at the gates, and if students have incorrect uniform, we will be calling parents and directing students home to change into correct uniform. If you have issues with uniform, please contact the school.

Date for Your Diaries

We invest a lot of time into our staff training to ensure that your child receives the very best teaching and learning experience in the classroom. As an example, since September, our training has been focusing on knowledge and retrieval so that teachers have a teaching 'toolkit' to help children to identify and 'plug' their knowledge gaps following periods of lockdown. This year, to enable our staff time to immerse themselves further in this essential training, we will be closing school at lunch time on **Tuesday 15th March** and **Wednesday 22nd June** and students will be provided with work to complete at home. Please note, if students receive a meal in the canteen, they will still be able to do this before leaving the site. Could you please make any necessary arrangements for your child to return home safely on these two dates.

At-Home Lateral Flow Testing

We would like to remind parents that it is advised that all students are to continue with the at-home lateral flow testing.

Year Group	1 st Weekly Test	2 nd Weekly Test
11	Evening of Friday 7 th January	Evening of Tuesday 11 th January
10	Evening of Saturday 8 th January	Evening of Wednesday 12 th January

9	Evening of Sunday 9 th January	Evening of Thursday 13 th January
8	Evening of Monday 10 th January	Evening of Friday 14 th January
7	Evening of Tuesday 11 th January	Evening of Saturday 15 th January

If your child's test result is positive, we ask you to inform us by either emailing absence@theportsmouthacademy.org.uk or completing the digital form at <https://bit.ly/3eL9VHM>

Heads of Year

Year 7 – Miss Piper

Welcome back and a happy New Year! I hope you have had a restful holiday.

This week, Year 7 return to face-to-face lessons in school. As you are aware the guidance on face masks has changed and all children need to return to wearing them in corridors and classrooms. They will be the last year group to physically attend school, therefore can I please remind you all that it is a government requirement for them to provide their own masks.

As the weather gets colder we have relaxed our rules around coats in the building as we have to open windows. However, please be reminded that a hoodie is not a coat and is not acceptable at school.

Many thanks,
Miss Piper and Mrs Bothma-Lubbe

PSHE Theme: PSHE for this week focusses on respect and will cover the 3 pillars of respect:

- Respect for the school building
- Respect for each other
- Respect online

Year 8 – Mr Lock

It was lovely to see #Team2025 back in school today. All of the students I spoke to were pleased to be back and have taken on board the clear messages they received in their PSHE lesson about RESPECT.

I will be conducting several 'learning walks' in year 8 lessons over the next fortnight to ensure all students are settling back into school life. As always if you need to contact the school regarding your child you should send a Class Charts message or email to their tutor.

COVID Updates - All students will need to bring in their own masks to school which should be one which is plain in colour without any printing or writing on. Due to the need to ventilate all buildings, windows will be open so we have relaxed the rules on wearing coats inside. Coats may be worn in lessons at the teacher's discretion.

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- Respect for the school building
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Year 9 – Mr M. Smith

Welcome back! I hope you have had a restful Christmas break.

This week, Year 9 have returned to two PSHE lessons, with a third one on Monday. The focus of these PSHE lessons is:

- Respect for the school building
- Respect for each other
- Respect online

We are targeting our Year 9s for this to remind them of our expectations of them in the way they conduct themselves towards our school environment and each other. If you could please continue a conversation around this at home, I would appreciate it.

As the weather gets colder we have relaxed our rules around coats in the building. However, please be reminded that a hoodie is not a coat and is not acceptable at school.

Many thanks,
Mr. Smith

PSHE Theme: Respect in our Community

Year 10– Mr Parnell

Welcome back!

The Year 10s will be starting their mock exams on Monday 10th January. Obviously, this is a quick turnaround from starting back in school on Friday 7th January! Please support them with this transition and be mindful that this is the first time that they have sat mock exams. I am very keen that they are in good habits, despite the fact that they are in their classrooms and not in the Sports Hall. The message I have shared via an assembly is that the harder they revise and prepare, the easier the actual mock exam will be.

Thanks,
Mr Parnell

PSHE Theme: PSHE for this half-term focusses on respect and will cover the 3 pillars of respect:

- Respect for the school building
- Respect for each other
- Respect online

Year 11 – Miss Hart

Welcome back as we enter the final full term for Year 11 at TPA.

This week, students came back with great attitudes and were focussed on their learning. As of next week, students will be independently revising in tutor time and the students were given all the equipment they need for this, this week.

TPA points were also introduced to the year group this week and students will be collecting these through habit points, punctuality and attendance. This will help the students to get the recognition they deserve

from teachers and collecting 250 will give them the opportunity to attend the end of year reward trip and prom.

Students only have 20 school days until their next set of mock examinations. They should be revising at home and be creating revision timetables to focus their revision. They will be receiving sessions in tutor time on how best to revise. Please do ask them about these.

Have a great week.

Miss Hart

Year 11 Countdown

There are **72** school days left until GCSE exams begin.

Safeguarding – Mrs Rhodes, Designated Safeguarding Lead

NSPCC

To make sure you have the information you need to help keep children safe online, NSPCC have added lots of new content on their online safety hub. Organised by topic, NSPCC have pages for [social media](#), [online gaming](#) and [parental controls](#). NSPCC can also help with more difficult conversations around [sharing nudes](#), [inappropriate content](#) and [online reporting](#).

[Explore NSPCC online safety hub](#)

Online sexual harassment

The Children's Commissioner for England has launched a guide and summary poster for parents and carers about online sexual harassment and how they can support children to stay safe online. Issues covered include: online pornography; pressure to send nude pictures; sexualised bullying; editing pictures and body image; and peer pressure. The guide includes a list of additional resources and sources of support.

Read the press release: [Talking to your child about online sexual harassment: a guide for parents](#)

Download the guidance: [Parents guide: talking to your child about online sexual harassment \(PDF\)](#)

Download the poster: [Talking to your child about online sexual harassment \(PDF\)](#)

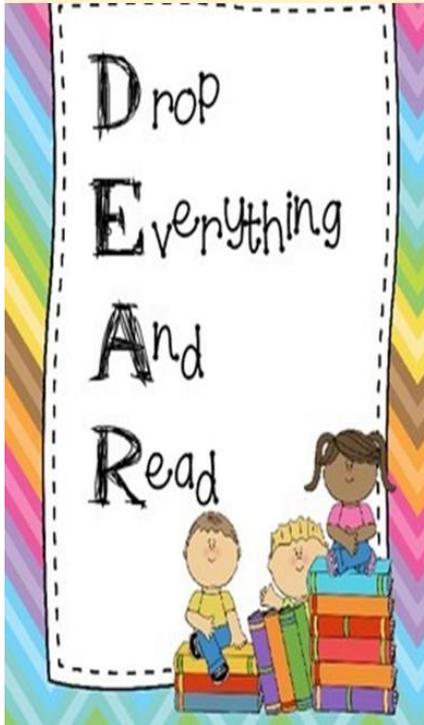
Revenge Porn Helpline and SWGfL Announce the Launch of StopNCII.org

The Revenge Porn Helpline, operated by SWGfL, is delighted to announce the launch of StopNCII.org. We have worked closely with Meta to develop a new platform to protect people threatened with the sharing of intimate images without consent. Find out more in this [article](#).

House Competitions – Miss Masters

The week beginning 10th January is DEAR week. Please remind your child to bring a reading book to school every day.

Week 10th January 2022



DEAR Week House Competitions

This DEAR week we have added a new positive house point and will be running competitions to see who can get the most points. Remember to bring your reading book and get it out at the start of every lesson to earn those points!



Outstanding
DEAR time

The competitions running are:

1. Inter-house DEAR competition for the DEAR Cup
2. Best collective DEAR effort by a tutor group – group prize
3. DEAR superstars! The most OUTSTANDING DEAR readers across the year group – individual vouchers and prizes!
4. Miss Fox's Reading Champion tutor competitions/activities for bonus points (Year 7 and 8)

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP NEW DEVICES FOR CHILDREN

At Christmas, millions of lucky children will be excitedly ripping the wrapping off new phones, tablets, computers or consoles. However, in the rush to let young ones enjoy their shiny gadgets, many parents neglect to set these devices up safely – increasing the chances of children going online and stumbling across adult content, making expensive downloads or installing unsuitable apps. A little time configuring the device properly can save a lot of anguish later. Here are our top tips to ensure that a dream gift on Christmas morning doesn't turn into a nightmare by New Year.

PASSCODES FOR IPHONE/IPAD

If your child's getting their own iPhone or iPad, you can set parental controls that make it difficult for them to access inappropriate content or download expensive apps. Once the device is set up, go to the Settings app and tap Screen Time, then select Use Screen Time Passcode and enter a passcode. Keep it to yourself so your child can't switch the protection off.

SCREEN TIME SETTINGS ON IPHONE/IPAD

Once you've set a Screen Time Passcode, you can adjust various safety settings. You could, for example, only allow communication with people from the Contacts app, place restrictions on App Store purchases and apply age limits to movies, music and web content. There are many more protective options available within the Screen Time settings section.

FAMILY LINK FOR ANDROID

Parents can manage Android phones and tablets, as well as Google Chromebooks, through Google's Family Link app. This gives your child some independence (and their own Google account) but lets parents monitor which apps are being used, set limits on content and ensure that parental permission is required to install apps. Look for Family Link in the Google Play Store.

ADD A CHILD TO FAMILY LINK

The easiest way to add a child's device to Family Link is to set it up with its own Google account. It's a good idea to create this before they use their new phone, tablet or Chromebook. Once they're logged in, open the Family Link app on your phone, press '+' in the top right and add a new family member using their Google account details. Then follow the on-screen instructions.

FAMILY SHARING ON A MAC

Families using a Mac get similar screen time options to iPhone and iPad users. Again, if you're setting up a Mac for a child, make yourself the main admin and add them as a user. This is handled through Apple's Family Sharing service, which not only allows you to put controls on child accounts but share apps and other purchases with them too. Search 'family sharing' at <https://support.apple.com>.

PLAYSTATION PARENTAL CONTROLS

With parental controls for the PS5, you'll need a PlayStation Network account (as the 'family manager') and the child will need their own account, which they should sign in with on the console. This all needs to be set up in advance, so you might want to do it before the big day. Go to Playstation.com and search 'family account' for instructions.

DISCUSS IT WITH YOUR CHILD

If you're planning to implement any kind of restriction or protection settings on your child's new device, we'd recommend having a discussion with your young one first about what these controls do, and what they are for, if you try to impose parental controls surreptitiously or with no advance warning, don't be surprised if your child tries to find a way around them.

SET AN ADMIN ON PCS

On Windows PCs and laptops, it's important not to let your child share a general user account or be the main admin on the device. If you're booting up a new family PC or a child's own device, set it up using your own account details and you'll become the admin by default. Then set up children with their own separate account; Settings > Accounts > Family & Other Users > Add Other User.

SET WINDOWS LIMITS

Once your child's account has been created, a parent admin can go back into the Family & Other Users menu and apply limits to it. These include restricting screen time, the type of games and apps that can be installed, web filters and more. Microsoft also includes reporting tools which, for example, can email you with a weekly summary of your child's activity on the device.

TREAT AN XBOX LIKE A PC

The same control settings you use for a PC can be used to apply parental controls on an Xbox. Again, once your child is signed into the Xbox with their own account, you can then monitor and regulate their activity from a PC or web browser. Microsoft's dashboard allows you to manage voice communication through the console, so you can limit who can contact your child, for example.

INSTALL XBOX FAMILY SETTINGS

If you don't have a PC, but your child does have an Xbox, it might be easier to use the Xbox Family Settings app for iPhone or Android. Here, you can restrict console screen time (particularly handy if the console is in a bedroom), restrict communication and monitor the types of game being played. There's also a feature where you can allocate spending money for games or in-game purchases.

STAY VIGILANT

It's important to remember that none of these methods is 100% foolproof. Nobody will ever invent flawless filters or parental controls – not least because what's unacceptable to some parents is perfectly acceptable to others. So although devices' parental controls will help to keep your child safe online, they work best side by side with good old-fashioned parental vigilance.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.

