



The  
Portsmouth Academy

**Week 21A**

w/c 14 Feb 2022



# Parent Newsletter

## SEND Survey – Mrs Holden, SENDCo



Portsmouth City Council, in collaboration with Dynamite Portsmouth, has launched their annual survey which invites young people aged 13-25 with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) to share their feedback on the services and support available in the city. Your responses will be used to shape future services for young people and their families. The SEND survey is open until 4pm Friday 25 March and you can complete the survey online or request paper copies by emailing [eandsc@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:eandsc@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

Click here to complete the 2022 Young People's SEND survey:

<https://portsmouthlocaloffer.org/information/information-for-young-people/>

## 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 <sup>st</sup> Weekly Test	2 <sup>nd</sup> Weekly Test
11	Evening of Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Evening of Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February
10	Evening of Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Evening of Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February
9	Evening of Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Evening of Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> February
8	Evening of Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Evening of Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February
7	Evening of Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	Evening of Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> February

If your child's test result is positive, we ask you to inform us by either emailing

[absence@theportsmouthacademy.org.uk](mailto:absence@theportsmouthacademy.org.uk) or completing the digital form at <https://bit.ly/3eL9VHM>

## Heads of Year

### Year 7 – Miss Piper

Team 2026 have accrued a total of 2711 habit points last week with 7DAF smashing it for the second week running with 406. Well done Year 7, this is incredible! Since September, #Team2026 have accrued a massive 36819 points.

In my drop ins to your child's lessons this week my focus has been on classroom behaviour. I have found that the majority of the year group are very respectful towards their teacher and their peers. However, I have seen some low-level behaviour that means the teacher has to stop teaching the class to deal with one child. I will be asking teachers to clamp down on this. Please check Class Charts closely over the coming weeks and support us by talking to your child about their conduct in lessons please.

#### How can you help?

We are focussing on equipment in school this week. Can you please make sure your child has a well-stocked pencil case. Please remind your child about our uniform policy. Hoodies are not allowed in school and should be saved for weekend wear. If your child is cold, they can wear a plain charcoal grey jumper under their blazer. Tesco and Asda have some great ones for children now. No logos on them please.

Kind regards,  
Miss Piper and Miss Bothma-Lubbe

### Year 8 – Mr Lock

#Team2025 have reduced their negative points from -236 last week to -209 this week. This indicates that they are continuing to improve their conduct around the academy which will ultimately lead to a better working environment in the classroom.

This week's big winners were 8JAR, 8GAM and 8CUR with 303, 291 and 152 habit points respectively. It would appear that our weekly attendance and lateness detentions are working with late marks significantly reduced this week, thank you for your continued support with this.

Finally, a big well done to all students who have achieved either their bronze, silver, gold or platinum habit point badges, the remaining stars will be awarded in tutor time next week.

### Year 9 – Mr M. Smith

This week, Year 9 have been awarded 1201 Positive Habit Points. This is a fantastic achievement, and I look forward to awarding many students with their stars next week in our celebration assembly! The tutor group with the most Habit Points continues to be 9JAM, so congratulations to them!

This week, PSHE focussed on the topic of contraception, so please do continue this conversation with your child at home.

We have had some issues around the use of mobile phones and social media amongst peers. Whilst as a school, we will always support with these incidents where we can, could I please ask that you encourage your child to regularly change their passwords and 'check in' with how things are going online.

This week, we will be focussing on equipment across the year group. Please ensure your child comes to school with the correct equipment, including a well-stocked pencil case. Details of the correct equipment needed can be found on our school website.

Many thanks,  
Mr. Smith

## Year 10 – Mr Parnell

Dear all,

Thank you for your support this half-term. I was delighted with the attitude of the year group during their mock exams at the start of the year and the way that they conducted themselves during a potentially stressful experience. I am very keen that they remain in good habits moving forwards and that they use time at home to focus on revision / homework etc.

We are looking at launching a GCSE POD competition to the year group in the near future so please look out for any announcements relating to this.

Mr Parnell

## Year 11 – Miss Hart

What a great week Year 11 have had! I have been immensely impressed with their mature attitudes to their mock examinations and how well they have conducted themselves in the exam hall. They have been praised by myself and a number of senior leaders this week. Please feel free to congratulate them at home too.

The only area in which some students are letting themselves down is not coming fully equipped for the exam. Some students have been missing vital equipment, including a calculator and even a black pen! Please can I ask that you check your child in the morning has all the necessary equipment that they need for examinations they are taking that day. These should be placed together in a clear pencil case.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING.** We are looking forward to speaking with parents for what will be the last and probably most important Parents' Evening for your child. The team is looking forward to meeting with you.

As always, thank you for your support.

Have a great week.  
Miss Hart

## Year 11 Countdown

There are **47** school days left until GCSE exams begin.

## Attendance – Mrs Blake and Miss Osborne

31<sup>st</sup> January – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Best Tutor Group	Percentage
<b>7CUT</b>	<b>98.3</b>
8SEY	97.4
9HAS	95.4
10RCH	92.5
11BEG	97.6

Congratulations to the tutor groups from each year group with the highest attendance LAST week. 7CUT were the weekly overall winners so they received their reward on Monday morning.

Attendance Attack will be taking place on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022**. The easiest habit point a student will ever receive! #TPARocksAttendance #MissSchoolMissOut #TPAAttendanceAttack



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 of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## 10 Top Tips for Respect Online: A DIGITAL WORLD FOR EVERYONE

Even before lockdowns inflamed the situation, one in every five 10- to 15-year-olds was experiencing bullying online: abusive messages, having rumours spread about them or being excluded from group chats, for example. Through smartphones and tablets, we're used to being able to communicate from anywhere, at any time – but digital devices became commonplace so quickly that it caused a problem: as a society, we haven't properly adjusted to how different they've made life. Our tips can help you to build positive relationships online and avoid some of the potential issues.

### WHAT IS NETIQUETTE?

Etiquette is a set of rules to help us interact with others: like a code of respect. People follow this code every day (mostly without even thinking about it) and it can help us decide how to act in certain situations. 'Netiquette' (etiquette on the net – we see what they did there!) is the same, except it's designed to help us interact with others online, which is sometimes a whole different ball game.

### 1 SEE THE OTHER SIDE

Usually when we're online, we can't use the other person's body language or tone of voice to give us clues about what we can say to them, or how to say it. Try to think what the situation might be like for them, how they're feeling and whether we'd say the same thing if they were actually there with us.

### 2 HIT THE PAUSE BUTTON

Without a person physically there in front of us, it's easy to send something quickly – before we've really thought about whether it's helpful or kind. Just because we can do things quickly doesn't mean we should; it's better to pause for a second and think it through, instead of simply reacting.

### 3 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

People have invented loads of different ways to communicate online (emojis, abbreviations like LOL, TBH and so on). Some of these can be triggering to other people (such as USING CAPS SO IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE SHOUTING!), so it's important to stay aware of the style of language you're using.

### 4 BE SURE BEFORE YOU POST

On social networks like Instagram or Facebook, vast numbers of people might see what you've posted. So if that's something negative about a person, it can feel hugely painful for them. If you're ever tempted to post something like that, ask yourself "do I really need to go public with this?"

### 5 PROTECT YOURSELF

Always think very carefully before sharing any personal information with someone else or in a group. Once something's been put online, the sender loses any control over where it goes and who might see it. If you've got any uncertainty at all, it's a good idea to talk to a trusted adult about this first.

### 6 KINDNESS IS CATCHING

Negative communication can spread rapidly online, but so can being kind and helpful (this happened quite a lot during lockdowns, for instance). A friendly, positive message can make a big difference to someone as well as helping us feel good about ourselves – so share the love!

### 7 WAITING CAN BE HARD

When we've sent a message or posted something online, waiting for a reply or for someone to respond can make us anxious. It could be helpful to think whether you really have to message or post right now – or if you could wait until a better time when it will cause you less anxiety.

### 8 THE NET LOVES ATTENTION

Most apps, games and sites use sophisticated technology that's designed to keep us coming back (or more). It's important to keep this in mind when you feel the need to reach for your phone, tablet or console – once we understand this fact, it becomes easier to control how we use our digital devices.

### 9 REPLY WISELY

Sometimes it's tempting to fire back an instant response to a post or message we don't like. How we respond is important, however – whether we reply privately to the person or on a platform where lots of people will see it, for example, makes a big difference to how whoever is receiving the message will deal with it.

### 10 FORGIVE AND FORGET

Even though we try to avoid them, mistakes can – and do – happen online. They can sometimes feel like a bigger deal than they actually are. It's important to remember that we're all only human, and sometimes we mess up. Learn to forgive others and – just as importantly – to forgive yourself.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Carole Francis-Smith is an experienced counselling psychologist who, through her research, specialises in promoting safe and ethical online communications. She consults with businesses and organisations to support positive and effective communication online, often by considering some of the more hidden aspects of the mediums.



Source: <https://www.gov.uk/people/population-and-community/crime-and-justice/online-bullying-in-england-and-wales/year-on-increase-2020>  
<https://businessinsider.com/psychology/bullying-2017-11/> | [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/345643\\_the\\_online\\_casualty\\_effect](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/345643_the_online_casualty_effect)



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