



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN
Friday 3rd October 2025**

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I have been pleased to see the number of students who have joined our Sixth Form this September which continues to be extremely popular. As you will know, Pudsey Sixth Form College has recently opened but despite this we have seen students from both PGS and across the area wanting to join our Sixth Form in record numbers. There are multiple reasons for this – our Post 16 exam results were the best we have achieved but as you know, school is about much more than exam results.

Our Sixth Form has around 260 students which means we are large enough to run a full range of courses but small enough to know all of our students as individuals. The enrichment opportunities that we offer our Post 16 students are impressive. From trips abroad, to leadership opportunities, outstanding careers experiences and mentoring by New College at Oxford University we offer a wide and expanding range of experiences. This ensures that our students leave us not only with the necessary skills and qualifications for the next stage of their lives but also with fond memories of their time with us.

For more information about our Sixth Form please have a look at our new online prospectus via this link: [Pudsey Grammar School - Prospectus](#)

In addition, we have our annual Sixth Form Open Evening on Wednesday 15th of October from 5.00pm – 7.30pm if you want to find out more about our Sixth Form. Further details about tickets for this event are on our website. [Pudsey Grammar School event tickets from TicketSource.](#)

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

Training Day 2 – Monday 6th October 2025

Please note that the school will be closed to students on Monday 6th October 2025 to allow for staff training. The school will re-open to students on Tuesday 7th October 2025 at the normal time.

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Prior notice of early finish – Wednesday 15th October 2025

On Wednesday 15th October 2025 we will be holding our annual Sixth Form Open Evening from 5.00pm to 7.30pm (if you would like to book on to this event please visit [Pudsey Grammar School event tickets from TicketSource](#).) To allow time for staff and students to prepare for this event, the school will close at the slightly earlier time for all students at 2.10pm. Years 7, 8 and 9 will leave after their period 5 lesson and Year 10, 11 and Post 16 will leave after their lunch. The school will re-open at the normal time on Thursday 16th October 2025.

Ms Frost – PA to the Headteacher/Communications Manager

Alumni Network – Keeping in Touch

If you have any children who are former pupils of Pudsey Grammar School, if you are an ex-pupil yourself, or if you have friends or colleagues who studied here, we'd love for you to share the link below with them.

This is part of our Alumni Network project, which aims to keep in touch with former students, build connections, share reunion events, and provide opportunities for networking and mentoring to current students.

<https://forms.gle/7qFGgWeQVapJXdms6>

Miss Robinson
Careers Lead

History Club

We are delighted to invite students to join our History Club, running every Tuesday of Week A from 3.00pm–4.00pm in Room 114. The club offers an exciting opportunity for students to discover the past, develop their curiosity, and build key skills such as critical thinking, debate, and teamwork through engaging discussions and interactive activities.

This half-term, our theme will be the rise and expansion of the Spanish Empire and its role in colonisation, giving students the chance to explore how global history shaped the modern world.

Participation in History Club not only broadens historical knowledge but also strengthens analytical and communication skills that support success across subjects. It is also a great way to meet like-minded peers and nurture a genuine love of learning.

If you would like further details, please feel free to contact Mr Alderson, Subject Leader of History, at the school via email at r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Mr Alderson
Subject Leader of History

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Year 7

Year 7 have continued to make a brilliant start to the year. They are adapting to their new surroundings and expectations well with excellent uniform standards and bringing in all their equipment. We want to stress the importance of taking care of all their belongings and in particular their ties and planners. They are a vital part of our uniform and behaviour system so it is important that students have them at all times. Our school is very large and busy so a misplaced planner could take a couple of days to be found.

Our attendance has been fantastic and we are getting to the time of the year where there are a lot of illnesses being spread. It is vitally important that we try to come in every day and only be off when we really need to be. There are some fantastic prizes on offer for brilliant attendance and I would like to see as many Year 7 get those prizes to reward their effort.

Training Day

We do have a training day on Monday 6th October and no students will be in school. When we return on Tuesday it will be week B.

Mr Lucas
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

Ski Trip

Just a reminder that the deadline to sign up for the Ski Trip is Friday at 7.00pm. There are still a few Year 8 places left, these will be allocated to another year group if spaces are still empty on Monday.

Arbor

There are a number of students in Year 8 that are missing detentions and they are escalating. Please can you check students have full access to Arbor so they are able to see what homework or detentions they have.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 8 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 8 Leader

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YEAR 9

There are some students that are having difficulty getting on to Arbor due to forgetting their passwords. Please see the school website link on how your child can reset their password. <https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/parent-information/parental-communication-arbor-bulletins-letters-home/>.

Mrs Kaye
Year 9 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

We are now halfway through the term, and Year 10 have made a brilliant start. Their hard work, maturity, and positive attitude have really stood out. Mr Eaton, the SLT link for the year group, even took time in assembly this week to praise them for their efforts, which is a fantastic recognition of how well they are doing.

As we enter the final three weeks of what is a long half term, we are encouraging students to keep standards high. One area we are focusing on is reducing after-school detentions. If a detention is set, we are asking students to attend on the night it is given so that it is dealt with promptly and doesn't carry over.

We are incredibly proud of Year 10 and the way they have approached this term so far, and we look forward to seeing them finish it just as strongly.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Mrs Green
Year 10 Leader

YEAR 11

Blackpool Trip

On Thursday, we took our Year 11 students to Blackpool Pleasure Beach.

Students conducted themselves brilliantly throughout the trip, showing maturity, respect, and enthusiasm at every stage. Their positive attitude and excellent behaviour made the experience enjoyable for everyone involved and truly make the most of the opportunity. It was

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a memorable day filled with laughter and shared experiences—one that we will all look back on with fondness.

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Important Dates

Year 12

Monday 6th October - Training Day #2

w/c Monday 17th November – Year 12 Assessment Week 1 (in class)

Friday 28th November - Training Day #3

Year 13

Monday 6th October - Training Day #2

w/c Tuesday 7th October – Year 13 Assessment Week (in class)

Monday 3rd November – Year 13 Tutorials Commence

Friday 28th November - Training Day #3

w/c Monday 1st December – Year 13 Trial Exam Week 1 (sports hall)

w/c Monday 8th December - New York Trip

Year 13 Assessment Week (in class)

Year 13 students will be sitting a range of assessments next week (during lessons). Students should know when their assessment is taking place for each subject, expectations including any revision guidance, materials they may need and the format of the assessments. Please note that students should continue to attend all timetabled lessons, Post 16 study, form and assembly next week.

16–19 Bursary Fund - Applications and Eligibility Meetings

This is a reminder to anyone who has received a letter confirming their child's eligibility. If students have not yet done so, please ensure they come to the Sixth Form Office to speak to Miss Hart as soon as possible to discuss the support on offer.

Applications for the 16-19 Bursary Fund remain open. This aims to provide financial support to help students overcome specific financial barriers so they can remain in education. More information about the bursary, along with the application form can be found on our website.

<https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/sixth-form/bursary-16-19-application/>.



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Into Teaching Programme

Next week, a number of students will be attending the introductory session for the Into Teaching programme with Leeds Schools Hub. This government-backed initiative is designed to inspire sixth form students to consider teaching as a career. An ambassador from the hub will be visiting to introduce the programme and explain what it involves. If your child would like to sign up, please contact Mrs Burgum at a.burgum@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Enrichment

There is still time for Year 12 students to sign up for enrichment via the Google Form shared to the Year 12 and Careers Classroom last week. Any questions can be directed to the Sixth Form team.

Work Experience

Did you know that in the final week of the academic year (13th-17th July) we host a dedicated Work Experience Week for Year 12? Please encourage students to start thinking about what placements they might like to pursue, building up their CVs, and contacting companies early — the sooner they reach out, the more likely they are to secure a valuable opportunity, as companies appreciate advance planning.

New York

We are still waiting on some students' passport details and dietary information for the upcoming New York trip. If you have not yet done so, please complete the form sent to your email as soon as possible. We also plan to host a Parent Information Evening in November, with more details to follow.

OPPORTUNITIES

Routes into Medicine Webinar hosted by Hull York Medical School

Students considering applying to study Medicine are invited to join the 'Supporting a Medicine Applicant' live MediCafé webinar on Tuesday 7th October at 5.30pm. The session will help to demystify the application process and provide practical tools and advice, with admissions experts and student ambassadors on hand to share their experiences and answer questions. Whether students are just beginning to think about Medicine or are already committed to applying, the webinar is open to all. After registering, attendees will receive joining instructions via email, and the event will be hosted on Zoom. https://york-ac-uk.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mjwBHs3dRP6jTuBD4viBsA#/registration

RSM Business apprenticeships

Students in Year 12 and 13 are invited to an online Insight Evening with RSM, a world-leading professional services firm, on Thursday 9th October 2025 from 5.00pm to 6.30pm.

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This event will provide an excellent introduction to RSM, what they do, and the wide range of student programmes available including work experience, internships, apprenticeships, and graduate roles.

It's a great chance to learn more about careers in business and accounting and to start exploring pathways into the profession. Interested students can apply using the link provided.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RSM_Virtual

Channel 4 Virtual Work Placements

Channel 4 is offering a fantastic virtual work experience opportunity through GetMyFirstJob, the leading platform in emerging talent. This flexible and free programme allows you to complete online work experience at your own pace before 19th December, unlocking badges and certificates along the way.

You'll build key skills in

*Confidence: Learning how to share ideas clearly and effectively

*Audience awareness: Understanding what engages people and how to reach them

*Industry awareness: Exploring careers in creative industries and how they are evolving
With 10 different modules to choose from, there is something for everyone, even if you're not particularly creative. Sign up today to start gaining valuable experience in TV and broadcasting while boosting your employability skills.

https://www.4skillsworkexperience.com/?utm_campaign=Careers%20Advisers&utm_medium=email&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-8vxk5VdfGN0l22yBr5G7-_SsdeRVLiEgFvLKUOXw5qtJOE9DkyIWvuLf6qOEpBPmIWjYMOGCDv9-yKgw6pv-FXa5yeaXgo5pindsnm6jiDuYFGHA&_hsmi=381213557&utm_source=hs_email
<https://www.4skillsworkexperience.com/Careers>

In-School Events: October Edition!

This year we will be hosting more events than we ever have! Some of these will be subject specific and some are elective! Please find attached this month's google form to sign up to the two events we have planned for this month. Our focus this month is:

*Degree Apprenticeships

*RAF Careers

If either focus interests you - click the link below to find out more and register! Some opportunities are first come first served so please be quick with your responses!



**PUDSEY
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EST.1905

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<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdNeASppSJmjVWBupTF5DnN9dWkzRarhpFNULXeyPz469aeWQ/viewform>

Mrs Smith
Assistant Director of Sixth Form

Miss Robinson
Careers and Enrichment Lead

Miss Hart
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Mrs Scott
Supervised Study Co-Ordinator
