



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Friday 27th March 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I am going to keep my message brief this week as the main feature in this Bulletin is the notice below from Mr McCroakam, Assistant Headteacher, regarding the new Mobile Phone policy that comes into effect from Monday 30th March 2026.

The new Mobile Phone policy is available on the school website - <https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/key-information/school-policies/>

Thank you to parents, carers, students and staff for your support and co-operation with the launch of the new policy.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

Mobile Phone Policy – Key Information for Parents final reminder

In line with Department for Education guidance which recommends that schools are mobile phone free so students are not distracted and can fully focus on their learning, we will be introducing a new Mobile Phone policy from Monday 30th March.

The school will operate a phone-free day for Years 7–11. Phones must be switched off, kept in bags, and never seen during the school day.

We expect all students to bring a school bag each day so that if they do bring a phone into school, it can be stored safely and out of sight throughout the day.

Students who do not bring a school bag with them will be required to borrow a bag from school to store their mobile phone during the school day.

Sixth Form students may use phones only in designated areas (e.g. Sixth Form social spaces), not around the main school.

Phones must be switched off before entering the building and can only be turned back on after students leave at the end of the day, phones and other electronic devices cannot be used during after school interventions.



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If a phone is seen or used it will be confiscated.

If a phone is seen in classrooms parents/carers will need to collect the phone.
If a phone is seen outside lessons, students can collect it at the end of the day.

The policy also applies to all other electronic devices (see page 5 of the new Mobile Phone policy) including AirPods, MP3 players, games consoles, wired headphones and similar devices. Smartwatches are allowed but must not be used for communication.

Exceptions may be made for medical or pastoral needs, with agreed adjustments in place.

Room changes are updated on Arbor at least 24 hours before the lesson. Students should check their Arbor before arriving at school and if required write down the rooms for that day into their school planner - On Call staff will also be available to support any students who need assistance with questions around a room change.

The full policy is available on the school website - <https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/key-information/school-policies/>

We would really value parents' support in reinforcing this national approach. In particular, we ask that parents do not contact students directly on their phones during the school day; if there is an urgent message, please contact the school office and we will ensure it is passed on.

Most parents tell us they would like their children to spend less time on mobile phones. This policy supports that aim by helping young people switch off from electronic devices during the school day and stay fully engaged in their learning and social interactions. We will review this policy after 2 weeks and make any necessary changes to ensure the school is mobile phone free for Years 7 to 11.

Easter Break

The school will close on Thursday 2nd April 2026 and re-open at the normal time on Monday 20th April 2026.

Miss Frost
PA to the Headteacher

School uniform expectations

As we approach the end of term, we would like to remind families of our uniform expectations for the period after the Easter break.



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WEEKLY RITUALS

Our summer uniform will begin from the first week back after the Easter holidays (Monday 20th April).

Until That Time

Students must continue to bring and wear their school blazer every day. In lessons, students may request permission to remove their blazer, but this is at the discretion of the member of staff.

Students should therefore arrive each day with their blazer and expect to wear it around school until the summer uniform period begins.

We appreciate your support in helping us maintain high standards of uniform and presentation.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Mr McCroakam
Assistant Headteacher

Neurodiversity Assessment Forms

If your child is undergoing a neurodevelopmental assessment (for example, Autism or ADHD), we are always happy to support this process. To help us complete any required forms as quickly as possible, please ensure that requests from external providers are sent directly to the appropriate member of staff. Requests can be sent to the school contacts below:

Key Stage 3 - Miss Shepherd
c.shepherd@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form - Mr Haley
n.haley@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Mr Haley
Deputy SENCO

Year 7

We are nearing the end of the Spring Half term, and the majority of the Year are doing the right thing every single day. As you know we are having a big shift in line with government policy with the use of mobile phones in the school building. I know this is similar to what a lot of the primary schools had in place so it won't be that different for Year 7, but your support with this policy would be appreciated, as we do not want to cause too much upset over



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phones being confiscated. As a reminder throughout the school day phones should be switched off and in students' school bags.

Mr Lucas
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss White
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

Year 8 Immunisations

Reminder - the School Immunisation Team will be visiting school on 13th May 2026 to deliver the HPV vaccine to Year 8 students.

If you have not already done so, please complete the immunisation form so that the nursing team are aware of your wishes.

Please ensure that you click the link below and complete even if you do not consent, by 3pm on 12th May 2026.

<https://www.leedsimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/HPV>

The unique school code for Pudsey Grammar is EE108079

Thank you for your cooperation

Mrs Marsh
First Aid Lead

Uniform Standards Reminder

We would like to remind all families of our expectations regarding school uniform. Students are expected to arrive at school each day in full, correct uniform, including:

- Blazers worn at all times unless directed otherwise
- Shirts tucked in and top buttons fastened
- Appropriate school shoes (no trainers or canvas footwear)
- No excessive jewellery or make-up

Year 8 are looking very smart when we welcome on the doors each morning.



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New Mobile Phone Policy – Effective 30th March

From Monday 30th March, we will be introducing a new Mobile Phone policy.

- Mobile phones must be switched off and kept out of sight for the entire school day.
- Phones should not be used during lessons, social times, or between lessons.
- If a phone is seen or used, it will be confiscated and may need to be collected by a parent/carer.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us uphold high expectations and create a positive learning environment for all students.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 8 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Guided Choices Update

Well done to all students for completing their Guided Choices form during form time this week. If your child was absent or did not have the opportunity to complete it, please don't worry — I will be running additional sessions throughout next week to ensure everyone is able to submit their choices.

Year 9 Rewards Trip – Flamingo Land

The Year 9 rewards trip to Flamingo Land is now live on ParentMail.

Date: Tuesday 30th June
Depart PGS: 8.15am
Return from Flamingo Land: 3.30pm

Please ensure you have completed the necessary permissions and payments via ParentMail.

Mrs Kaye
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mr Inman
Year 9 Leader



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YEAR 10

Year 10 English Group Changes

After the Easter holidays there will be changes to some of the Year 10 English groups on the X side of the year. We have reviewed assessment data and classwork from Year 10 in English, and these changes are designed to ensure that all students are receiving the most appropriate level of support and challenge in lessons, and to help them make the best possible progress in English. These changes will not affect the curriculum content being taught but will allow teachers to better tailor lessons to meet individual needs.

We would also like to celebrate the fantastic achievements of some of our Year 10 students who took part in Wednesday's public speaking workshop, organised by Mr Connor from the English department. I was lucky enough to attend part of the day, and it was wonderful to see how well the year group engaged with the activities.

Mr Connor shared the following message:

I would like to celebrate the fantastic achievements of some of our Year 10 students who took part in Wednesday's public speaking workshop. Throughout the session, students demonstrated impressive confidence, creativity, and maturity as they developed and delivered their speeches.

All students embraced the challenge with enthusiasm, supported one another and demonstrated respect as both speakers and audience members. Many students stepped outside their comfort zones and spoke with clarity and conviction on a wide range of topics. Their ability to engage listeners and express their ideas so effectively was truly commendable. Well done to all who participated. You should be very proud of your efforts. We look forward to seeing these skills continue to grow in the future!

Finally, a reminder that progress reports were sent home last week, showing students' current grades alongside their target grades. There will be an opportunity to discuss these in more detail with subject teachers at Parents' Evening after the Easter break, further information about this will be shared soon.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Mrs Green
Year 10 Leader



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YEAR 11

Year 11 GCSE History Revision Guidance

To support students in their preparation for GCSE History, please refer to the resources below, which provide a comprehensive overview of the three examination papers, including key content, important dates, exam timings, question structures, and recommended revision materials.

In addition, links are provided to the full range of Revision Resources available via the Student Intranet, as well as details of upcoming Intervention sessions scheduled for the Easter half-term.

Examination Overview

Overview:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/18HxalBZ3pGbsmVlhvliTXBL6d2lqPHwLITV0FhkHHso/edit?usp=sharing>

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DHEIfUldPaVTyv6YG2D5bnHcDSViOhwsM-F_cqrkylY/edit?usp=sharing

Revision Resources

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B-r13x6AcHTVOWpfNkc2WINCTHM?resourcekey=0-QNwpRNhBrKZtepX-scyutA&usp=sharing>

Intervention Sessions

Dates:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1wglbDAXS0cYXHviowJStKmPZN2fSDDACZI44pBbzjY0/edit?usp=sharing>

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly via email at r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Mr Alderson
Subject Leader of History

Exam Success Evening

It was a pleasure to see so many families on Tuesday evening for the Year 11 exam success evening; despite the weather and traffic! I was pleased to hear so many positive comments and I hope you found the evening useful and that it cleared questions that you may have had. If you do have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. For the benefit of the families that were unable to attend, I have attached links to the presentations below:



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📌 Central Presentation

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_aYLTtKWxuwNUCDAYtubOeNAM0ui8kdQ/view?usp=sharing

📌 Revision Presentation

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ceoMPNVQv-ZHCSxwK_rQOK6IP3nJc-YI/view?usp=sharing

There were also resource packs that were distributed, students have been asked to collect these from the Year office, please remind students to collect these next week if they haven't already done so.

Key Dates & Reminders

📅 Break for Easter Holidays - Thursday 2nd April (Bank holiday on Friday 3rd April)

📅 Return to school - 20th April

📌 English Walking Talking Mock

Y Band - 21st April

X Band - 24th April

📌 ***GCSE EXAMS***

Please refer to the exam timetables that were handed out for exact exams and times. Here are a few for reference:

📅 w/c Monday 27th April - Photography, Art and IT exams

📅 Tue 1st May - Fri 8th May - Health & social, enterprise, child development and drama exams

📅 w/c Monday 11th May - Main exam period begins with English Literature in the morning

Please avoid booking any holidays during this period, please wait until all exams have been completed and events below. If in any doubt, please contact me to check dates.

📌 Year 11 Leavers Assembly (final goodbyes in school) - Friday 19th June – 1.00pm – 3.30pm

📌 Year 11 into Year 12 Induction Days - 22nd - 23rd June

📌 Year 11 Prom! - Thursday 2nd July

📌 GCSE Results Day & Sixth Form Enrolment – Thursday 20th August, further details to follow



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Gentle Tips

When you feel anxious

- Pause and breathe: breathe in slowly for 4, out for 6. Do this a few times.
- Remind yourself: feeling anxious does not mean you're failing.
- Ground yourself: name 3 things you can see, 2 things you can hear, 1 thing you can touch.
- It's okay to have bad days — they don't undo your progress.

Looking after yourself

- Sleep is important — a rested brain works better.
- Eat something, even if it's small.
- Move a little — stretching or a short walk can help calm your body.
- Take breaks without guilt — rest is not being lazy.
- Get some air - freshen your mind, body and soul with a nice walk outdoors.
- Avoid negative vibes.

Gentle reminders

- You are not alone — lots of students feel this way.
- Ask for help — teachers want to support you. Speak to Mr Syed and Miss Exley if you need us, we see the students every morning and are here for them.

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 History Revision Guidance

To support students with their revision in A-Level History, please see the resources below. These outline the content and structure of each examination paper, including key themes, assessment objectives, timings, question formats (including source analysis and essays), and recommended revision materials. A link to the Revision Resources available via the Student Intranet is also included, alongside details of upcoming Intervention Sessions over the Easter Half-Term.

Link to Exams Overview:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1s2VCQ9aGnwsQN5E0L18LrWdlh2q84uKThOHoKJ8lq6w/edit?usp=sharing>

Link to Revision Resources for History:

<https://classroom.google.com/c/NjlxMzg3NTM2NzI3?cjc=o5d2xtf>



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Link to Intervention Dates:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1wg1bDAXS0cYXHviowJStKmPZN2fSDDACZI44pBbzjY0/edit?usp=sharing>

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me directly via email at r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Mr Alderson
Subject Leader of History

Year 13 Exam Success Evening

Thank You to all Year 13 parents and carers who attended our Exam Success Evening on Thursday 26th March. The event provided valuable information on:

- *How to support your child in the coming months
- *What to expect over the next term
- *Student Finance, apprenticeships, and employability presentations

We hope you found the evening informative. Copies of all presentations will be sent to parents and carers shortly.

Reminder – Year 12 Parents' Evening

Year 12 parents are invited to sign up for Parents' Evening on Wednesday 1st April. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their teachers ahead of the Trial Exam Week starting Monday 27th April. If you need any support logging on or making appointments, please contact the Post-16 Team.

Dates for 2026

Year 12

Wednesday 1st April – Year 12 Parents Evening (online)

w/c Monday 27th – Year 12 Trial Exam Week (Sports Hall)

Tuesday 7th July to Friday 10th – Year 12 Paris Trip

w/c 13th July – Year 12 Work Experience

Year 13

w/c Tuesday 5th May - Exam Season Commences

Thursday 25th June – Year 13 Awards Ceremony & Prom

Thursday 13th August - A Level Results Day



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Thursday 20th August - GCSE Results Day

Mrs Smith
Assistant Director of Sixth Form

Miss Robinson
Careers and Progression Manager

Miss Mathie
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Mrs Scott
Supervised Study Co-Ordinator
