



RC/JAE
10 June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Following our return from the Half Term break, GCSEs for Year 11 pupils are now in full swing. The significant majority are engaging very well, feeling fully prepared and looking forward to college or apprenticeships next academic year. Key dates for Year 11 include: Leavers' Assembly – Thursday 20 June at 2.00 pm, The Prom – Friday 5 July, Exam Results – Thursday 22 August at 10.00 am.

As the term rolls forward, it is timely to thank our current Year 11 Pupil Leaders for their great work across the school. They have created a strong legacy of work, leaving the school environment that has been invested in and improved, charities that have received resources and funds, and a powerful pupil voice that influences the running of the school.

New Pupil Leaders for the next academic year have now been appointed ready to champion the voice of the pupils across the school. Please see below for the names and roles of the Pupil Leadership Team for 2024/25.

Pupil Leaders 2024/25

Portchester Community School
Pupil Leadership Team
2024/2025

Head Pupils

Mathilde Dillon 10 HJV	Katy Hawley 10 HJV	Paige Clarke 10HJV
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Year 11 Head Pupils

Finlay Lyons TILCT	Tom Potter TISW	William Davies TIAHO
Brooke Siddall TISW	Nellie Westbrook TIAHO	

Deputy Head Pupils

Esmee Banks 9 LHJ	Alessia Duell 10 HJV	Jonathan Hodgson 10MR
Kiera Ryan 10MR	Devon Banks 10 HJV	Charlie Kirk- Trannah SETA

Pupil Leaders

Mille Traviss TILCT	Lauren Aitken TILMT
Tabitha Bishop 10PRW	Skye Clayton-Dykes 10HJV
Grace Hill 9LHJ	Eduard Cretu-Relenschi SETA

Successful Confident Responsible



Headteacher: Mr R Carlyle BEd (Hons)
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 X @PCSIinformation

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SMSC Gold Award – Second Award! Please read below the external verifier’s summary feedback following a detailed analysis of the evidence provided by pupils, staff and Governors.



National SMSC Quality Mark Verification Report

Name of School: Portchester School
Headteacher: Richard Carlyle
SMSC Lead: Josie Grew and Krissie Shaw

Verification visit: Wednesday 24th April 2024

Dear Richard,

I am delighted to inform you, that as a result of your recent verification visit, Portchester School has been awarded Gold level of the National SMSC Quality Mark, and this has been confirmed by the Quality Assurance Panel.

I would like to offer particular thanks to the staff, parents, and pupils for the very warm welcome I received throughout my virtual visit. Thank you to the pupils I met, they were proud to be part of Portchester School and continuously demonstrated your school values, which are fully embedded into school life. They were able to share some of the wonderful SMSC opportunities available to them and how this enhances their curriculum. Pupils spoke passionately about their experiences, *“Our work experience is matched to our skills, it develops our social and communication skills.”* They felt a sense of belonging, *“This is the best school. It is very fair and inclusive. Staff here try their best to create as many opportunities for us as possible”*. It was lovely to hear pupils speak so positively about staff, *“Our teachers really care. They stand on the gate before and after school to check in with us all.”*

The parents and the Governors all spoke about the school with such pride, always matched with huge smiles. They were able to share why some areas of SMSC are important to the development of children, the continuous support from all school staff and how the happiness of the children is always at the forefront, *“Pupils here have a voice, we want them to feel empowered and for them to leave here knowing that they can make a difference.”* *“Every conversation with a pupil is an investment towards building their confidence. We challenge views through open dialogue in a safe and trusting environment.”*



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House Logos. Part of the information shared for our SMSC Gold validation was an insight into our new House system. Mr Smith and House Leaders have been running a wide range of activities across the year to engage and inspire the pupils. One of the activities was a House logo competition. The results are detailed below and will feature in all future correspondence and award outcomes.



The highlight of the House activity calendar is our Sports Day, set this year for Thursday 18 July 2024. The day will feature a range of traditional activities such as tug of war, relays and quizzes as well as the involvement of inflatables and alternative sports! Pupils will be given the opportunity to achieve House points by completing activities on their own or in teams. More information to follow. If you want more up to date school sports news, please follow the school on X (formerly Twitter) @PortchesterPE.

Transition Arrangements

We are welcoming a new Year 7 cohort of over 140 pupils for September 2024. New pupils are coming from over 24 different primary schools. While many pupils and parents have had informal visits to the school already, the formal transition arrangements start this week with a SEN Transition Day on Wednesday 12 June. The next formal Transition Day for all new Year 7 pupils is Wednesday 3 July. All new pupils will be expected to attend this date to meet their new tutor and get to know the school ready for a September start. Many of the new



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Year 7s will also take part in our Summer School programme during August to help them make new friends, get to know staff and understand how the school runs.

Year 5 pupils from all our main feeder schools are also visiting early in July to gain a taster of the secondary school experience. Year 5 pupils from Red Barn, Castle, Northern and Wicor will be sampling lessons in Technology, Science, Maths and Art.

Key Dates for this Half Term

Wednesday 12 June	SEN Transition Day
Friday 14 June	Art Trip to Pallant House
Monday 17 June	Year 10 College Taster Trip to Havant and South Downs/Year 10 Drama Performance to Parents
Wednesday 19 June	Year 10 GCSE Drama Exam
Thursday 20 June	Year 11 Leavers' Assembly at 2.00 pm
Friday 21 June	Art Trip to Pallant House
Monday 24 June	Year 10 Assessments Start
Thursday 27 June	Portchester General Election Day
Friday 28 June	Forces Day
Monday 1 July	Year 5 Taster Day
Tuesday 2 July	Year 5 Taster Day/Hampshire Book Awards Trip
Wednesday 3 July	Year 6 Transition Day/Evening
Thursday 4 July	Year 5 Taster Day
Friday 5 July	Year 5 Taster Day/Year 11 Prom/Art Trip to Pallant House
Monday 8 July	Sailing Trip/Stand Against Violence Workshops in School
Tuesday 9 July	Sailing Trip
Wednesday 10 July	HPV Vaccinations/Drop Everything and Read
Monday 15 July	Cluster Music Concert – 5.30 pm – 7.00 pm 
Wednesday 17 July	Summer Concert
Thursday 18 July	Sports Day
Friday 19 July	Duke of Edinburgh Trip Leaves - AM
Tuesday 23 July	Last Day of Term – school closes at 1.40 pm



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Uniform Update

In response to parental requests, the Governors have approved a slight change to the Uniform Policy. From this term, pupils are allowed to wear 'plain grey tailored knee length day shorts'. These are available from our supplier, Skoolkit. Please see the Skoolkit website for images and costs.

Last Day of Term Arrangements – Tuesday 23 July 2024

- Normal lessons Periods 1 and 2.
- Period 3 – Key Stage 3 Celebration Assembly/Key Stage 4 Tutor Period.
- Period 4 – Key Stage 4 Celebration Assembly/Key Stage 3 Tutor Period.

Pupils entitled to have a free school meal will need to have food at Break 1 on this day. **School will close to pupils at 1.40 pm for the summer break.**

Thank you for your sustained support. I hope to see you at the Summer Concert.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Carlyle
Headteacher



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P.A.C.E.

2024

PARENT, CARER & PROFESSIONAL EVENTS

A free health & wellbeing event
for all parents, carers & professionals
who support or work with young people

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

PACE events consist of two main components:

1. A number of specialist workshops on young people's emotional health and wellbeing.
2. Information stands from local and national organisations.

Attendees can choose which sessions they would like to attend; select as many or as few as you would like to attend.

FRIDAY 19TH JULY 2024

OAKLANDS CATHOLIC SCHOOL, STAKES HILL RD,
WATERLOOVILLE, PO7 7BW

WORKSHOPS:

NEW Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), Tourette's Syndrome and Tics, Supporting your Autistic Child to Thrive, and Disability, Difficulty, SEND & Mental Health.

BOOK YOUR WORKSHOP SPACE AT:

hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events

Brought to you by Hampshire CAMHS

TIME	WORKSHOP 1	WORKSHOP 2
9:30 - 10:30	<p>Supporting a child with eating difficulties including AFRID This workshop solely focuses on eating disorders as a mental health disorder for young people. This will cover Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder is a feeding and eating disorder. People with ARFID find it hard to eat enough for healthy growth, development and functioning.</p>	<p>Supporting trauma recovery Understanding the Impact of trauma on children and young people and how together we can help them to recover.</p>
10:45 - 11:45	<p>Introduction to managing ADHD - ADHD Team What is ADHD? Spotting the signs and symptoms from 5 years to 18 years. How to support a young person with symptoms of inattention, hyperactivity and impulsivity with or without an ADHD diagnosis.</p>	<p>Supporting a young person in crisis & managing self-harm Supporting a young person in crisis & managing self-harm.</p>
12:00 - 13:00	<p>Coping and resilience strategies to support children & young people Exploring the terms coping and resilience - what are they and how might we build coping and resilience into our lives. This workshop uses easy to understand metaphors that can be shared with children to help them to explore their own coping and resilience.</p>	<p>Introduction to autism What is Autistic Spectrum Condition? Spotting the signs and symptoms Diagnosis: the process and things to know about the diagnostic assessment How to support a young person with ASC.</p>
13:30 - 14:30	<p>New Understanding and supporting a young person with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) This workshop aims to give an introduction for parents and carers supporting a young person with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD). It will provide information regarding what OCD is, how this develops and what keeps it going. It will give an overview of the treatment options for OCD and ways family members can support a young person at home.</p>	<p>Looking after yourself to support your child This workshop will focus on the needs and challenges for parents and carers, as well as provide a range of practical advice and strategies around how to look after yourself in order to better support the wellbeing of your child.</p>
14:45 - 15:45	<p>New Disability, difficulty, SEND & mental health An awareness session to offer a space for Q&A around Learning needs and how Mental Health issues can present; difficulty with language used when children and young people have varying learning needs with or without formal diagnosis.</p>	<p>Understanding & managing anxiety What anxiety is and how to spot the signs and symptoms of anxiety in children and young people. How to support a child and young person who experiences anxiety with practical strategies.</p>
16:00 - 17:00	<p>Coping and resilience strategies to support children & young people Exploring the terms coping and resilience - what are they and how might we build coping and resilience into our lives. This workshop uses easy to understand metaphors that can be shared with children to help them to explore their own coping and resilience.</p>	<p>New Artificial Intelligence and safeguarding What is meant by the term AI identify the risks of AI for children and young people. It will explore recent news stories about AI and consider the implications when working with young people.</p>
17:15 - 18:15		<p>New Supporting your autistic child to thrive This two-hour workshop will consider what areas of life can be challenging for autistic young people. We will think about how we can adapt our communication and the environment around the young person to make life easier and more suited to their needs. We will discuss practical changes that can be made in all the areas and give example of what these look like in real life. We will support you to think about the specific needs of your child and develop the beginnings of an individualised plan, providing the opportunity for discussion with other group members and the facilitators.</p>
18:30 - 19:30	<p>Introduction to managing ADHD What is ADHD? Spotting the signs and symptoms from 5 years to 18 years. How to support a young person with symptoms of inattention, hyperactivity and impulsivity with or without an ADHD diagnosis.</p>	