



# Parkfield Press

July  
2022

Dear All,

What a fantastic summer term we have had! It has been an amazing year back at school. This has actually been the first full year in education since 2018-19! We've seen a return to external examinations in both primary and secondary and I've been so proud of how our young people have conducted themselves during these assessments.

We enjoyed a fantastic activities week along with a return of the residential for several year groups! Seeing the children enjoying themselves with their friends has been one of the most fantastic sights. The school community is a caring and supportive one where children thrive in each other's company.

As is always the case at the end of an academic year, we say goodbye to colleagues who are moving on to new challenges or who are retiring from the profession after many years of valiant service to education. We wish all our leavers the very best wishes for their future and look forward to welcoming some excellent new colleagues to fill their shoes.

I, myself, will be saying goodbye at the end of August after nearly 2 very happy years here at Parkfield. I have appreciated all the support and challenge provided by the parent body over what has been a busy time in the life and direction of the school. I know there have been many changes made but I have no doubt that under Mr Payne's guidance the school will continue its' journey to being the best school possible for the children we serve daily.

I wish everyone at Parkfield School an enjoyable summer holiday. Look after each other and come back ready and eager to go in September!

Best wishes

Interim Principal

## Uniform

As you know, we are going to be moving to the NEW Parkfield School uniform for new Year 7s starting in September 2022 and current year 8s moving into year 9.

The uniform will move to a skirt uniform and a trouser uniform, making them gender neutral. There will be grey trousers to match the colour of the blazer and a pleated, patterned skirt. Both uniforms will include the same school blazer and a tie. All students will wear a tie from September. Families who are in need of financial support with the new uniform can make contact through the following email: [finance@parkfield.bournemouth.sch.uk](mailto:finance@parkfield.bournemouth.sch.uk).



## School Leadership in Secondary 2022/23

We have recently received applications for Head Student and Prefects for 2022-23 and have had interviews with some fantastic pupils from year 9. We are pleased to announce the appointment of: Angel, Rebekka, Matei, Lilian, Toby, and Sydney as well as Ella as our Head Student for 2022-23. Congratulations to them and we look forward to their continued contributions to the school community.



## Year 6-7 Transition day

On the 1<sup>st</sup> July, BCP held their transition event across the whole town. This is when pupils transitioning into year 7 visit their new secondary school. We are delighted to announce that we are now full in year 7 for 2022-23. Students who joined us on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July enjoyed a sample of Art, PE and Science lessons. They left smiling and excited for their new beginning in September 2022. We were pleased to have our new prefects and head student on hand to make their day friendly and welcoming.

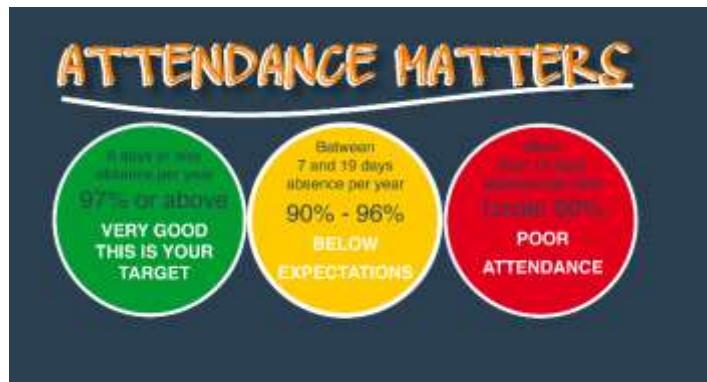


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## Attendance moving forward

This academic year sees the first full year of school since the Pandemic began. As a result, schools across the country have seen a decline in pupil attendance. Parkfield has been no different. Our school attendance rate this academic year has been 87%. This is clearly a long way off the expected school percentage of 95%. The school has shown high levels of understanding when issuing fixed penalty notice for periods of absence and term time leave in order to support families post pandemic. However, please be aware that next academic year the attendance policy will return to its full implementation and we will be working closely with families where attendance is below the national expectation and that of the school. Please re familiarise yourself with the attendance policy which can be found on the school website <https://www.parkfieldschool.org/school/policies>



## Pride month



June was Pride Month across the nation. This month celebrated the LGBTQ+ communities around the world and in our school. In June pupils had community sessions

focused on inclusion as well as understanding why derogatory language is not ok and why language used in the past is not in keeping with modern times. Both Primary and Secondary pupils received an assembly on the theme 'Love has no Labels'. We are hoping to establish an LGBTQ+ drop in during the new year.

## Activities week

On the week of 4th July, pupils across the school engaged in a range of activities to develop their team working, resilience and speaking and listening skills. Students took part in nature day which included some outstanding natural sculptures, some went to visit



Hengistbury Head or the New Forest Water park. Our Primary pupils also had a range of activities which included the Space Dome, visits to Paulton's Park and some Creepy Crawlies even came to say hello! EYFS, Y1 and Y2 had a fantastic visit to the Aviation Museum. The children enjoyed looking at all the exhibits and trying out the cockpit switches and steering. They had fun trying on the various costumes and using the simulator. The staff at the Museum told me that members of the public commented on how well behaved all the children were. The staff were all very proud of them!

## Careers

Our Year 10s had a fantastic time on work experience back at the start of this half term with many of them being welcomed into local business either with family members or through our dedicated search system. I think it's fair to say that for some of our students they realised that being at school is easier than being at work! This opening to go and see what opportunities are on offer really helps the students focus their studies and make those all-important post 16 choices. Making the decision about whether they go to college to study A-levels or move on to an apprenticeship can be helped by this experience. Well done to all involved and thanks to Miss Walton and Mrs Bament for their help getting everyone placed.



## Community links



This school year Parkfield community took a healthier approach to disco snacks. Thanks to a generous donation from Tesco

Riverside, our pupils were able to enjoy apples, satsumas, bananas, pineapples and a watermelon while dancing and socialising with their friends. This has shown us all that

enjoying healthy food can be fun. We thank Tesco and their amazing community champion, Sally, for her continuous support.

## School Counselling Support

After 6 years at Parkfield we are saying farewell to Sue Evans, school counsellor. Sue started working with Parkfield students back in Dorset House and has been a consistent supporting adult in some of our students' lives for many years. With the recent addition of therapy dog, Bear, to the team, they have continued to reach out and help many students within the school. We are sorry to see them leave and wish them the best of luck in their new adventures!

From September we will be welcoming Place2Be into the school on Mondays, Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays. Place2Be provide universal mental health support and targeted child counselling in school, including primary, secondary and all-through schools, across England, Scotland and Wales.

Place2Be offer:

- In-school mental health support for pupils, families and school staff
- Face-to-face and online training for teachers, school leaders and school staff
- Reflective supervision and supportive forums for teachers, school leaders and school staff

- Accredited qualifications up to Postgraduate Diploma and Master's level

Our dedicated mental health professional will be an integral part of our school team and we look forward to introducing them to you in September!

## Spotlight on Governance

A word from Matt Clarkson, Chair of Governors for Parkfield School.

"Congratulations on making it to the end of the first full year back in education, after all the Covid disruptions.

This year saw the return to formal examinations with both SATs and GCSE exams being taken for the first time in a while.

Well done to students and staff for their efforts and we look forward to seeing the results in due course. It was also really good to see the return of activities like PGL, Sports Day, Activities Week and the various trips and visitors we have had this year that help enrich the students experience inside and outside the classroom.

We are sad that Clare Adams, along with various other staff, are moving on to new adventures. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of them for helping to make each of our student's time at Parkfield as rewarding as possible. I am excited about Jeremy Payne and the other new staff joining us from September and know that they will continue to make improvements at the school and make it an outstanding place for students and staff alike.

A final thanks to all teaching and support staff as well as parents, carers and the PFA! Your continued support for the school is truly appreciated. Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you next term. Best wishes, Matt Clarkson, Chair of Governors."

For further information on Parkfield School's LGB, please visit the School website [www.parkfieldschool.org/about-us/the-governing-body](http://www.parkfieldschool.org/about-us/the-governing-body)

**Matt Clarkson, Chair of Governors**



## Whole School reminders

### New timings of the day

Following our recent survey regarding the timings of the school day, the most popular choice was to change the day so that the timings are the same from Monday – Friday. We have therefore made the decision to change the timing of the day from September to 8.40 am – 3.10 pm, Monday to Friday. Thank you to everyone who provided feedback.

### Safeguarding Updates

As DSL at Parkfield School it has been a busy year supporting our young people and their families, particularly post COVID.

As we move toward the summer holidays and the routine of the school week disappears for 6 weeks, I'd like to just share with you a few things to consider and some details about 2022-23:

### Safety in school toilets

Sadly, this year we have had repeated reports from our younger students that they do not feel safe or comfortable using our school toilets at break and lunch because of the actions of a small group of our students. We had repeated incidents of damage, graffiti, litter and occasional vaping. We have sought to address these issues through education, particularly around the impact of anti-social behaviour on others, raising awareness (assemblies and within lessons), use of sanctions for individual students who we can identify as being responsible, and the restriction of certain year groups from certain toilets. Unfortunately, our younger students are still telling us they do not feel safe.

As a result of this feedback, we are in the process of having plans drawn up to make the toilets on the ground floor of secondary open plan and unisex. This will mean, like other schools, the cubicle doors become floor to ceiling and there will be a central set of sinks for all to use. We hope that this work will happen during the October half term due to supply issues on some of the fittings.

### Vaping

We have seen an increase in students being found with vapes or admitting to using vapes in and out of school. This is sadly a trend that is being seen across schools in the BCP area. Some schools are reporting seeing children being enticed and encouraged to accept free vapes from older youths. These may contain substances which are toxic or very addictive and could be linked to child exploitation and criminality. At Parkfield, all smoking paraphernalia, including vapes, are banned from the school site and we would appreciate your support in ensuring these are not brought to school. If you would like support in talking to your child about vaping or smoking, there is link to a useful presentation on the safeguarding page of our school website designed by Hampshire County Council as part of their 'SmokeFreeMe' toolkit.

### Beach Safety

We know the warmer weather means our students will be making use of our local beaches and we want them to be able to do this safely, particularly in light of a couple of recent incidents on or around Bournemouth beach that have been widely reported in the press. To help them stay safe, please make sure you know who they are going to the beach with, make sure they have a way of contacting you and they have a set time and plan for getting home; encourage them to always stay as a group; and make sure they know where they can get help if they need it (ie. the closest lifeguard station).

### How to Get in Touch during the summer

If you have a concern about the safety of a student, please contact BCP Council Children's Services Out of Hours: 01202 738256 or the police on 101.

Or alternatively, visit our website for more details  
<https://www.parkfieldschool.org/school/Safeguarding-Information>

Kim Taylor, Vice Principal and DSL



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Your emotional well-being is incredibly important. If you want to talk to anyone outside of school, these organisations are brilliant.

For confidential advice and support about money issues:

For mental health and well-being:

For LGBT support:

For advice on relationships and sex:

For support with any challenge you face:

For support and counselling with substance misuse:

For confidential advice with health issues, and body worries:

For confidential advice with health issues, and body worries:

For support with young carers:

For support from someone new, lost or bereaved:

For eating disorders:

For support from someone new, lost or bereaved:

Remember! In an emergency, always dial 999 or 112. Only ever leave the 999 emergency services provider to go for help and advice. If you're in danger, immediately dial your local emergency services provider.

## Key Dates

### Sept 2022

1 Sept	Inset training for staff
2 Sept	Y7, Year 1 & EYFS
5 Sept	All students return
14 Sept	Individual Student Photos Primary meet the teacher event
15 Sept	Year 7 parent information evening
22 Sept	<b>Half day close for all students 1215</b> Open evening for new intake Y7 16:00 to 19:00
23 Sept	Inset Day
29 Sept	"KS4 Ready" parent info evening (Y10/11 parents)

### Oct 2021

17 Oct	Y6 SATS mock week
21 Oct	Break up for half term Year 11 progress check home

### Nov 2021

4 Nov	Primary Disco
9 Nov	Y11 mock exams
18 Nov	Year 8 progress check home
25 Nov	Inset Day

### Dec 2021

2 Dec	Year 9 progress check home
9 Dec	Christmas Fair
13 Dec	Year 10 progress check home
14 Dec	Year 7 progress check home
16 Dec	Term ends

## Poetry Corner

Our Year 6 pupils have been studying World War II in their class time and we are delighted to be able to publish Iona Storkey's excellent piece of work, written in her own time.

### WWII by Iona Storkey

WWII, what a pity. I thought we were done, fearing for our cities.

WWII, what a shame. I really don't wish to play Hitler's game.

WWII says children must leave, unsure of which family they'll receive.

WWII means Hitler will come, he'll knock on every door, from old to young.

If he finds you don't have blonde hair and blue eyes, he'll take you to camps where you may not survive.

But dear people don't be upset, instead remember not to forget: be brave and have no regret.