



# PRESDALES SCHOOL

*Achievement for all*

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Dear Parents/Carers/Students

## Year 11/13 Leavers' Days

What a fantastic way to end the half term. I am so proud of all our students and how they behaved this week. We wanted to ensure that they had a good end to Year 11 and 13, especially after the past 15 months. The traditional Year 11 dress-up day is always fun, the students make so much effort. Yesterday, we were blessed with beautiful sunshine as the Year 13 (am) and Year 11 (pm) enjoyed the inflatables and waffle van. Well done to all of the students, we wish them all well for the future. My thanks goes to Mrs Bowden (Head of Year 11), Mrs Simmonds (Head of Sixth Form), their respective teams of form tutors and support staff, the finance staff and everyone involved in the organisation of this week.



## Access to Lessons via Google Meet

Since we have been back in school, we have provided live access to lessons via Google Meet. This has been above and beyond what we are required to offer as part of our remote learning package. This does cause disruption to lessons and has been a challenge for staff. Following discussions with our trust board, we will no longer provide access to individual lessons via Google Meet. As from next half term, all remote learning will be provided by setting work online, giving access to SAM learning and using the materials on the Oak Academy website. The exception to this will be form time, where, when appropriate, students can still access via Google Meet. If whole year groups are sent home to self-isolate, then we will revert to Google Meet lessons.

## Young Carers

Please advise us if a student is a young carer, so we can offer suitable support. Herts Young Carers have informed us that we have eight students who are registered as carers, but we only know of two. Due to data protection, Herts Young Carers cannot share with us who the other students are. Please contact your child's Head of Year if this may apply to your family.

## Year 11/13 summer assessments

I am pleased to say that we have received confirmation from The Joint Council for Qualifications that we have passed stage 1 and 2 of the approval process for the summer assessments. We have one more stage to go through, which will be sending a sample of students' work to exam boards. This will take place after 18<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Student Survey**

Thank you to all students who completed the survey. As a follow up, the senior team met with groups of students this week to discuss the outcomes. An analysis of the survey and next steps is at the end of this letter.

### **COVID keeps**

We are seeking views from students, parents and staff on some of the changes we had to make due to COVID, and which ones we may consider keeping. The student survey has been sent via Edulink. The parent survey can be found [here](#). We will close the survey on Wednesday 9th June.

### **Home Testing**

A reminder to the students to continue testing twice per week. Please register your results on the school website and the NHS App.

### **PressTales**

Please click [here](#) for the latest edition of PressTales.

### **Science Labs**

The refurbishment of S1 and S2 is due to commence soon. We have been sent through 3D mockups of the final design, with colours to be decided in due course. We are looking forward to using the improved facilities.



I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term break.

Regards

Mr M Warren  
Headteacher

## Student survey 2020-2021

### Common trends and action points

Thank you for all of the positive feedback that you gave us in the student survey. We had 877 responses, which is pleasing. It is clear from the results that you are positive about your experiences at school, although there are some areas for us to consider. It is important to us to collect accurate data, so we do look for trends as opposed to every individual response. A minority of students have told us that their mood at the time of completing the survey influences their responses. We will follow up with individual students where they have raised significant concerns.

Considering how challenging the past year has been, it is good to hear that the majority of you enjoy school all or most of the time and you appreciate your teachers helping you to do your best. Many of you feel challenged in lessons, you know that we encourage you to respect people from other backgrounds and to treat everyone equally and the general behaviour of the students in school is good and your perception of this has improved over the past three years. It is also pleasing to read that you feel safe when at school.

Over the course of this last week, SLT have led lead focus groups with each year group. We have tried to address concerns raised by you and to investigate your responses to some questions in more detail. Initial findings are below:

Points	Actions
<b>Q7 There is an adult at school I can talk to if something is worrying me</b>	It appears that all students within the focus groups know who they can talk to (e.g. they all answered their form tutor, Head of Year for example) but, they also said that they would prefer to talk to a family member or a friend in the first instance. Some of the younger students did say that they did not know where their tutor might be at break/ lunch and whether or not they are allowed in those areas due to the COVID bubbling. We will ensure all students know where to find their tutor/ HOY and remind students of this regularly.
<b>Q9 Is bullying a problem at your school</b>	Whilst nearly all students know the definition of bullying, it is apparent that they don't want to tell a member of staff about a friendship issue as they think staff will perceive this as trivial. We will ensure all students know to share any friendship issues they are experiencing with us, and we will listen to their concerns and provide them with strategies to help build their resilience. We will ensure all students continue to complete different activities around the themes of friendship fallouts, bullying online and in-person through their SMSC form sessions.
<b>Q12 My school encourages me to look after my physical health</b>	Most students have commented on the need to have a healthier break and lunch menu and this is something that the kitchen staff are actively looking into. As the COVID restrictions are slowly lifting, we will be able to go back to offering the full range of sports clubs, which the students have said they have missed this past year.
<b>Q13 My school encourages me to look after my emotional health</b>	All students appreciate the regular sessions delivered via PSHE, SMSC and form time sessions. Some would like other topics to be included, e.g. awareness of other Mental Health conditions such as OCD and depression.
<b>Q19 My school provides me with info about my next steps</b>	Younger students said they had not received information. Careers advice increases as students go through the school. Older students were positive about the support and advice they had been given.

## Student Survey overview 2021

Number of surveys completed

2019		2020		2021	
645		877		878	
#	%	#	%	#	%

Q2						
I enjoy school						
All of the time	27	4%	48	5%	54	6%
Most of the time	288	45%	359	41%	404	46%
Some of the time	248	38%	362	41%	349	40%
Almost never	53	8%	71	8%	56	6%
Never	29	4%	37	4%	15	2%

Q3						
Teachers help me to do my best						
In every lesson	70	11%	107	12%	147	17%
In most lessons	316	49%	441	50%	462	53%
In some lessons	194	30%	252	29%	227	26%
In very few lessons	55	9%	75	9%	38	4%
In none of my lessons	10	2%	4	0%	4	0%

Q4						
My teachers give me work that challenges me						
In every lesson	58	9%	120	14%	98	11%
In most lessons	317	49%	471	54%	503	57%
In some lessons	231	36%	251	29%	251	29%
In very few lessons	34	5%	29	3%	22	3%
In none of my lessons	5	1%	6	1%	4	0%

Q5						
I enjoy learning at this school						
All of the time	57	9%	107	12%	121	14%
Most of the time	264	41%	339	39%	374	43%
Some of the time	237	37%	327	37%	323	37%
Almost never	54	8%	72	8%	47	5%
Never	33	5%	32	4%	13	1%

Q6						
Teachers listen to what I have to say in lessons						
Strongly agree	70	11%	137	16%	164	19%
Agree	418	65%	579	66%	464	53%
Neither agree or disagree	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	213	24%
Disagree	124	19%	142	16%	31	4%
Strongly disagree	33	5%	19	2%	6	1%

<b>Q7</b>							
<b>There is an adult at school I can talk to if something is worrying me</b>							
Strongly agree		136	21%	221	25%	192	22%
Agree		298	46%	421	48%	331	38%
Neither agree or disagree		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	222	25%
Disagree		133	21%	170	19%	92	10%
Strongly disagree		78	12%	65	7%	41	5%

<b>Q8</b>							
<b>The behaviour of other pupils in my lessons is good</b>							
All of the time		54	8%	100	11%	149	17%
Most of the time		236	37%	406	46%	465	53%
Some of the time		254	39%	293	33%	215	25%
Almost never		79	12%	67	8%	44	5%
Never		22	3%	11	1%	5	1%

<b>Q9</b>							
<b>The behaviour of other pupils around school is good</b>							
All of the time		14	2%	47	5%	60	7%
Most of the time		280	43%	365	42%	528	60%
Some of the time		276	43%	389	44%	268	31%
Almost never		58	9%	61	7%	19	2%
Never		17	3%	15	2%	3	0%

<b>Q10</b>							
<b>Is bullying a problem at your school</b>							
It doesn't happen		94	15%	131	15%	356	41%
It happens and happens and teachers are really good at resolving it		74	11%	59	7%	116	13%
It happens and teachers are good at resolving it		112	17%	173	20%	295	34%
It happens and teachers are not good at resolving it		91	14%	109	12%	92	10%
It happens and teachers do nothing about it		62	10%	43	5%	19	2%
I have not had any experience of this		212	33%	362	41%	n/a	n/a

<b>Q11</b>							
<b>I feel safe when I am at school</b>							
All of the time		245	38%	419	48%	453	52%
Most of the time		261	40%	323	37%	337	38%
Some of the time		84	13%	121	14%	76	9%
Almost never		33	5%	8	1%	6	1%
Never		22	3%	6	1%	6	1%

<b>Q12</b>							
<b>My school encourages me to look after my physical health</b>							
Strongly agree		103	16%	132	15%	117	13%
Agree		333	52%	479	55%	397	45%
Neither agree or disagree		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	277	32%
Disagree		168	26%	216	25%	68	8%
Strongly disagree		41	6%	50	6%	19	2%

<b>Q13</b>							
<b>My school encourages me to look after my emotional health</b>							
Strongly agree		116	18%	162	18%	135	15%
Agree		305	47%	457	52%	397	45%
Neither agree or disagree		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	221	25%
Disagree		156	24%	202	23%	85	10%
Strongly disagree		68	11%	56	6%	40	5%

<b>Q16</b>							
<b>I take part in school activities outside of lessons, like clubs, sports, music and art</b>							
Very frequently		92	14%	127	14%	108	12%
Frequently		120	19%	190	22%	164	19%
Sometime		145	22%	189	22%	206	23%
Not very often		153	24%	200	23%	188	21%
Never		135	21%	171	19%	212	24%

<b>Q17</b>							
<b>My school encourages me to be independent and to take on responsibilities</b>							
Strongly agree		111	17%	195	22%	154	18%
Agree		412	64%	553	63%	449	51%
Neither agree or disagree		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	235	27%
Disagree		97	15%	119	14%	36	4%
Strongly disagree		25	4%	10	1%	4	0%

<b>Q18</b>							
<b>My school encourages me to respect people from other backgrounds and to treat everyone equally</b>							
Strongly agree		281	44%	441	50%	338	39%
Agree		316	49%	398	45%	362	41%
Neither agree or disagree		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	106	12%
Disagree		41	6%	31	4%	19	2%
Strongly disagree		7	1%	7	1%	3	0%

**Q19****My school provides me with info about my next steps**

No I haven't received any information
Yes, but it was too much information and was not helpful
Yes but there wasn't enough information that was helpful
Yes I received the right amount of information that was helpful

107	17%
68	11%
162	25%
308	48%

105	12%
98	11%
217	25%
457	52%

183	21%
88	10%
189	22%
418	48%

**Q20****I would recommend this school to a friend moving to the area**

Yes
No
Maybe

363	56%
66	10%
216	33%

484	55%
79	9%
314	36%

594	68%
31	4%
253	29%