



**RAINHILL  
HIGH SCHOOL**

**FRIDAY 10TH JULY 2026**

# **PARENT & STUDENT NEWSLETTER**

[WWW.RAINHILLHIGHSCHOOL.ORG.UK](http://WWW.RAINHILLHIGHSCHOOL.ORG.UK)

# **TOWN SPORTS OVERALL WINNERS 2026**



# **WELL DONE RAINHILL!**



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

Dear Parents and Students,

Good afternoon and welcome to this week's newsletter.

This week our annual Town Sports saw fantastic performances across all age groups. It was a remarkable day for our school as we gained some great achievements as well as becoming overall winners for 2026. Well done to our talented athletes and our dedicated team of PE teachers.

The ADT Exhibition on Wednesday transformed our school gym into a gallery of Year 11 and 13 students' finest art, textiles and design work - truly inspirational. Thank you to all who came to celebrate with us.

Meanwhile, Year 10 stepped up to the plate with their professional mock interviews, gaining vital experience and feedback from local employers. They also had a fantastic day in Sixth Form as part of their Step up to 6<sup>th</sup> Programme and a small cohort have successfully completed their LFC SMF programme. You can read all about it on pages 8-9.

Looking ahead, we have a busy week starting with our Summer Musical on Monday. Tuesday brings the Rainhill Awards and The Star of Rainhill Ceremony. This event will recognise outstanding achievement and effort in all areas of school life. On Wednesday, we have our Sports Presentation Evening—a special opportunity to celebrate success across athletics, games and competitions this year. Finally, we have our end of year rewards trips on Thursday and our celebration assemblies on Friday.

A reminder that pupils may choose to wear either their normal school uniform, blazers and ties not required, or their Rainhill PE kit with trainers for our final week. A reminder also to ensure your child brings a refillable water bottle to school each day as well as their dinner card.

Have a lovely weekend.

*Mrs Thorogood, Principal.*



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## **NEXT WEEK FOLLOWS THE WEEK A TIMETABLE**

	<b><u>MONDAY</u></b>	<b><u>TUESDAY</u></b>	<b><u>WEDNESDAY</u></b>	<b><u>THURSDAY</u></b>	<b><u>FRIDAY</u></b>
<b>13/07/26</b>	Y12 Work Experience  Summer Musical	Star of Rainhill Awards  Awards Evening	Sports Presentation Evening	Summer Rewards Trip	Celebration Assemblies  School Closes for Summer Break



# GOOD NEWS

## TOWN SPORTS 2026

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July, we took 80 pupils to our biggest sporting event of the year. Here are the results, on what was a remarkable day for the school. Congratulations to all those who took part.

A full write up will be published in our Highlights Magazine.

Year 7 Boys	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Year 7 Girls	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Inter Boys	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Inter Girls	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Senior Boys	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Senior Girls	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Overall Boys	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Overall Girls	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Overall School	1 <sup>st</sup> Place



## SPORTS DAY

Thank you for everyone that took part in our annual Sports Day. Here are some pictures from what was a great couple of days.

A full write up will be published in our Highlights Magazine.







**FORMER PUPIL SUCCESS**

Congratulations to one of our former pupils, Scott Sutcliffe, who is currently starring in the famous musical, Moulin Rouge. Scott is embarking on a world tour of the show and is currently performing at the Liverpool Empire Theatre. The Musical will run in Liverpool until Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August, marking one of the theatre's longest runs. Read all about it [here](#).



### **RAINHILL STAFF MESSAGES OF APPRECIATION**

As we come to the end of another wonderful school year, we would love to give parents, carers and pupils the opportunity to share a message of appreciation for our teaching and support staff.

If a member of staff has made a positive difference to your child this year, we would be delighted if you could send us a few words of thanks. Your kind messages mean so much and are a wonderful way to recognise the dedication, care and hard work of our staff throughout the year.

Please send your message by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July by completing [Rainhill Staff Nominations July 2026 – Fill in form](#)

Thank you for your continued support, and for helping us celebrate our amazing staff.

### **CELEBRATING ATTENDANCE**

We would like to congratulate Year 8 pupils for their consistent, improved, and improving attendance. Your commitment to being in school each day shows great determination and resilience. Regular attendance is a key part of your success, and it is wonderful to see so many of you making the effort to be present, engaged, and ready to learn.

**(Pictured: Year 8, Ryan Y, Mark F and Harriet L).**

Pupils who have been recognised for their attendance this week are:

**Year 7: Eva D, Toby E, Eloise D**

**Year 9: Ava R, Jake C and Layla C**

**Year 10: Isacc T, Tyler S and Will T**

*The Attendance Team.*



### **VICE PRINCIPAL WEEKLY SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD**

Congratulations to our Vice Principal's Weekly Special Recognition Award winners, who have all been chosen as the highest positive points scorers for each year groups 7-10. What a fantastic achievement.

Congratulations to Zara B, Lucas V, Sofia Cain, William P, Peter S, Arwen W, Darcie P, Alan S and Charlie C-C.

*Mrs Munro, Vice Principal - Behaviour, Culture, Attendance & Safeguarding.*



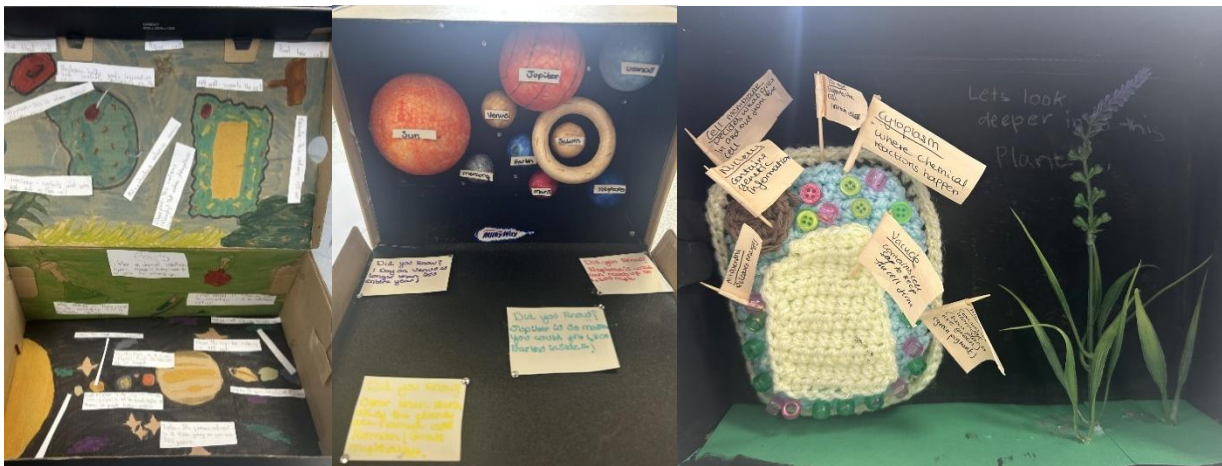
**'SCIENCE PROJECT IN A BOX' HOMEWORK CHALLENGE**

I would like to congratulate my Year 7 class who recently completed their *Science Project in a Box* homework challenge. Pupils were asked to create a project showcasing a topic they have studied this year, and the creativity, effort and scientific understanding on display were truly impressive.

Among the standout entries were a beautifully detailed model of the Solar System, an incredibly creative crocheted plant cell with all its key organelles carefully represented, and a detailed project that successfully combined learning from biology, chemistry and physics into one engaging display.

It has been fantastic to see pupils taking their learning beyond the classroom and presenting scientific ideas in such imaginative ways. Thank you to all the pupils and families who supported these projects. The enthusiasm, dedication and pride shown in the completed work have been wonderful to see, and I am very proud of what the pupils have achieved.

*Mrs Bancroft, Head of Chemistry.*



**YEAR 10 ANIMAL CARE**

Our Year 10 Animal Care pupils enjoyed learning how to handle birds and mammals during a fantastic handling workshop. They learnt all about behaviour, health, and general care of each animal.

A huge thank you to A-Z Safari Party for offering this excellent experience.

*Miss Harper, Head of Biology.*





### **STEP UP TO 6TH - A FANTASTIC SUCCESS**

Our Step Up to 6<sup>th</sup> programme was a fantastic success, giving Year 10 pupils an authentic insight into life as a sixth former.

Throughout the programme, pupils experienced many of the opportunities that make our Sixth Form unique, including smaller class sizes, engaging and thought-provoking lessons, and a dedicated wellbeing session. They also had the chance to experience the increased independence and responsibility that comes with post-16 study, helping them to prepare for the exciting next stage of their educational journey.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our Year 10 pupils. You approached every aspect of the programme with enthusiasm, maturity and respect, making the most of every opportunity on offer. Your excellent behaviour, willingness to get involved and positive attitude were noted by staff throughout the week, and you represented yourselves brilliantly.

We hope the experience has given pupils greater confidence about their future and inspired them to consider the exciting opportunities available in our Sixth Form. We look forward to welcoming many of you back in the years ahead.



### **YEAR 10 MOCK INTERVIEW DAYS**

Our Year 10 Mock Interview Days were a huge success, with every pupil taking part in a realistic interview experience designed to prepare them for the future. Whether pupils are aiming for sixth form, college, apprenticeships or employment, developing strong interview skills is an essential step in building confidence and making a positive first impression.

A huge thank you goes to the incredible organisations that gave up their time to support our pupils: **LFC Foundation, Reach Rainhill, MSB Solicitors, HMRC, ARUP, NSG, St Helens Rugby League, the RAF, Matalan, St Helens College, National Museums Liverpool, NatWest, Murraywood Construction, St Helens Borough Council, Konsolute Ltd, DXCTechnology, and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.**

Their representatives interviewed our pupils, shared valuable industry knowledge and provided personalised feedback to help them improve.

The feedback from our volunteers was overwhelmingly positive:

*"Pupils were incredibly polite and a pleasure to speak to."*

*"Pupils were great, enthusiastic for the process despite being nervous. Credit to the school."*

One volunteer shared:

*"Thank you so much for inviting me to take part in the mock interviews. I absolutely loved the experience... It was really rewarding to meet the pupils, hear about their aspirations, and hopefully help*



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*build their confidence for future interviews. I particularly enjoyed being able to provide guidance, constructive feedback, and practical advice that they can take away and use in real interview situations. It was fantastic to see how engaged the pupils were, and I hope they found the experience as valuable as I did."*

*"A really positive, uplifting experience – thank you. It is so important we give young people the chance to try out these skills in a safe environment, so thank you for organising the day so well. Well done. I am always happy to support you in this."*

Mock interviews provide pupils with invaluable experience by helping them practise answering interview questions, improve their communication skills, manage nerves, and receive professional feedback in a supportive environment. These experiences build confidence and equip pupils with skills that will benefit them throughout their education and future careers.

A huge well done to all our Year 10 pupils. You approached the experience with maturity, resilience and enthusiasm, and we are incredibly proud of the way you represented yourselves and our school. Congratulations to every pupil who took part—you should all be very proud of your achievements.

### **LFC SMF YEAR 10 PROGRAMME**

We are delighted to share that a cohort Year 10 pupils have successfully completed the LFC SMF programme. Throughout the programme, pupils have shown fantastic commitment, enthusiasm and resilience, developing valuable skills that will support them both in school and beyond.

We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved and would like to congratulate all our successful participants.

To celebrate their hard work and success, we will be organising a reward trip in September for all pupils who successfully completed the programme. Further details, including dates and arrangements, will be shared with parents and pupils at the start of the new academic year.

Well done to everyone involved—we look forward to celebrating your achievements together.



## **YEAR 9 PUPILS RISE TO THE ENTERPRISE CHALLENGE**

Our Year 9 pupils recently demonstrated outstanding creativity, teamwork and entrepreneurial flair as they took part in an exciting Enterprise Challenge delivered by representatives from Tour de France Grand Départ 2027 and British Cycling.

The challenge was designed to celebrate and promote the first stage of the Tour de France Grand Départ 2027, which will begin in the Liverpool City Region. Working in teams, pupils were tasked with planning their own stage of the world-famous cycling race, considering all the key elements required to deliver a successful international sporting event.

Pupils explored a range of real-world business concepts, including logistics, finance and marketing, as they developed their proposals. They were required to think strategically about route planning, budgeting, sponsorship opportunities, audience engagement and how best to promote their stage to attract spectators and maximise its impact.

Throughout the day, our pupils embraced the challenge with great enthusiasm and energy. They worked collaboratively, shared ideas confidently and approached each task with creativity and determination. The facilitating staff were particularly impressed by the entrepreneurial spirit on display, with pupils demonstrating excellent problem-solving skills and a mature understanding of the complexities involved in organising a major sporting event.

We were incredibly proud to be the first school to take part in this exciting initiative and to give our pupils the opportunity to engage with such a prestigious international event before it arrives in our region.

A huge thank you goes to our colleagues from Tour de France Grand Départ 2027 for delivering such an engaging and inspiring experience. Their support and expertise helped bring the challenge to life and encouraged our pupils to think ambitiously about future careers and opportunities.

Well done to all our Year 9 pupils for representing Rainhill High School so positively. Their innovation, teamwork and creativity made the day a tremendous success, and we look forward to seeing how the skills developed through this challenge continue to support them in the future.

## **WELL-BEING - MOTIVATION**

As we approach the final week of the academic year, it is common for young people to experience a dip in motivation. With summer in sight, many pupils can find it more difficult to stay focused, maintain routines, or engage fully with schoolwork. Whilst this is a perfectly normal response after a long and demanding year, these final weeks remain an important opportunity for learning, personal growth, and finishing the year feeling positive about their achievements.

The end of the school year is not just about reaching the finish line, it is about finishing well, building confidence, and carrying positive habits into the next academic year.

To support these conversations at home, we have gathered some helpful resources that offer practical advice on encouraging motivation, building resilience, and supporting your young person's wellbeing.

- [How to talk to your child about mental health](#) – Young Minds
- [Looking after a child or young person's mental health](#) - NHS
- [Building resilience](#) – Place2Be

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require any additional support.

*Mrs Blagbrough, Wellbeing Champion.*



## LIBRARY NEWS

Rainhill High School Community Event

# Book Swap Party

**FREE**

**BRING BOOKS, SWAP BOOKS, SHARE THE JOY OF READING!**

Saturday, July 11th, 2026 | 10am - 12pm

All book types welcome: Fiction, Non-Fiction, Adults, Young Adults, Tweens, Children, Babies & Toddlers

Storytelling Sessions Every 30 Minutes | Princess Appearances  
Book Donation Station | School Uniform donation point/swap  
Free Parking | Refreshments available

**SCHOLASTIC  
Book Fair**

### **Book Swap Party**



This Saturday, from 10:00am to 12:00pm at the school library, we invite all members of our community to join us in a fantastic family event that supports reading for pleasure for all ages.

Visitors will find a large selection of fiction and non-fiction books for everyone to take home; at the same time, you can leave your favourites read for someone else to enjoy.

There will also be activities for younger children, as well as a visit from some famous book characters. I hope to see you there. [More information here.](#)

The Scholastic Book Fair will also be running for anyone who wishes to buy new books for tweens and teens.

### **Scholastic Book Fair**

The Scholastic Book Fair is here: Summer edition. The pupils can now purchase books to read over the summer holidays. There are two big cases with books carefully picked by Scholastic for our pupils.

How to pay:

- Cash (preferred)
- QR code using the phone.
- Pay online by using a debit or credit card details
- Take home a copy of the QR code.
- Purchase a Gift Voucher [here.](#)
- Win a £5 voucher to spend at the fair by taking part in a competition



If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me via Arbor.

### **Library Opening Times**

From next week until the last day of school, I will be working on the library stock check, which may affect the library opening times.

*Ms Griffa, School Librarian.*



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## SCHOOL DAY CHANGES SEPTEMBER 2026

A reminder to all pupils and parents that the timings of the school day are changing from September 2026. The school day will now run from 08:55-15:25 each day. School bus times remain unchanged.

8:50	Movement bell
08:55-09:35	Registration and Character Curriculum
09:35-10:35	Lesson 1
10:35-10:50	Break
10:50-11:50	Lesson 2
11:50-12:50	Lesson 3
12:50-13:25	Lunch
13:25-14:25	Lesson 4
14:25-15:25	Lesson 5

## ADVANCE NOTICE - CHANGES TO VEHICLE ACCESS AT THE START AND END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

From September 2026, parents and carers will no longer be permitted to drive onto the school site to drop off or collect pupils at the start or end of the school day. During the summer holidays, the vehicle barrier will be relocated to the top entrance of the site to support this change.

The safety of our pupils is our highest priority. With approximately 1,500 pupils leaving the site each afternoon and school buses arriving from 3.30pm, reducing the number of vehicles on site at these busy times is an important step in creating a safer environment for everyone.

The school day finishes at **3.25pm**, and pupils should be collected from outside the school site.

We recognise that a very small number of pupils with disabilities require vehicle access to the school grounds. A member of staff will contact you before the end of the summer term to discuss arrangements and ensure appropriate access is in place from September.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support as we work together to keep our school community safe.

## PARENT INFORMATION - NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July, all parents and carers will receive a letter and accompanying booklet via Arbor containing important information to help prepare for the new academic year.

The letter and booklet will include:

- Start of Term Arrangements – including details of pupils' return to school on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**.
- Key Dates – important events and dates.
- Essential Information – everything you need to ensure your child is fully prepared for a successful start to learning in September, including uniform, equipment, attendance expectations and other key school information.



## **MOBILE PHONES AND SMARTWATCHES - UPDATE**

The Department for Education's guidance on mobile phones in schools became statutory on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2026 and must be followed by all schools from 1 September 2026.

Since introducing our mobile phone pouch system in March 2026, Rainhill High School has already been fully compliant with this guidance. We would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support in making the implementation of this system so successful.

The updated guidance now makes clear that smart devices with similar functionality to mobile phones, **including all smartwatches (such as Apple Watches and equivalent devices), are also not permitted for use during the school day.**

As a result, from September 2026, **pupils must not wear smartwatches in school.** Smartwatches should either:

- Be left at home, or
- Be placed securely inside their mobile phone pouch at the start of the school day.

We recognise that some pupils may also carry wireless earbuds, such as AirPods, and space within the pouch may therefore be limited. For this reason, we strongly encourage families to leave smart devices at home wherever possible.

Our Mobile Phone Policy will be updated to reflect this change.

Further information will be included in our return to School Information Pack, which will be sent to all families before the end of term.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us maintain a calm, focused and distraction-free learning environment for all pupils.

*Mrs Munro, Vice Principal.*

## **RH6 EXAM RESULTS DAY 2026**

### **Year 13 Final Exams**

Year 13 pupils will be able to collect their final exam results for A-level and Applied General qualifications from the Sixth Form from 8:30am on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2026. There will be key members of staff from school, the sixth form and the senior leadership team on hand to give practical advice and guidance and to assist pupils in their progression.

### **20<sup>th</sup> August 2026**

Sixth Form pupils will be able to collect their GCSE resit exam results in Maths and English Language from Sixth Form Study Area from 10:00am on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2025. There will be key members of staff from sixth form available should pupils/parents wish to discuss the results.

## **PARENTPAY**

When making payments via ParentPay, we recommend avoiding the one-click payment option, as it can delay payments by up to 10 days and, in some instances, cause them to fail. Instead, please add the payment item to your basket and complete the checkout using your debit card. This method ensures your payment is processed instantly without delay.



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### **PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY**

Rainhill High School is seeking applications from parents and carers interested in becoming a Parent Governor and joining our Local Academy Committee.

Parent Governors play an important role in supporting the school to provide the very best education for our young people. Working alongside other governors, you will help monitor educational standards, attendance, behaviour and safeguarding, while ensuring the views of parents and the wider school community are heard.

No previous governance experience is required. Full induction, training and ongoing support will be provided. The role involves attending approximately six meetings each year, undertaking occasional school visits, supporting governor panels where required, and participating in governor development and training. The term of office is four years.

If you would like to nominate yourself, or would like an informal conversation about the role before applying, please contact Kelley Black at [Kelley.Black@rainhillhigh.org.uk](mailto:Kelley.Black@rainhillhigh.org.uk)

Expressions of interest received before the end of term will be acknowledged and followed up when the school reopens in September. Parents are welcome to register their interest at any point during the summer holiday period.

**Nominations close at 4:00pm on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2026.**

If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, a parent ballot will be held, and all parents/carers will be given the opportunity to vote.

The Parent Governor nomination form will be sent out via Arbor.



# SUPPORT, INSPIRE, CHANGE MAKE A DIFFERENCE



**RAINHILL  
HIGH SCHOOL**

## BECOME A **SCHOOL PARENT GOVERNOR**



**AS A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL ACADEMY COMMITTEE YOU WILL:**

**Champion high standards and educational success**  
Monitor pupil achievement, attendance, curriculum quality and outcomes, while supporting school improvement priorities.

Support and challenge school leaders  
**Work with senior leaders to provide constructive challenge and oversight across education, behaviour, attendance, safeguarding and inclusion.**

Represent the voice of our community  
Listen to parents, pupils and staff, helping ensure local views contribute to the school's future development and success.

### WHAT IS INVOLVED?

#### The role includes:

- Attending approximately 6 meetings each year.
- Undertaking occasional school visits.
- Reading papers in advance of meetings.
- Participating in training and development.
- Support with panels.
- Serving a four-year team of office (or less depending on when your child leaves school).

#### Who can apply?

Any parent, carer or individual with parental responsibility for a child attending Rainhill High School may stand for election, subject to eligibility requirements.

*Join us...*

Nominations are open until 4pm on Friday 11th September 2026. Please submit a Parent Governor Nomination Form to :

**Kelley.Black@rainhillhigh.org.uk**  
*We would love to hear from you!*





**FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY**



Dear Parent/Carer,

You may or may not be aware that from September 2026 the government are changing the criteria required to be eligible for free school meals. This means that across England there may be an additional 500,000 pupils that hit this new criteria. The even better news is that we can check your eligibility to see if your child(ren) are eligible under the scheme, and if they are, that will directly begin the application.

Please scan the QR code or click on the link to take you to a short MS Forms and we will be in touch to let you know if you are eligible and whether your application has been processed.

**NB All decisions are made by central government and not by the school.**

[Free school meal eligibility checker – Fill in form](#)

**PE EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE.**

<b>Term 3: April - July</b>		
<b>15:00 -16:00</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>AFTER SCHOOL</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>	Y9 and Y10 <b>Football</b> : Astro Y7 <b>Football</b> and <b>Basketball</b> : Courts	<b>Handball</b> : All Years
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Y8 and Y11 <b>Football</b> : Astro Y7 <b>Football</b> and <b>Basketball</b> : Courts	<b>Rugby</b> : All Years
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Y9 and Y10 <b>Football</b> : Astro Y7 <b>Football</b> and <b>Basketball</b> : Courts	<b>Rounders</b> : All Years <b>Cricket</b> : All Years
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Y9 and Y10 <b>Football</b> : Astro Y7 <b>Football</b> and <b>Basketball</b> : Courts	<b>Athletics: All Years</b> A range of events to practice (throws, track, jumps)
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>Cricket Nets</b> : All Years Until exam desks go up	

*Please note*, all clubs are for girls and boys, unless specified. They are subject to **fixture/facility clashes, appropriate and safe weather, and appropriate pupil participation.** Follow us on X - @RainhillPE

**PE EXPECTATIONS**

Sport and physical activity are essential for maintaining a healthy lifestyle, with research showing that exercise improves mental health, enhances cognitive function, and builds resilience in young people. At Rainhill, we offer a wide range of sports, from team games like handball, netball, and rugby to gymnastics and athletics.

Your child will have the opportunity to learn about healthy lifestyles and the importance of staying active. As part of our pursuit of excellence, all pupils are expected to participate in lessons. If your child is injured or unwell, they should still bring their kit. They can take on ‘non-active’ roles, such as officiating, analysing performance, or coaching, to continue engaging with learning. Bringing their PE kit also ensures pupils have a dry uniform to change into if lessons are outdoors. In extreme cases, we will provide alternatives to make your child’s PE experience as enjoyable as possible.

If there are any issues with kit, please message your PE teacher. We will always help in any way we can. Thank you for your continued support.

*Mr Wood, Head of PE.*



**1-1 SINGING LESSONS**



**Calling ALL SINGERS!**

**DO YOU KNOW WE OFFER 1-1 SINGING LESSONS?**


- Do you love to sing and have a passion to perform?
- Opportunities to take part in end of term concerts and onstage performances.

- LEARN CORRECT VOCAL TECHNIQUES
- BUILD YOUR CONFIDENCE
- SING YOUR FAVOURITE SONGS

Come and see *Miss Mawdsley* on a Tuesday in D block to book your first lesson and find out more!



**RHS DRAMA SHOWCASE CLUB**



EXTRA CURRICULAR

**DRAMA SHOWCASE CLUB**

D102

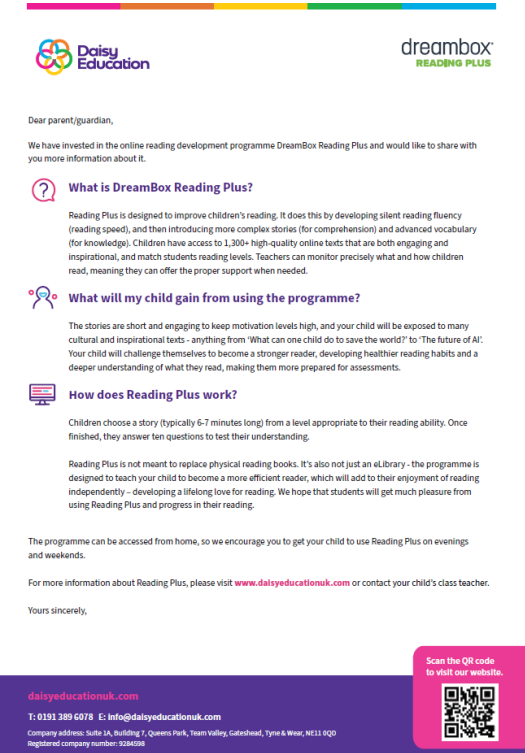
WEDNESDAY

3PM - 4PM

ALL WELCOME!

**READING PLUS**

Please [click here](#) to read more information regarding Reading Plus.



Daisy Education

dreambox READING PLUS

Dear parent/guardian,

We have invested in the online reading development programme DreamBox Reading Plus and would like to share with you more information about it.

**What is DreamBox Reading Plus?**

Reading Plus is designed to improve children's reading. It does this by developing silent reading fluency (reading speed), and then introducing more complex stories (for comprehension) and advanced vocabulary (for knowledge). Children have access to 1,300+ high-quality online texts that are both engaging and inspirational, and match students reading levels. Teachers can monitor precisely what and how children read, meaning they can offer the proper support when needed.

**What will my child gain from using the programme?**

The stories are short and engaging to keep motivation levels high, and your child will be exposed to many cultural and inspirational texts - anything from 'What can one child do to save the world?' to 'The future of AI'. Your child will challenge themselves to become a stronger reader, developing healthier reading habits and a deeper understanding of what they read, making them more prepared for assessments.

**How does Reading Plus work?**

Children choose a story (typically 6-7 minutes long) from a level appropriate to their reading ability. Once finished, they answer ten questions to test their understanding.

Reading Plus is not meant to replace physical reading books. It's also not just an eLibrary - the programme is designed to teach your child to become a more efficient reader, which will add to their enjoyment of reading independently - developing a lifelong love for reading. We hope that students will get much pleasure from using Reading Plus and progress in their reading.

The programme can be accessed from home, so we encourage you to get your child to use Reading Plus on evenings and weekends.

For more information about Reading Plus, please visit [www.daisyeducationuk.com](http://www.daisyeducationuk.com) or contact your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Scan the QR code to visit our website.

[daisyeducationuk.com](http://daisyeducationuk.com)

T: 0191 389 6078 E: [info@daisyeducationuk.com](mailto:info@daisyeducationuk.com)

Company address: Suite 1A, Building 7, Queens Park, Team Valley, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE11 9QD

Registered company number: 3284598

**PERIPATETIC MUSIC LESSONS**

We currently have the below still available for peripatetic music lessons -

- 2 spaces available for drum lessons
- 2 spaces available for piano lessons
- 1 space available for brass lessons (trumpet, cornet, trombone etc)
- 2 slots available for singing lessons

If you would like more information, please contact Mr Kennett via Synergy.

*Mr Kennett, Teacher of Music.*





**OPEN WATER SAFETY**



## OPEN WATER: DON'T TAKE THE RISK

Swimming in or playing near rivers and canals may seem like a great idea, particularly on a warm day, but it could all end in tragedy. **DON'T take the risk.**

**THE WATER IS COLD...**  
...even on very warm days, rivers and canals contain water barely above 10 degrees. Sudden immersion can lead to cold water shock, which can cause gasping and intake of water.  
**This can be deadly in a matter of seconds.**

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Even the narrowest of rivers can be considerably deep. Rivers are subject to strong flow and **hidden currents** which can trouble even the strongest of swimmers.

**WHAT LIES BENEATH?**  
**The water is untreated and can make you ill.**  
Canals and rivers contain pollutants, sewage and often unseen underwater obstructions and snag hazards.  
Debris under the water such as shopping trolleys, broken glass and cans can cause **injury** or **trap** you.

Remember, there are no lifeguards to help you at your local river, lake, canal or dam. Rivers can be very difficult to climb out of, especially with steep or slimy banks. **Stay clear of rivers with steep or unguarded banks.**

**IN AN EMERGENCY...NEVER** enter the water to try and help a person or animal. You could get into difficulty yourself. Instead, dial 999 and use any water rescue equipment that is available.

**If you fall into the water unexpectedly, fight your instinct to thrash around. Instead, lean back, extend your arms and legs & float.**

[www.merseysidefire.gov.uk](http://www.merseysidefire.gov.uk)



## BEACH SAFETY: KNOW THE DANGERS

**MUD AND QUICKSAND**  
Large areas of the coast can have mud and quicksand which can cause you to get trapped and risk drowning.  
**REDUCE THE RISK**  
Check tide times  
Follow warning sign advice  
Avoid crossing estuaries and mud where there can be hidden channels or fast water  
If trapped, **sit back and spread your weight evenly across the surface**  
Stop others from trying to help you as they may get stuck  
Call **999** immediately and ask for the **Coastguard**

**DO NOT USE INFLATABLES**  
Strong currents can sweep inflatables and people out to sea

**FOLLOW THE FLAGS**  
There are lifeguards in the area. Swim between the two flags.  
**Do not enter the water.** There could be unseen dangers such as currents.  
**No swimming in this area.** There may be non-powered watercraft such as surfboards, kayaks, etc. in this area.

**IF YOU SEE SOMEONE STRUGGLING:**  
**PHONE 999**  
Tell them to **FLOAT** on their back  
**THROW** them something to help them float

**TOP TIP**  
ALWAYS GO TO A BEACH WITH A LIFEGUARD

[www.merseysidefire.gov.uk](http://www.merseysidefire.gov.uk)

**STUDENT BUS TRAVEL**

DISCOUNTED STUDENT BUS TRAVEL WITH ARRIVA BUSES



**Save money on student bus travel**

If you're a student getting the bus to school, college or university make big savings on your travel and spread the cost of the ticket over affordable monthly payments when you pay by direct debit.

-  **Reduced price bus travel** for the academic year
-  **Unlimited bus travel** in your chosen Arriva Zone, **7 days a week**
-  **Convenient monthly direct debit**
-  **No minimum contract** - cancel anytime



Scan QR code or visit our website to get started.  
[arrivabus.co.uk/monthlytickets](http://arrivabus.co.uk/monthlytickets)



**LEAVERS DAY EVENT**

# LEAVER'S DAY

Chester Lane Library, Four Acre Lane, WA9 4DE

Community Hubs are bringing together services from across St Helens to provide support and advice for young people who are leaving secondary education.  
Drop in to find out how to take care of yourself and your future!

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July, 12pm-4pm**

- Career Connect
- Job Centre Plus
- TAZ/Sexual Health
- Over the Rainbow
- Bike Maintenance & Road Safety
- Mersey Care Transitions Team
- And more!

**Receive freebies, enter a raffle, enjoy refreshments**

**SERVICES**

Join lego-printing and bead-making workshops

 **ST HELENS** BOROUGH COUNCIL

 **Community Hub**  
South St Helens



## NETBALL YOUTH CLUB

**NYC**  
**NETBALL YOUTH CAMP**

Greenbank Sports Academy, Liverpool, L17 1AG  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2026  
10am-3pm (Drop off from 9:45am)

Ages 9-11 (School Years 4-6)  
Ages 11-14 (School Years 7-9)

£30 member / £35 Non member

Go to the England Netball session finder and book your spot  
or contact [louise.moss@englandnetball.co.uk](mailto:louise.moss@englandnetball.co.uk)  
07726 692701

**SUMMER  
HOLIDAYS**

## YOUTH FOCUS NORTH WEST

Youth Focus North West are working with St Helens Borough Council to carry out a Needs Assessment to understand what young people, parents/carers and those who work with young people think about the current youth offer in St Helens.

We want to hear from young people, parents/carers, and people who work with or support young people about what is working well, what could be improved, and what young people need more of in the future.

There are three short surveys:

### **Young people's survey**

For young people aged 11 to 25

Survey link: <https://forms.office.com/e/G8B0wZfggC>

### **Parent/carer survey**

For parents and carers of young people in St Helens.

Survey link: <https://forms.office.com/e/Jh9zJC2s6h>

### **Youth sector staff survey**

For staff, volunteers, organisations and groups who work with or support young people in St Helens.

Survey link: <https://forms.office.com/e/BYY2hnMfiU>

The feedback will help shape future youth activities, services and support across St Helens.

The young people's and parent/carer surveys also include an optional prize draw to win a voucher. Prize draw contact details will be collected separately and will not be linked to survey answers.

The surveys close on **7<sup>th</sup> August 2026**.



# HELP AND SUPPORT

## CURRICULUM QUERIES

### **Heads of Department**

<b>English</b>	Ms Dickman	<b>Business Studies</b>	Mr Farrell
<b>Mathematics</b>	Mr Rimmer	<b>Social Sciences</b>	Mrs R Evans
<b>Science</b>	Mr Flynn	<b>Computer Science</b>	Mr Cowley
<b>Biology</b>	Miss Harper	<b>Art Design Technology</b>	Mr Bennett
<b>Chemistry</b>	Mrs Bancroft	<b>Languages</b>	Miss D'Anna
<b>Physics</b>	Mr Hurst	<b>Food Studies</b>	Mrs King
<b>History &amp; Politics</b>	Mr Swan	<b>Performing Arts</b>	Mrs McCann
<b>Geography</b>	Mr Iddon	<b>PE</b>	Mr Wood
<b>Philosophy &amp; Ethics</b>	Mr Taylor	<b>Life Skills</b>	Miss Burgess
		<b>(PSHE/Citizenship)</b>	

## PASTORAL QUERIES

Stage 1	Form Tutor	
Stage 2	Year Student Manager/Progress Coach	
Stage 3	Year Progress Leader/Director RH6	
Stage 4	Assistant Principal - Behaviour & Culture	Mr East
Stage 5	Vice Principals	Mrs Munro, Mrs Aylward
Stage 6	Principal	Mrs Thorogood

### **Pastoral Structure**

<b>Y7 Student Manager</b>	Miss Gordon	<b>Y7 Progress Leader</b>	Mr Giles
<b>Y8 Student Manager</b>	Miss Hill	<b>Y8 Progress Leader</b>	Mr Barry
<b>Y9 Student Manager</b>	Mr Lambert	<b>Y9 Progress Leader</b>	Mr Brown
<b>Y10 Student Manager</b>	Miss Humphreys	<b>Y10 Progress Leader</b>	Mr Webster
<b>Y11 Student Manager</b>	Dr Rotheram	<b>Y11 Progress Leader</b>	Mrs Haselden
<b>RH6 Progress Coaches</b>	Mrs Thomas/Mrs Garton	<b>Director RH6</b>	Mr Cunningham
<b>Young Carer Champion</b>	Miss Wordsworth		

## COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

Please [click here](#) to view our Communications policy.



# Young Carers

A young carer is someone who provides regular and ongoing care and support to a family member who has a physical or mental health condition, or misuses drugs or alcohol and they cannot cope without their support. They can often take on responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult.

Being a young carer can have a big impact on the things that are important to growing up; like your education, your physical/mental health, your social life and your self-confidence.

If you find that you don't have much time to spend with your friends, you feel stressed and worried, it's getting harder to keep on top of schoolwork – there are people in school who are here to support you... and Young Carers Support Services.

A young carers assessment can help to find out if there is any extra support for you or the person you care for. This could help to take away some of the worries or stress you may be feeling, help you keep on top of your schoolwork and be able to spend time doing things you enjoy.



Do you think that you may be a young carer?

**Young Carer Champion**  
Miss Wordsworth

Speak to the YC Champion or another adult you trust.



**Young Carer Drop-in**  
Monday lunchtime  
A1.03

Week A	Y7, Y8, Y9
Week B	Y10, Y11, RH6

**SHARP**  
Use the SHARP system to ask for help and we will come and speak to you.

Parents and Carers can contact the YC Champion via School Synergy.

St Helens Catering Service - School Lunch Special Dietary Request



## SCHOOL MENU

Please [click here](#) to view our latest menu.

Please [click here](#) to view our allergens menu.

## ACCESSING FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you have been in receipt of free school meals previously and believe this should still be the case, you will need to apply to St Helens Council. Please [click here](#).