



KEY DATES & EVENTS

Training Day (Academy CLOSED to students)

Monday 2nd February 2026

Academy Closes (Half Term)

Friday 13th February 2026

Academy Opens

Monday 23rd February 2026

Sixth Form Parents Evening

Tuesday 10th February

Bryntysilio Information Evening

Thursday 12th February

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF ACADEMY

Written by Mrs L. Macey

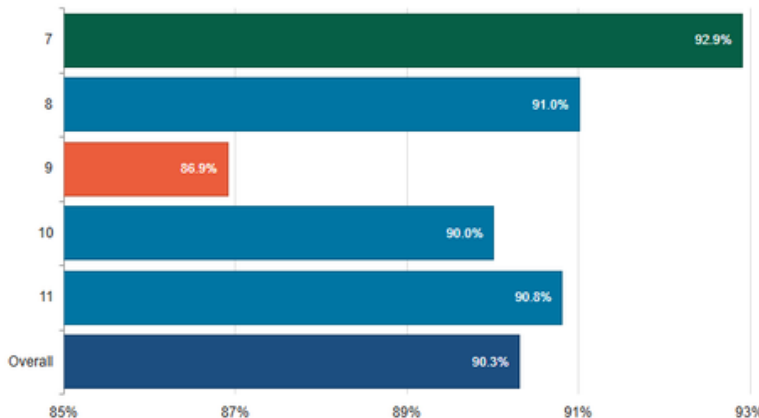
This week some of our Year 11 students were taken to 'Poetry Live' in Birmingham. I hear that they were given some excellent tips for their upcoming exams. Our Year 11 boys football team were triumphant against Wombourne beating them 14-0 on Wednesday in the Year 11 West Midlands cup, what a scoreline to be proud of! Thank you for supporting us in our uniform strategy, we are seeing much higher standards of uniform this week. I appreciate that uniform can be expensive, however, we designed our uniform to be cost effective and hope this supports parents and carers when purchasing it. You will have received a letter regarding our

approach towards truancy yesterday, please ensure your child is aware of our expectations as working together is the way forward in building respectful working relationships. Have a lovely weekend!





ATTENDANCE



Did you know you that it only takes **19 days off** in an academic year for your child to be significantly impacted on their GCSE outcomes? Each 19 days equates to a lost grade at GCSE. How many days has your child missed? Support for you and your child can be found on our website: [Attendance - Pool Hayes Academy](#), and from our attendance team and form tutors.

LATEST LETTERS

Please click on the link below to view our latest letters sent home.

[Letters - Home Page](#)

KEY CONTACTS

Please click on the link below to view contact details for our key academy staff.

[Key Staff - Contact Details](#)

Well done to all year groups who have improved their attendance this term!

Remember that the attendance team can be contacted at PHA-Attendance@attrust.org.uk

Further attendance information can be found on our website: [Attendance - Pool Hayes Academy](#).

SHOUTOUT

11GBGL English have been FANTASTIC all week. The work they have produced about Lady Macbeth is brilliant. Well done all.

-Mr Francis (Head of Year 11)



SPORTS UPDATE

Year 11 had an amazon 11-0 win on Wednesday and are into the next round!

Reminder that PE kit needs to be brought for every lesson.

After school clubs are back on

Tuesday - Football and Fitness

Wednesday - Basketball and Fitness

Thursday - Netball, Fitness and Badminton



POWER UP NOTIFICATIONS

A new Sparx Power Up will be available from:

- Maths = Friday at 8am - Deadline Wednesday at 9pm
- Reader = Friday at 8am - Deadline Thursday at 9pm
- Science = Wednesday at 12pm - Deadline Tuesday at 10pm

[Click here to go to Sparx Learning](#)

A new Seneca Power Up (all Key Stages) will now be set **every Monday**.

[Click here to go to Seneca](#)

Languagenut is set once a week.

[Click here to go to Languagenut](#)

STUDENT SUCCESSES

Our students have had a #PHAntastic week and have earned lots of positive points. As an academy they have achieved **930812 positive points!** The year group with the most points this week was **Year 7** who managed to achieve **9775 points**. **11H2** are this week's form leaders and together as a team they racked up **1766!** A massive congratulations to our students!

Students have also been working hard to complete their Sparx Power Ups. So far as a school this year we have read for **2499 hours** and read **2263 different books!** In Maths we have answered **549138 questions!** In Science we have answered **212402 questions!** On Languagenut students have earned an impressive **1461800 points this month!**

Congratulations! Amazing work and a great effort from students!! **This week's Power Ups are available on Sparx now.**



IMPORTANT REMINDER:

As part of our 'Not Seen, Not Heard' mobile phone policy, any confiscated phones must be collected by parents/carers **after school only**. Please note, break and lunchtime collections aren't possible due to safeguarding and staffing commitments. We appreciate your understanding.



OUR RECENT POSTS



Staff PD Day Monday 2nd February

The Academy will be closed to students on this date as staff will be taking part in a planned Professional Development Day.

We look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday 3 February 2026.



Pool Hayes Academy



PHA Sixth



Why Attending Every Lesson & Form Time Matters

At Pool Hayes Academy, our expectations are rooted in our four core values:

RESILIENCE

Building strong routines helps students stay focused, confident and ready to face challenges.

ASPIRATION

Being present supports ambition, goal-setting and positive steps towards future success.

EXCELLENCE

Consistent attendance leads to stronger learning, progress and achievement.

RESPECT

Attending lessons on time shows respect for learning, teachers and peers.



VISITING THE ACADEMY



To help us keep our students safe and ensure staff availability, parents and visitors should not attend the Academy without prior arrangement.

Visits to the Academy should only take place if:

- A member of staff has arranged your visit
- An appointment or meeting has been scheduled
- You have been contacted regarding the collection of your child

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.



MEET OUR #PHAMILY

Mr French

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT FOR PE

- ★ WORDS YOU LIVE BY: "Every winner was once a beginner"
- ★ FEEL-GOOD SONG: Fireball - Pitbull ft. John Ryan
- ★ CURRENTLY WATCHING: 'The Night Manager' & 'The Traitors'
- ★ FAVOURITE SUBJECT: PE & Spanish
- ★ MOST PROUD OF: My children, being happy in life & running the London Marathon last year!



#PHamily Mr French





WELCOME TO THE CAREERS CORNER!

This space in The Key is here to keep careers front and centre at Pool Hayes - sharing dates, raising aspirations, and helping every student feel confident about their next steps.

I'm Mr Lewis, your Careers Lead, and my aim is simple: to build a strong careers culture across our school so every student knows their options and feels supported to pursue them.

MINI CAREERS FACT OF THE WEEK!

HOSPITALITY IS ONE OF THE UK'S BIGGEST EMPLOYERS - WITH CAREERS IN COOKING, EVENTS, HOTELS, CATERING AND MANAGEMENT



CAREER OF THE WEEK - CHEF

What the job is:

Chefs prepare, cook, and present food in restaurants, hotels, and catering settings. They develop menus, manage kitchens, and ensure high food standards.

Skills needed:

Creativity, teamwork, time management, attention to detail, practical skills.

Salary range:

£20,000 - £40,000 (head chefs £45,000+).

Training routes:

- College courses in Professional Cookery or Hospitality
- Chef apprenticeships (Level 2-3)
- Training on the job in kitchens
- Specialist courses for patisserie, fine dining, or international cuisine



MYTHBUSTER



Tackling the most common misconceptions students have about education and the world of work.

Myth: "A-levels are the only way to get into university."
Reality: Universities also accept T Levels, BTECs, and other Level 3 qualifications - as long as the course meets the entry requirements.

Myth: "Level 4 and 5 qualifications aren't worth much."
Reality: Level 4 and 5 courses are university-level qualifications and are highly valued by employers because they focus on practical, job-ready skills.



Myth: "Vocational courses limit your future options."
Reality: Vocational routes can lead to university, higher apprenticeships, or skilled employment, especially in health, engineering, digital, and sport.

Myth: "Employers only care about grades."
Reality: Grades matter, but employers also look for skills, attitude, experience, and reliability - which can be built through part-time work and volunteering.



ASK MR LEWIS

What's the difference between A-Levels, BTECs and T-Levels?

A-Levels = academic, **BTECs** = coursework + practical, **T-Levels** = big work placement + one clear industry.

Submit your questions to Mr Lewis - michael.lewis@atrust.org.uk

or find him at the back of the common room!

UPCOMING DATES!

February

Mon 9th - Fri 13th February 2026 - National Apprenticeship Week

Thursday 12th February 2026 - Walsall College - T Level and Apprenticeship Open Day

March

Saturday 14th March 2026 - Wolverhampton University - Undergraduate Open Day



Unlocking Your Potential
Empowering Through Success

Pool Hayes Academy

Academy Transformation Trust

Lunchtime

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Library	The Library	The Library	The Library	The Library
Badminton	Badminton	Badminton	Badminton	
Basketball	Basketball	Basketball	Basketball	
Science club	Chess Club	Music Club		
Drama Ambassador Meeting		Dance Club		
		Science club		
		Senior Vocal Group		
		PHA1 Club (Week B)		

Aspiration Respect Excellence Resilience *be more....*

Unlocking Your Potential
Empowering Through Success

Pool Hayes Academy

Academy Transformation Trust

After School

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mytutor (Year 11 only)	Football - until 4:30pm	Basketball - until 4:30pm	Badminton - until 4:30pm	Mytutor (Year 11 only)
	Fitness Centre - until 4:30pm	Fitness Centre - until 4:30pm	Netball - until 4:30pm	Drama Rehearsals - until 4pm
	KS4 Dance Club - until 4:30pm (after Oct half term)	The Library - until 4pm	Fitness Centre - until 4:30pm	Musical rehearsals
	The Library - until 4pm	Science STEM Club - until 4:15pm	Junior Choir - until 4:15pm	Year 11 Music Club
	Art and Craft Club - until 4:30pm	Year 11 Music Club	The Library - until 4pm	
	Year 11 Music Club	Musical rehearsals	Year 11 Music Club	

Aspiration Respect Excellence Resilience *be more....*



PROTECT YOUR PEACE

NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD

Phones constantly trigger your stress response. A phone-free day = less drama, less pressure, more time, more success.

MOBILE PHONES

'NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD'
FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE ACADEMY DAY, INCLUDING BREAK/LUNCH TIMES.

TAKE A BREAK FROM THE CONSTANT PRESSURE TO RESPOND.

NO BLUE TICKS.

NO GROUP CHAT EXPECTATIONS.

NO OVERTHINKING MESSAGES.

JUST YOUR TIME IN SCHOOL

NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD

MOBILE PHONES

'NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD'
FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE ACADEMY DAY, INCLUDING BREAK/LUNCH TIMES.

WE'RE KEEPING YOU SAFE

NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD

STATISTICS SHOW MOST SAFEGUARDING INCIDENTS IN SCHOOL START WITH A PHONE.

MOBILE PHONES

'NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD'
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YOUR IMAGINATION SWITCHES ON WHEN YOUR PHONE SWITCHES OFF

NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD

MOBILE PHONES

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