

PE PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION

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Thank you to all of our students that took part in the **PE Pumpkin Carving Competition** on **Friday 27th October 2023**. We had a fantastic variety of pumpkins that were displayed in our Sports Hall. Both students and staff voted for their three favourite pumpkins and here are the results:

1st, 2nd and 3rd places went to...

- 1st- RL in Year 7**
- 2nd- SS in Year 7**
- 3rd- KJ in Year 7**

All participants received a bag of sweets and a reward voucher and 1st, 2nd and 3rd places received a box of goodies!

Halloween Cupcake Session- D&T Club

Tuesday 24th October 2023



[polesworthdandt](#)



[polesworth_performing_arts](#)

Scabs & Scars Session- Drama Club

Tuesday 24th October 2023

Special FX ideas for the stage!



Physics in Action trip- University of Birmingham

On **Thursday 16th November 2023** 15 Year 12 and Year 13 students attended a trip to the University of Birmingham for an exciting day of informative discussions, interactive sessions and inspirational stories that gave students a real insight into the world of physics beyond the classroom.

The six speakers were keen to share their expertise on a wide range of topics, from quantum computing to planetary science.

One of the speakers, Andrew Smyth, is an aerospace engineer, presenter and baker on a mission to whisk up curiosity about engineering through edible means. He is the Executive Producer & judge on Netflix's Baking Impossible and was a finalist on The Great British Bake Off. In his session shown in the photo he explained how his passion of both baking and engineering have led him to mixing the two in what he referred to as bakineering!



Year 11 Prom 2024



Tickets for the Year 11 Prom 2024 are live on ParentPay!!

The Year 11 Prom will be held on **Thursday 4th July 2024** at Statfold Barn Railway. Arrival time from 6:30pm and finish time at 11pm.

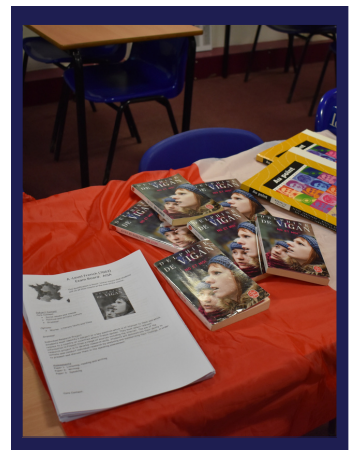
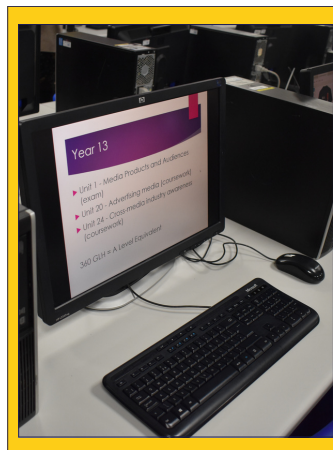
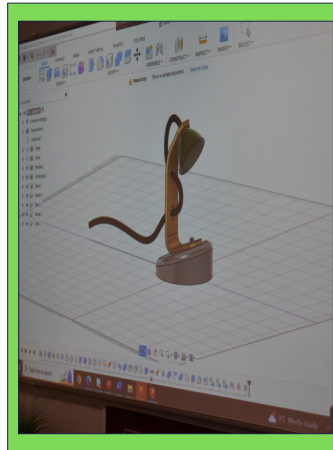
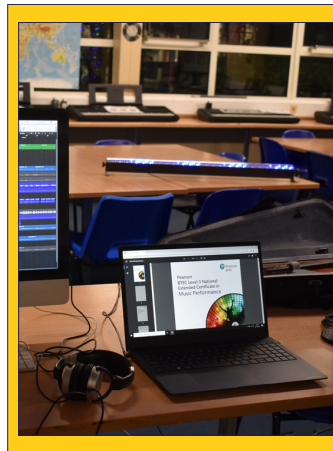
The cost per ticket is £35.00 payable on ParentPay by instalments or as one payment. Further details regarding paying by instalments can be accessed via ParentPay.

Sixth Form Open Evening

Thank you to everyone who came to our Sixth Form Open Evening on **Thursday 9th November 2023** and to all of the students and staff that helped run the event which was well-attended.

If you are currently in Year 11 and are interested in joining our Sixth Form, further information regarding courses available, their entry requirements and how to access our online application form can be found on the Sixth Form section of our website by following this link: www.tomlinsonhall.com

Please note applications should be received by Friday 8th March 2024. Late applications will be considered but some courses may already be full.



Remembrance Service

Thank you to everyone who attended our **Annual Remembrance Commemoration on Friday 10th November 2023**. This year we had the High Sheriff of North Warwickshire, Sophie Hilleary and Lord Lieutenant of North Warwickshire, Timothy Cox join us which was a great honour.

It was great to see so many students pay their respects by attending the service and to those who wore their cadet and scout uniforms to school for the day.

A big thank you to these students who took part in the service, Andrew Bushell in Year 13 and Braydan Webb in Year 8 who held their youth groups banners and to Lily-Rae Parker in Year 11 and James Maddox and Corey Stockton in Year 13 for their readings of "Anthem for Doomed Youth" by Wilfred Owen, "We Who Remain" by Anthony Devanny and the scripture reading of Matthew 5:43-48. Part of the service involved the laying of the wreath in our Memorial Garden by our Year 10 students, Thomas Ladkin and Leo Money.

And last but no means least, thank you to Grace Allsop in Year 9 for playing The Last Post with us and who also played in Atherstone on Remembrance Sunday.



Remembrance Service



Bullying Information & Advice

Bullying Information and Advice:

Bullying is deliberately hurtful behaviour, which is repeated over time and that is aimed at another individual or group. Bullying behaviour can be:

- **Physical** – pushing, poking, kicking, hitting, biting, pinching.
- **Verbal** – name calling, spreading rumours, teasing, belittling.
- **Emotional** – isolating others, tormenting, hiding books, threatening gestures, ridicule, humiliation, intimidating.
- **Sexual** – unwanted physical contact, inappropriate touching, abusive comments, homophobic abuse.
- **Online/cyber** – posting on social media, sharing photos, sending nasty text messages, social exclusion.

Dealing with incidents of bullying:

Incidents of bullying are investigated and sanctions are applied fairly and consistently in line with the school's Behaviour Policy. Those who bully will be dealt with in the way it is felt will best resolve the problem, the emphasis being on affecting a change in their behaviour.

Prevention of Bullying:

We recognise how vital it is to take a proactive approach to bullying. At Polesworth, we do the following:

- Encourage students to report incidents of bullying.
- Provide staff training so they understand their responsibilities regarding bullying, how to resolve problems and respond to trauma, and where to seek support.
- Make staff aware that low-level incidents and the use of offensive language can have a significant impact on its target and must be challenged.
- Highlight that abuse is abuse and should never be passed off as 'banter', 'just having a laugh', or 'part of growing up'. 'It was only a game' or 'We were only joking' will not be accepted as explanations of what happened.
- Promote a culture that values respect.
- 'Bullying', 'Social skills' and 'Resolving Personal Conflict' are themes that are covered by all students during School of Character sessions.
- Ensure that all reports of bullying are taken seriously. All students, parents and carers are listened to.

Bullying Information & Advice

What you can do...

- Listen and reassure them that coming to you was the right thing to do. Try and establish the facts first before you react. It can be helpful to keep a diary of events to share with the school.
- Assure them that the bullying is not their fault and that they have family that will support them. Reassure them that you will not take any action without discussing it with them first.
- Don't encourage retaliation to bullying - such as violent actions. It's important for children to avoid hitting or punching an abusive peer. Reacting that way has negative and unpredictable results- they may be hurt even further and find that they are labelled as the problem. Suggest that they walk away and seek help.
- Find out what your child wants to happen next. Help to identify the choices open to them including the potential next steps to take and the skills they may have to help solve the problems.
- Encourage your child to get involved in activities that build their confidence and esteem and help them to form friendships that are healthy and that build their confidence.
- Discuss the situation with your child's Head of Year or a Behaviour Manager.

There are many websites that can support you and your child further such as:

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk>

<https://www.childline.org.uk>



Miss Downing

Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Headteacher



Hiring our Facilities

Would you like to hire our sports facilities for one of your events on either weekday evenings or weekends?

Sports facilities available to hire:

Dance Studio

Sports Hall

Tennis Courts

Field (weather permitting)

We have changing facilities that you can use for your events.

If you are interested and would like to know more details, please get in touch with our Facilities Manager- **Mrs Ryan via email: j.ryan@thepolesworthschool.com**

Tennis Courts



Hiring our Facilities

Dance Studio



Dance Studio



Hiring our Facilities

Field



Sports Hall



Contributing to a greener environment

We have recently had solar panels installed on the roofs of two of our buildings- Bramcote and the Sports Centre!

The installations were completed as of Tuesday 7th November 2023.

Here are some facts for you...

From Wednesday 8th - Tuesday 14th November 2023, the solar panels have saved:

103.7kg of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) which is the equivalent to the amount of CO₂ saved from planting 6 trees...and that is just in under a week!

Stay tuned for further updates in the coming months on how much more CO₂ emissions our new solar panels have saved.



Bramcote



Sports Centre



Contributing to a greener environment

Polesworth School was fortunate to be granted a second donation of trees from the Woodland's Trust. The first 330 trees were planted two years ago with the plan of creating a living forest that borders the farmland to the rear of the school. The second donation arrived in November 2023 and the forest continues now to the very end of the field.

The trees that we have been donated are Hawthorne, Blackthorne, Rowan, Silver Birch, Hazel, and Oak. These trees are native to the UK and have been chosen to attract wildlife. We have been fortunate to have so many of the initial plantings survive, the very difficult hot Summer of 2022 and wet Summer of 2023, although small and still tender many show great potential for the future. We have planted over 340 trees and have gifted the remainder to Birchwood Primary School and the local community.

Mr Reece from Geography and Mrs Dandy from Travel & Tourism have worked together to make this positive impact on the environment. This has been achieved with the help of some amazing sixth formers (AC in Year 12 and AT, DR, KS, BG and SK in Year 13) and staff who kindly donated their time, energy and enthusiasm to help make a difference.

While we appreciate the tiny saplings have a way to go we are hopeful that future generations can appreciate our gifts to them.



PE Success



Well done to the Year 7 and Year 8 footballers who finished 3rd in the North Warkickshire indoor football tournament. An unfortunate goal in the final seconds against the eventual winners who knocked them off the tightly fought top spot. Promising performances and great attitudes in their first performances as a team and well done coach Miss Gillett!

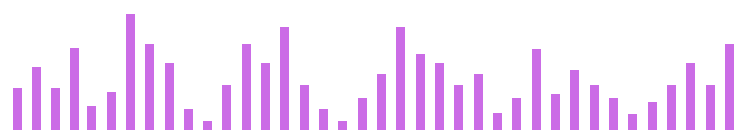
Well done to the three boys Badminton teams who played against Nicholas Chamberlaine.
U12s debut with 7 - 1 win
U14s with 7 - 1 win
U16s with 8 - 0 win
Well done to all those involved.

The Polesworth Pulse

Our amazing school radio station (The Polesworth Pulse) is run by our students with the help of Mrs Glover!

Search the below on Mixcloud to listen back to each 'episode'.

<https://www.mixcloud.com/polesworthpulse/>



Year 13 Politics

Year 13 Politics students had a rare opportunity to question former members of the US Congress virtually in November. Along with three other successful schools who applied to be part of the session, students questioned Democrat Representative Loretta Sanchez of California and Republican Representative Greg Walden of Oregon. Students had researched the two members and there were a host of questions posed; from issues around global warming, the changing state of affairs for women in Congress and the suitability of the likely nominees, Joe Biden and Donald Trump, for a return to the White House. It was fascinating to see two professional politicians engage on issues and it really gave our students into the reality of politics and reinforce their understanding of the legislative process.



Period Equality

Everyone should have access to the period products they need. Periods are a natural part of life, and they should never be a barrier to education or overall wellbeing. Period inequality exists in the UK, and whilst period products are considered a basic need, a lot of people who menstruate struggle to afford them.

There are a number of locations across school where students can access free period products from; Student Services, PE changing rooms and in the Sixth Form. There is also the option of sustainable products, such as Modibodi underwear and Nora Reusable Pads as well as the disposable options of Always pads and Tampax tampons.

Mrs Knight
Senior Student Support Manager
b.knight@thepolesworthschool.com

P=RIOD
EQUALITY



Music & Drama After School Clubs

**COME AND HAVE
A SING!!!
WEDNESDAYS**

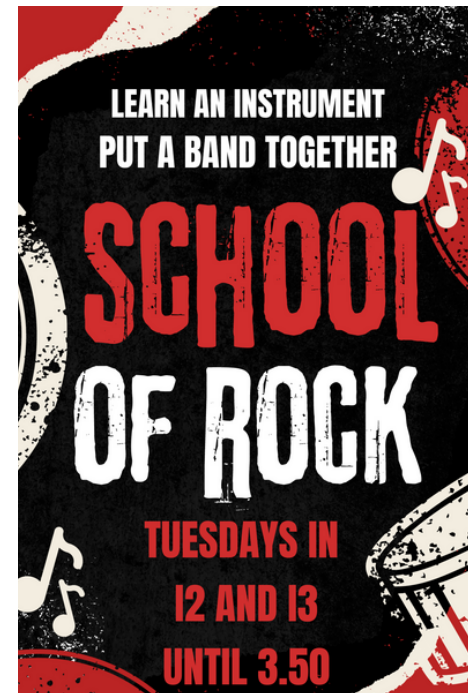
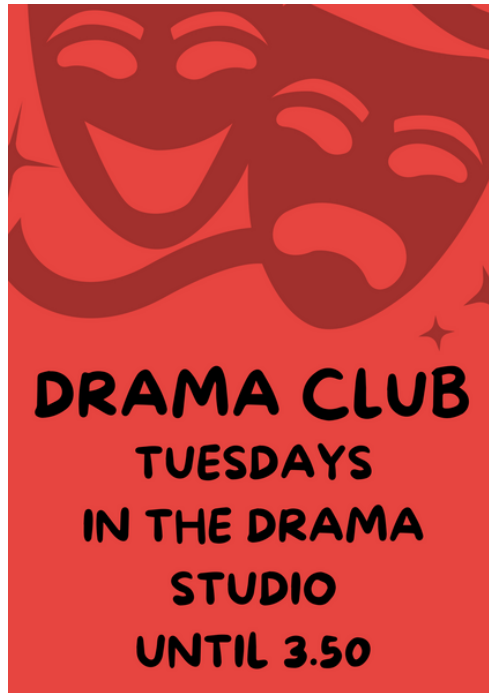
**JOIN US IN I3
AFTER SCHOOL**

**WITH
MISS
MASON**



**NO AUDITIONS
EVERYONES WELCOME
ALL STYLES COVERED**

**DRAMA CLUB
TUESDAYS
IN THE DRAMA
STUDIO
UNTIL 3.50**



Out of School Music Opportunities

**ARE YOU IN A
BAND?**

**APPLY NOW TO PLAY AT
YOUTH BATTLE OF THE BANDS!**

**MORE INFO FROM:
TARARTSDEVELOPMENT@TAMWORTH.GOV.UK**

**LOCAL MUSICIAN? READY FOR THE
STAGE? THEN SIGN UP TODAY!**

AGED 13 - 18

**BANDS &
SOLO ARTISTS**

**APPLICATIONS OPEN:
1ST NOVEMBER 23**

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE:
31ST MARCH 24**

WHERE?

TAMWORTH ASSEMBLY ROOMS

WHEN?

SUMMER 24

**Tamworth
Borough Council**

**TAMWORTH
ASSEMBLY ROOMS**

**Warwickshire
Music Hub**

**Our Groups are
FREE**

North Warwickshire Music Centre

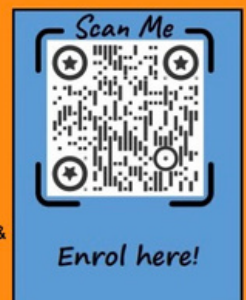
Weddington Primary School, Winchester Ave, Nuneaton, CV10 0DR

Playtastic (*beginner musicians,
ALL instruments welcome*)
Wednesday 5:00pm - 5:45pm

Training Orchestra (Grade 0 - 1)
Wednesday 4:15pm - 5:00pm

Area Orchestra (Grade 2 - 4)
Wednesday 4:15pm - 5:45pm

Rock Band (Guitar, Drum Kit, Keyboard &
voice)
Wednesday 4:15pm - 5:00pm



Come along and make music!

**Warwickshire
Music Hub**

**Warwickshire
County Council**

Supported using public funding by

**Department
for Education**

**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Year 13 Geography trip to Snowdonia

This November twenty-five Year 13 Geography students travelled to NW Wales. Across five days students learned a variety of sampling techniques and data presentation methods that will ensure they can perform well on their non-examined assessments (NEAs).

Alongside Mrs Rutherford 12 “human” Geographers spent much of their time in the picturesque seaside town of Llandudno. Here some ascended the 679ft high Great Orme, whilst others concentrated on the perceived variation in deprivation across settlement, and avoiding the Welsh town’s aggressive Herring Gulls intent on snaffling their lunch.

Meanwhile Mr Reece accompanied the “physical” Geographers down to the small community of Criccieth on the Llyn Peninsula – deemed ‘the pearl of Wales on the shores of Snowdonia’. Here, they braved ferocious winds, horrific hailstorms and rising tides to collect data on beach characteristics and the effectiveness of sea defences.

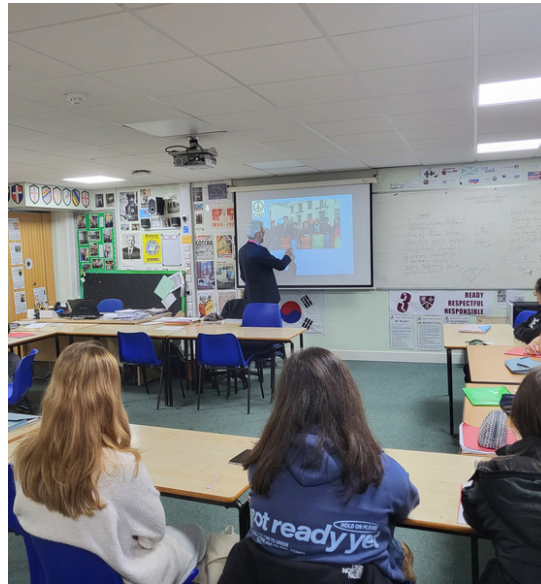
The students were exceptional all week and must be commended for their resilience, fortitude and of course the diligence they showed to their studies. On the final day students acquiesced to a scenic hike up 823ft Mynydd Garthmyn where they overcame boggy terrain and perilously steep slopes before (observing a two-minute silence to remember those who’ve died in conflict) finally reaching the summit, where they were rewarded with a truly exceptional vista of the Cambrian Mountains.



Year 12 students in History and Politics

Year 12 students in History and Politics had the opportunity to work with a representative from Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) in their lessons recently. CND provide an educational platform for students to explore different themes associated with events around atomic weapons and movements.

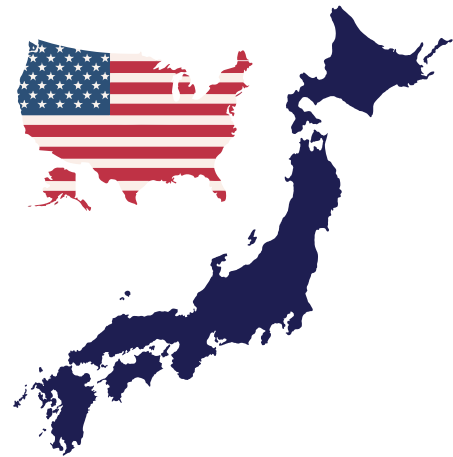
Our Politics group were given an insight into the nature of campaigns and the type of pressure groups that exist in the UK. They learnt more about the rationale behind CND and the atomic movement and were then asked to create their own issue and campaign in groups before presenting to their peers. Some fascinating methods and causes were considered such as university fees and equality in the workplace.



Year 12 Historians conducted a mock trial of Harry S Truman; the President of the United States who instructed two atomic bombs to be dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The students performed a roleplay designed to decide whether Truman and the US government should be put on trial for war crimes for the destruction and loss of life in Japan in 1945.

We had lawyers for the prosecution and defence, as well as witnesses that were interviewed and cross examined on both sides. Everyone took part and the speeches and responses produced were fantastic. However, there was indecision over the outcome as it was a 50:50 split on whether the correct decision was made at the end.

Mr Caldwell



Recent Sixth Form Activities

A group of our Year 13 Ambassadors volunteered to visit tutor groups at break and lunchtime to collect donations and sell poppies for Remembrance Day 2023. All monies will be given to the Royal British Legion. As of Thursday 23rd November the amount raised was near £350 and is still rising!

Some of our Sixth Formers took part in a Cake Sale at our Sixth Form Open Evening this month and at lunchtime the following day to raise money for DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee). Thank you to everyone who purchased a cake(s), £76.34 was made in total!

We had a successful Sixth Form Open Evening where we welcomed our Year 11 students and students from surrounding schools to come and have a look at our 'Outstanding' Sixth Form provision with a view to completing A Levels or Level 3 Vocational qualifications next year.



Year 11 Mock Interviews

On **Wednesday 15th November 2023**, Year 11 students attended the annual mock interview day which was held in the Sports Hall, where several employers were invited into school to provide all of Year 11 with an individual practice interview and feedback. This is an important exercise in preparation for students facing interviews for Post 16 pathways.



Key Dates

Monday 27th - Wednesday 29th November 2023

Book Fair in the Study Centre- Editha, 3 - 4pm

Monday 27th November - Wednesday 13th December 2023

Year 11 Pre-Public Exams

Tuesday 5th December 2023

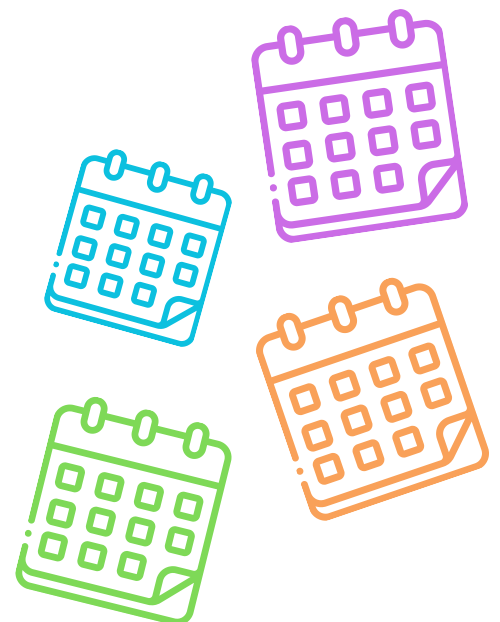
Year 7 - 11 flu injections

Thursday 7th December 2023

Lower school SEND Interview Evening via SchoolCloud

Thursday 14th December 2023

Upper school SEND Interview Evening via SchoolCloud





Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST)

Parent/Carer Tips for Wellness:

MANAGING ANXIETY AROUND SCHOOL

School is a place where young people often experience anxiety for several reasons. Some people may worry about making friends or fitting in, have difficulty understanding school work, or feeling exam pressure.

School-Related Anxiety Warning Signs:

- Not sleeping well
- Feeling sick or complaining of butterflies in their stomach
- Not wanting to get out of bed in the morning
- Increased anger or upset at school or home

*More information
about self-soothe
boxes!*



It is common that young people show symptoms of school-related anxiety in evenings or early mornings before school. The first step to supporting your child is to understand what is causing these feelings.

Top tip: *Some children may find it difficult to be asked direct questions about their feelings. Try creating a mind map with them about school, including everything that is on their mind.*

Strategies to Try at Home:

Keep a record of patterns in behaviours to share with the school's Mental Health Lead

Create a self-soothe box with Items that your child finds relaxing

Breathing exercises

Create a morning routine

Recognise small achievements





The Polesworth School
ENSURING EXCELLENCE

Programs Co-ordinator and ICT Support

Grade F, Pts 6 - 11 £21,797 - £23,700 actual salary

37 hours/week, 41 weeks per year (term time plus 2 weeks)

Are you innovative, enthusiastic and passionate about education and would like to join our wonderful school? Then this post might be the job for you. Do you have an interest in IT and associated programs?

We are seeking a Programs Co-ordinator to join our team of staff. As a member of our staff you will be instrumental in laying the foundation of outstanding standards of education and creating a stimulating and purposeful environment where our pupils can make excellent progress.

The successful candidate will have high expectations and a commitment to raising standards. We are seeking a passionate and driven individual with good communication and organisational skills and a desire to make a difference to the lives of our pupils and their communities.

Next Steps

If you have any questions about this opportunity please contact us via e-mail, or call to arrange a conversation with Mrs Nicky Holland, HR Manager & Head's PA, n.holland@thepolesworthschool.com or 01827 702278. Or for more details please visit our website: www.thepolesworthschool.com/vacancies where you will find a job brochure and application forms.

The Polesworth School is part of The Community Academies Trust, a multi-academy trust with the express purpose of transforming schools in community Hubs, through applying a holistic view of education.

Closing date for applications is: Monday 11th December 2023 at 9.00am

Interviews will take place shortly thereafter

The Trust Child Protection Policies and Recruitment of Ex-Offenders Statement can be found at: <https://www.communityacademiestrust.org/en-GB/trust-information>.

Community Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Community Academies Trust is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offender Act 1974. We expect all staff to share our safeguarding commitments and to undergo appropriate safer recruitment checks, including enhanced DBS checks and a willingness to demonstrate commitment to the standards which flows from Community Academies Trust vision and values.

The role is covered by part 7 of the Immigration Act 2016 and therefore the ability to speak fluent spoken English is an essential requirement for this role.

Community Academies Trust supports Equal Opportunities Employment.

Community Academies Trust Company Registration No. 0747273-6

“Education is for improving lives and for leaving your community and world better than you found it”

Lunchtime Supervisors

Birchwood Primary School

Scale band B

6.25 hours per week (1hr 15 mins a day)

Monday to Friday - term time only (39 weeks plus staff training days)

Actual salary £3278.61 per annum



A unique opportunity has arisen to join a passionate team of staff at Birchwood Primary School, part of the growing Community Academies Trust.

Birchwood Primary School is an oversubscribed, 2 form entry primary school. We are continuously striving to improve further through both the work of its dedicated staff and with children who demonstrate the simple one school rule of consideration and respect, we expect 'Birchwood Best' of everyone in our school.

We are looking for a permanent member of staff to join our friendly, enthusiastic and committed team working with our well behaved and happy pupils.

As a member of the Lunchtime Supervisor team, the post holder will be responsible for supporting children both indoors and outside, to ensure that lunchtime is a positive experience for all of our children.

Full training will be given, as well as all the support you need. This is a great opportunity to do something really rewarding, working with wonderful children and gain some valuable extra experience for that CV!

Birchwood is part of the Community Academies Trust, a multi-academy trust with the express purpose of transforming schools in community hubs, through applying a holistic view of education.

If this role is of interest to you and you feel you can contribute to successful learning for all at Birchwood, then application packs are available on our website at www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com

If you require any further details or wish to learn more about our school, then please contact Jill Jackson, Office Manager on 01827 892913.

Closing date for applications is: Monday 4th December 2023

Interview date is: Friday 8th December 2023

Community Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff to share this commitment and to undergo appropriate checks, including enhanced DBS checks and a willingness to demonstrate commitment to the standards which flows from the Community Academies Trust vision and values.

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