



28<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents & Carers

Please see below information on a number of important areas we want to share with you.

### 1. Allergies

As a reminder, to protect students and staff we request that Nuts / Nut Milk or Aerosols are not brought in to school under any circumstances. This includes nuts in chocolate bars, cooking recipes, nut milk as a dairy replacement, all body sprays / spray deodorants. All these items can cause severe and potentially life-threatening reactions including severe asthma attacks or anaphylactic shock. Despite repeated reminders, a small number of students persist in bringing aerosols into school and this makes our school unsafe for those at risk. Please help us by ensuring that your child does not bring aerosol sprays or nuts to school. We understand that students may need to freshen up after PE but students should use a roll-on deodorant instead.

### 2. COVID

In line with all Government advice, there is no longer a requirement to test or isolate for COVID. Unless students are too unwell to attend, they should come into school.

Please check [online](#) for the latest advice, which currently states (28/4/22):

“It is **not** recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional. If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults. Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.”

### 3. In-School Vaccinations

Vaccinations are starting again after being halted for the COVID rollout. Children are never vaccinated where permission has not been provided to the external agencies who manage this. School staff are not allowed to take consent or withdrawals directly.

#### **HPV Vaccinations – Years 9 and 10 – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

If you have already registered consent you do not need to re-register. If you have changed your mind, please follow the link and use the School Code: EE142396 <https://forms.hct.nhs.uk/HPVConsent/eForm/#!/Page1> - if you have any queries contact the team on 0300 555 5055 Option 4.

## **Meningitis ACWY and DTP – Year 9 and outstanding Year 10 – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June**

An electronic consent link will be sent to all relevant parents in advance of the session taking place. The Meningitis ACWY vaccination helps to protect students against four types of meningococcal bacteria (groups A, C, W and Y) that can cause meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning). These diseases are very serious and can be fatal in some cases, especially if not diagnosed early. Vaccinations will include the DTP (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio) booster. For more information, please click on the link below:

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/men-acwy-vaccine.aspx>

### **4. ParentPay Funds**

Please ensure you have sufficient money on your ParentPay account before your child comes into school if they wish to purchase food from the canteen. There is a function on ParentPay that will send you a notification reminder when funds are running low.

### **5. Cannabis Edibles**

We are raising awareness to parents and young people to the harms of ‘cannabis edibles’. Cannabis edibles are foods/ sweets/ cakes/ chewing gum that contain THC, a derivative of cannabis.

Cannabis edibles are illegal, can be really strong, and are not regulated meaning anyone taking them could face an unknown consequence. The products are cleverly packaged to a professional standard, designed to look like authentic confectionary products and therefore particularly appealing to young people. Although cannabis edibles may contain cannabis, they do not always have the smell or appearance of cannabis. Instead, they look and smell like a normal branded shop bought item but can be much stronger than other cannabis products. We are also aware of vapes that may contain cannabis products that could also be harmful.

There have been local incidents whereby young people have become unwell after eating sweets, chocolates, lollies, chewing gum, gummies or other products. Sadly, a recent death in London is being linked to cannabis edibles, the product potentially containing a cannabis related product.

We urge parents and young people to be vigilant and to have conversations about the risks of taking products that they do not know as being trustworthy, and therefore, are deemed as unregulated. These products are easily accessible for sale both on the internet and locally. These products (including vapes) have a high risk of unpredictability of health consequences; some edible products take time to take effect, other products may take immediate effect. Regardless, the consequence could have a life-threatening impact to your child.

The police continue to work with schools and local communities to inform parents of this ongoing concern. For further information on cannabis please visit this national website [www.talktofrank.com/drug/cannabis](http://www.talktofrank.com/drug/cannabis)

## 6. Social Media and TikTok

We have been having a number of issues with students in Year 7 and Year 8 using TikTok as a way of being unkind to others. An upcoming assembly will remind all students of our expectations around social media behaviour.

Students are creating TikTok accounts to post unkind or abusive videos and messages, which can be viewed by any TikTok user. Issues starting on social media often then continue in person and in school leading to our Pastoral Team spending a significant amount of time investigating incidents. Parents should monitor social media usage and discuss the consequences of online activities, which can ultimately lead to the police being involved. Research highlights 60% of young people are unhappier when using social media often, than those who only occasionally use it. This in turn leads to an increase in emotional and mental health concerns for those who are regularly using social media or are receiving abuse through it.

As outlined in the Behaviour Policy, the school will take action against those who are being unkind to students or staff, irrespective of when and where it occurred. School takes this matter seriously. We will consider permanently excluding students who are bullying others or being malicious. Children under the age of 13 should not use TikTok; therefore, no Year 7 students should be accessing this platform. Current trends include a blackout challenge leading to children losing consciousness. Further information on internet matters can be found at <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/tik-tok-app-safety-what-parents-need-to-know/>

## 7. Peterborough United Women's Team Free Tickets – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 7pm

Two free tickets are on offer in the BGL Family Stand at Peterborough.

TO BOOK Visit <https://login.theposh.com> to create a new account or login if you have an existing account. Complete / update your profile then go to "Link Account Number" and make sure you have a linked ticketing account. If you do not have an existing ticketing account, click to create one.

Once logged into your online ticketing account, you MUST then visit <https://theposh.cc/poshwomen> to apply the permissions on your account. Choose the home game against Hashtag United Women - click on find tickets.

Select seats choosing Adult (School) and U18 (School) in the BGL Family Stand (subject to availability). Add any additional tickets and complete your purchase. We recommend you choose the e-ticket/digital ticket option. Please note that you will still need to enter card details for verification purposes even if the balance to pay is zero. If you have any issues, please contact [bobby.copping@theposh.com](mailto:bobby.copping@theposh.com)

8. **Vacancies** - If you would like to join the Marshland Team we currently have vacancies for Exam Invigilators, Site Assistant/Groundsperson, Teaching Assistant Apprentice, Higher Level Teaching Assistant and Primary SEN Teacher. All details can be found [online](#).

We wish you a lovely Bank Holiday weekend.

Kind regards

Marshland High School