



# NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23**

SPRING TERM 3<sup>rd</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> March

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January – Face to Face  
Post 16 Parents' Evening (book  
appointments on School Cloud)

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January – Deadline for Year 9  
Options (forms in to reception)

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Face to Face Year  
11 Parents' Evening

Half Term – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup>  
February

### PARENTS AND CARERS NOTICE

If you have an enquiry or need to  
see a member of staff in person,  
please book an appointment in  
advance.

Please do not enter the reception  
area unless you have booked an  
appointment.

Otherwise, you can use our  
enquiries email

[enquiries@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk)

Thank you



### Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! Welcome to the start of  
the Spring Term and we have a very busy few  
months ahead of us here at the College. I  
hope you managed to enjoy some quality  
time over the Christmas period although, if  
you're like me, where did the time go?

On Tuesday of this week we ran our Year 9  
Options Evening. This was then followed by  
the Year 11 Mock Results Evening on  
Wednesday. I hope you found these  
important events valuable and the  
information useful for Year 9 and 11 students  
respectively.

This is a very important term for our Year 11  
and 13 students as they complete the final  
stages of their studies before sitting their  
formal exams in the summer. It is crucial that  
they use this time wisely, and to speak to their  
teachers if they have any worries or  
concerns. We have an array of Revision  
Clubs and Intervention Sessions which all  
students are welcome to attend.

Ofqual have now published how students will  
be supported with GCSE and A level  
examinations in the summer of 2023. Mr  
Golding has published this information and



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students will still get support in GCSE mathematics, physics and combined science with formulae and equation sheets.

Last week the College conducted an announced fire drill as part of our robust health and safety procedures. The behaviour of the students was excellent, the whole College was evacuated and all students and staff were accounted for within 7 minutes from sounding the alarm.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the College has a broad range of extra-curricular activities available to our students. Details on what is taking place, when and where can be found on the College website.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jeremy Plumb  
Headteacher



## SIXTH FORM FACE TO FACE PARENTS' EVENING

### **Year 12 & 13 Parents/Carers**

Please book your parent's evening appointments through  schoolcloud.

visit: <https://torpoint.schoolcloud.co.uk>

Please note the booking window is between

**Monday 9th January at 9am until  
Wednesday 18th January at 9am.**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January  
2023  
3:30-6:30pm**





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## Exams Information for students and parents/carers from OFQUAL and DFE

Dear student,

You have shown so much resilience during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and continue to do so as we move towards normality as a country.

As Chief Regulator my job is to make sure that the exams and formal assessments you take are as fair as they can be, setting you up for the right opportunities in the next stages of your education, employment and life.

I've listened to students who were taking their qualifications in the summer of 2022 and the arrangements for 2023 have been made very much with that feedback, and your best and long-term interests, in mind. Below you will find a summary of what we are doing to support you in your forthcoming exams and assessments.

### Arrangements for GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2023

Formulae and equation sheets will be given in GCSE maths, physics, and combined science exams, so students do not need to memorise as much. In GCSE modern foreign languages, the exams do not have to test unfamiliar vocabulary. Exams may still contain unfamiliar vocabulary, but exam boards can give meanings for words that are not on their vocabulary lists.

Exam boards have also set aside 'contingency days' in the exam timetable. These days would be used in the unlikely event that exams had to be moved because they could not take place when planned. These are the afternoons of 8 and 15 June, and on 28 June, so students need to be available.

### Grading for GCSE, AS and A levels in 2023

Grading will be back to normal this summer. But there is some protection in place for GCSE and A level student cohorts this summer.

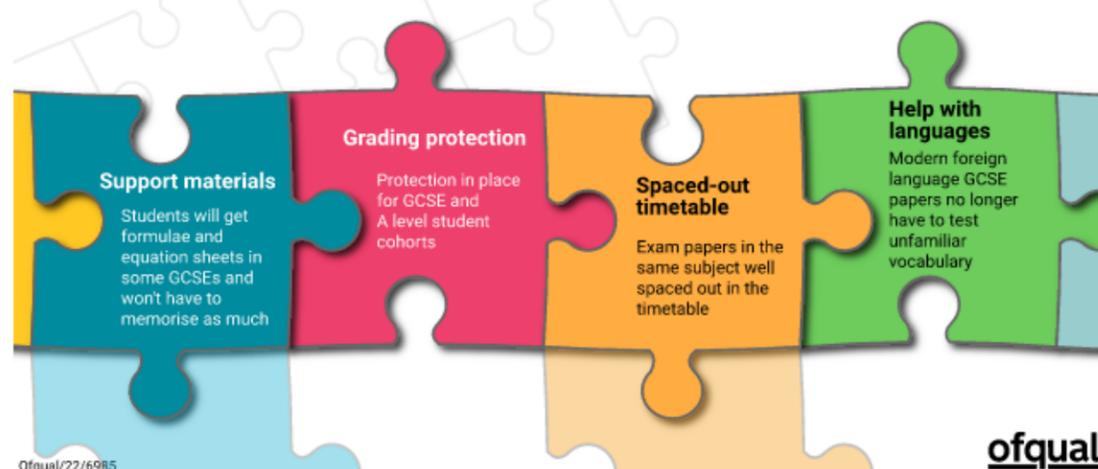
Broadly speaking this means that a typical student who would have achieved, say, an A grade in an A level qualification before the pandemic will be just as likely to get an A in 2023, even if their performance in the assessments is a little weaker in 2023 than it would have been before the pandemic.

### Contingency arrangements

Ofqual has provided guidance for teachers so that they can save evidence of student performance. This evidence would only be used to determine Teacher Assessed Grades in the very unlikely event that exams could not go ahead.

Schools and colleges have been told that evidence should come from the mock exams that students normally take. Teachers should let students know when they are taking assessments that could be used, but students should just approach them as they normally would.

## Support for students: summer 2023



Infographic detailing the support for students in summer 2023



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## Ten Tors training – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Students training for the Ten Tors Challenge had a mixture of weather when they completed their first walk of 2023. There was a tiny bit of sun, but this came between heavy showers of rain, sleet and hail. However, the attitude of the students was positive as they visited checkpoints close to the military ring road near Okehampton Army Camp.

Many thanks to our volunteers who were out braving it with the students, and well done to all who took part!

Students need to check their calendar for the next walk and training session.





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## Careers News:



FREE CAREERS INFORMATION EVENT FOR PARENTS

### Free careers information event for parents

If your child is unsure about their career or option choices, then this is the event for you!

Listen to talks by specialists about what will be the careers of the future, which are the best sectors to enter into and what subjects link to what careers pathways.

This event is a great way to help you and your child take make an informed decision at a key stage of their educational journey.

### Session times

There will be five 75 minute sessions running on the day. Please find a session time that is most convenient for you.

2pm – 3.15pm  
3.30pm – 4.45pm  
5pm – 6.15pm  
6.30pm – 7.15pm

**When:** Sunday 22nd January 2023

**Where:** Home Park Stadium, PAFC

**Register Now** at <https://www.ymcaplymouth.org.uk/education/bpe/>



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## Cyber Protect Unit Devon & Cornwall Police

*Stay  
protected  
and Safer  
Online*

**THURSDAY 23rd of March 2023**

**2:30pm and 7pm**

**Torpoint Council Chambers**





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## Attendance Reminder

At Torpoint Community College we believe that the greater the attendance, the greater the achievement. We aim for an environment which enables and encourages all members of the community. For our students to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and be at College, on time, every day.

If your child is absent please contact the College as soon as possible on the first day of absence, and on each subsequent day of absence. If it is a planned absence, please complete an Absence Request Form. Please note that the law does not grant parents/carers an automatic right to take their children out of school during term time. Parents/carers can commit an offence if they fail to ensure regular and punctual attendance of their child at the school which the child is registered, unless the absence has been authorised by the school.

If your request for absence is refused and you still take your child out of school on holiday in term time then we will refer the matter to Cornwall Council and they may decide to issue a Penalty Notice. Penalty Notices for absences of 6 days or more are £60 per parent per child.

# CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY 2022



**Save the  
Children**



**Total raised: £333.68**

**Thank you!**



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# EMOTIONAL, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

We all have days when we feel anxious, worried, low, sad or angry. Having emotions like this are a normal part of life in response to challenging things that happen to us, and can let us know that we need to take action.

If you've been dealing with difficult feelings on your own for a while, particularly if you're finding it difficult to do the things you need to do, such as sleeping well, socialising and studying, then reaching out and asking for help is important, but how?

Pause, take a breath, and think about how you are feeling and who you might talk to.

### What others have said

"She listened, and I mean REALLY listened. She didn't interrupt me or ask me to explain myself or anything, she just let me talk and talk and talk. I had been unsure about talking to anyone but I knew quite quickly that ... it would be a turning point."

"When I first started talking I realised I wasn't alone."

"[It] was the hardest thing I ever did. When I was done talking, my teacher looked me in the eye and said 'That must have been really tough' - he was right, it was, but it meant so much that he realised what a big deal it was for me."

"I was worried how she'd react, but my Mum just listened then said 'How can I support you?' - no one had asked me that before and it made me realise that she cared. Between us we thought of some really practical things she could do to help me."

### Sources of support

As we don't provide clinical help to individuals, we have listed below some organisations which offer direct support:

**CHILDLINE**  
Call: 0800 1111 (free line)  
Online: [childline.org.uk](http://childline.org.uk)  
Confidential listening, 1-2-1 chat, online message boards for under 19s.

**BEAT EATING DISORDERS**  
Call: England 0808 801 0677  
Scotland 0808 801 0432  
Wales 0808 801 0433  
Northern Ireland 0808 801 0434  
Online: [beateatingdisorders.org.uk](http://beateatingdisorders.org.uk)  
(Phone or webchat 9am-midnight weekdays, 4pm-midnight weekends, 365 days a year.)  
Support for individuals, families or friends with eating disorders.

**MUSLIM YOUTH HELPLINE**  
Call: 0808 808 2008 (4pm - 10pm) every day  
Email: [help@myh.org.uk](mailto:help@myh.org.uk)  
Online: [myh.org.uk](http://myh.org.uk)  
Faith and culturally sensitive confidential support by phone, live chat, WhatsApp or email for young Muslims in the UK.

**SAMARITANS**  
Call: 116 123 (free line)  
Email: [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)  
Online: [samaritans.org](http://samaritans.org)  
Confidential and emotional support 24/7.

**THE MIX**  
Call: 0808 808 4994  
Text: THEMIX to 85258  
Online: [themix.org.uk](http://themix.org.uk)  
Support and advice for under 25s, including a helpline, crisis messenger service and webchat.

**YOUNGMINDS**  
Text: YM to 85258  
Online: [youngminds.org.uk](http://youngminds.org.uk)  
Free, 24/7 text support for young people across the UK experiencing a mental health crisis.

**YOUTH ACCESS**  
Online: [youthaccess.org.uk](http://youthaccess.org.uk)  
Young people's information, advice and counselling.

Inclusion here does not mean the Charlie Walter Trust recommends or endorses any of these organisations above others, nor can we guarantee that the organisation will have a solution to your particular problem.  
All details correct at time of going to press.

Children's Mental Health week is 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> February, the theme this year



is

This week is all about encouraging young people to talk about their mental health, making connections with others & raise awareness of wellbeing and mental health; this is led by the charity Place2Be <https://www.place2be.org.uk/>  
Please keep an eye on the SatchelOne & tutor noticeboards to see what will be happening at TCC to get involved in Children's Mental Health Week 2023!

*Best wishes  
Miss Pine*



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# SAFEGUARDING YOU

[worries@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:worries@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk)

Our main priority is that students feel safe and happy.

Email any worries to the above email address OR leave a note in our

*worry box.*

You can find it outside the library.

**Dr Plumb**



*If you have any concerns or worries, please speak to one of the child protection team.*

Or speak to a member of staff you trust and feel comfortable with.



**Mrs Lear**

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