Enrichment and Personal Development at PGHS



Penwortham Girls' High School

At Penwortham Girls' High School, we know that academic learning is just one element of a successful school. We believe that our extra-curriculum programme is as important as the content-curriculum learnt in class. We know that it is through our enrichment and personal development activities and events that many of our students develop the resilience and confidence required for curiousity and ambition to grow.

Enrichment for all

Our principal aim at PGHS is for ALL of our students to benefit from our extracurriculum programme, so we have devised a 'minimum offer' calendar of events, with competitions, careers based activities and alternative learning experiences interwoven into our curriculum offer. We don't want any of our girls to miss out!

This minimum offer is designed to compliment the wide range of optional enrichment events we also provide, including competitive sports clubs, theatrical shows and both day and residential trips.

Throughout the academic year there will be three festivals held during lesson time. Each festival has its own theme. They will last two weeks and will involve an array of different and unique experiences for every year group. These festivals will provide opportunties that will help our students to explore and express their character, as well as build their skills and talents ready for their next stage of education or future employability.

Festivals

Arguably, the highlights of the minimum offer calendar are our three festivals. For two weeks each term, the school day is buzzing with an array of different and unique experiences for every year group. The vast majority of our festival activities occur during the school day and involve all our students.

Our three festivals are:

Festival of Literature and Language (October 11th to October 22nd, 2021) – Activities include visiting theatre groups, lunchtime film clubs, a whole school debating competition and no-pens days.

STEM Festival (March 22nd to June 1st, 2022) – Activities include STEM challenges, an inflatable planetarium, external trips to museums, STEM careers carousel and a visit from some exotic animals.

P&A – Festival of Perfomance and the Arts (July 4th to July 15th, 2022) – Activities include musical performances, sports day, interform competitions, an arts showcase and talent shows.



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Festival of Literature and Language

This is our first festival of the year and will be led by English, Modern Foreign Languages and History. There will be a variety of events taking place across the two weeks, including:

- A Short Crime Story writing competition
- The Great Debate
- A Mock Trial
- Spooky Walk
- Public Speaking
- Poetry Jam
- Virtual Author visits
- Blake Pastiche Competition
- Twisted Tale Competition
- Book Cover Door Competition
- Online Theatre Performance
- Spelling Bee
- Future Proof Session
- Festival Quiz
- German Reunification Competition
- French and German Pen Pals
- French and German Film Club
- German Election
- Great MFL Bake-off
- MFL Cardinal Newman talks

Watch out for the finalised programme of events so you know what you will be involved in!



Extra-curricular Clubs, Sports and Societies

In addition to our minimum offer events, we also provide a diverse range of optional clubs, sports and societies for our students to participate in. There are activities are run at lunch and after school. From well-established clubs (e.g. Science Club, STEM club, Drama Club, the Soroptimists), music groups (e.g. orchestra and choir) and sports teams (e.g. Netball, Badminton and Cricket) to something a little different (The Anime Society, Philosophy Society, Debate Club, Chess Society or Ultimate Frisbee!)

Make sure you have a look at the extra-curriculum programme for a full list of activities. There is truly something for everyone. Go on, come along and have a go!

If you are not sure which club, sport or society to join then come along to our "Clubs, Sports and Societies Fayre". This will be held on Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th September at break time in the gym. Pop along and find out more about what is on offer.

Academic Enrichment

It is also important to note that outside of these festivals and clubs we are always trying to enrich the experience for our students within each academic subject. Every subject area will be providing opportunities for competitions, cross-curricular projects, trips and visits as well as links with future employers or higher education.

This term we have the following activities:

Year 7 - Symbol design competition in RE

Year 7 Peripatetic Teacher assembly in Music

Year 8 Debating the Ethics of Plant Breeding in Science

Year 9 - Spirituality Competition in RE

Year 10 – Who designs our white-knuckle rides? Competition in Science

Year 10 and 11 interform PE competition

Participation and Commitment

All students who get involved and participate in our extra-curricular programme will be rewarded via Class Charts. There are also opportunities to use some of these clubs, sports and societies along with festival activities towards the completion of your PGHS passport.



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