



## Students Section

Dear Student,

To give you further insight into PCS we would like to introduce you to our Head of Science and Head of Languages.



My name is Lisa Murray and I am the Head of Science. I, along with the rest of the PCS Science department, am very much looking forward to welcoming you to our laboratories next year.

We have dozens of great practicals for you to get involved in and the opportunity to learn much more about how our amazing world works!

To get your scientific brains working before next year, I have a little challenge for you. In Science, we are fascinated by nature and the incredible variety of living things. Two animals that you are likely to see over the summer are wasps and bees.

I would like you to investigate the ways in which wasps and bees are similar to each other and in what ways they are different.

You can find out by asking your family, looking in books such as insect guides or dictionaries or by looking at nature websites like: [www.woodlandtrust.org](http://www.woodlandtrust.org)

Good luck and see you in September.



Head of Science



Année 6, Bienvenues! ; Año 6 Bienvenidos!

I am Madame Hayhurst, Head of Languages at PCS, and I am really looking forward to welcoming you all in the new academic year.

Here at PCS you will be learning either French or Spanish and you will either be taught by myself or a member of my team.

You will learn many valuable skills in the languages department: linguistic skills, communication skills and how to be a team player.

When you arrive you will learn the basics of the language which will include greetings, numbers, months, days and birthdays.

Then you will move onto describing yourselves, free-time activities, where you live and holidays. You will learn these through a range of listening, reading, speaking, writing and interactive online activities.

Your language's challenge this Summer is to either find the names of 10 French and Spanish speaking countries and their capital cities or 10 French and Spanish foods and create a poster or a fact sheet.

Have a lovely summer!  
À bientôt! ;Hasta pronto!



Head of Modern Foreign Languages

## Transition Leader

This week we have received lots of emails and messages from Year 6 students who are worried about the same thing; getting lost! So, we've asked some of our students to comment on this topic. This is what they said:

*"When I was in year 6, I was worried about getting lost at secondary school. The advice I would give to year 6's is: secondary school is a big step in life and yeah it can be scary, but once you get to know everything, you'll be just fine. The key is if you get lost just ask someone and they'll help you."*

*"I was worried about the corridors. I'd tell the year six's to not worry about getting lost because you'll soon find your way around. I enjoyed the whole transition period."*

*I would say, don't panic. Although the school is big, it is really easy to learn how to find your way around. There are staff and us, the current year 7's (soon to be year 8's) to ask. We were all nervous at first, so we know best how you are feeling."*



*"I was worried about getting lost but after a couple days it was so easy."*

*"I was worried I was going to go the wrong way that the other students were going, I think I did go the wrong way but it didn't matter. There was always someone around to tell me which way to go!"*

*"When I was in year six I was worried about maybe losing my way around the school but when I got to PCS, I was fine."*

*"When I was in year 6 I was really worried about getting lost. I would say to a year 6 student don't be scared. It's normal to feel worried but there are lots of people to help them and I would tell them to find me and I will help them. PCS helped me a lot with my transition and I would make sure the new students had my help so they feel happy."*

*"When I was in year 6, I felt worried about getting lost in the school but I felt that, with the help of the school maps, the transition leaders and the teachers, I soon learnt my way around and no longer felt worried."*

What's clear from the comments above is that many of our transition leaders had the same concerns as you. Hopefully you'll feel reassured that they managed just fine.

I think they'll all agree that they did get lost at some point but not for long because there was always a friendly face waiting to point them in the right direction!



## SEND Section



**Ms Channon, SENDCo**

I am really pleased to be joining PCS as SENCO in September. I have spent most of my teaching career working with students who require some extra help and support; I was previously a SENCO in another secondary school and this year I have worked with students outside of the mainstream school system.

I still get excited when, working with students and parents, we can solve a problem together and see a young person make progress and grow in confidence. I have my own grown-up(ish) children and the stresses and strains of parenting a secondary school child are still a fresh memory.

I am looking forward to getting to know you all!

If you have specific SEND concerns please do contact us on our Yr 6 SEND transition email:

**[PCS-SENDdepartment@swale.at](mailto:PCS-SENDdepartment@swale.at)**



Hello Year 6!

My name is Mrs Dowling and I will be one of your access teachers for some of your Maths lessons. My role in the school is also to teach other Maths classes, be a Year 7 tutor and I will be your Assistant SENDCo, so I will see all of you lots, even if I'm not your class teacher.

In my spare time I love films and music and I can't wait to sing you some of my silly Maths songs!

I can't wait to meet you all in September!



**Mrs. Scotting, Lead for the Special Facility**

Hello year 6 students!

Are you very excited about coming to secondary school? We are really looking forward to meeting you all.

I work with students who might need some extra help- maybe with their learning, or understanding words, or maybe with friendships. Some of you will get to know me well. I also make sure everyone has what they need to get through their exams- but you don't need to worry about those yet!

I will meet some of you on the transition days, and at the meet the tutor evening. Some of your parents can meet me at the SEND parent meeting too.

My email address is:  
**[susie.scotting@swale.at](mailto:susie.scotting@swale.at)**



## Parent Corner

### Important information regarding Free School Meals

Access to free school meals has significantly expanded in recent years. We want to ensure that every child who is entitled to Free School meals (FSM) receives them. We would like to encourage all parents/carers who think they might be eligible to apply via the following link:

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/education-learning/schools/school-life/school-meals/free-school-meals>

Even if you already receive FSM at your Primary school we are asking parents to reapply at the above link to ensure that your child's FSM is immediately available when they start year 7.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household earnings must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

These changes mean we expect to help more children under the new system

Please check your eligibility, and direct any queries to this [link](#):

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/education-learning/schools/school-life/school-meals/free-school-meals>

Thank you.

# FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND OTHER SUPPORT FOR DISADVANTAGED PUPILS

## - HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

