



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



VIDEO MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Welcome to our weekly Newsletter. Thank you to all members of our community who have contributed to this edition.

Year 11 and 13

Year 11 and 13 students have been much in our thoughts this week as, under normal circumstances, we would have been celebrating with them at their Proms. At school we have been reminiscing about the students within these year groups, as well as past Proms. Even given the upheaval of the last few months, I hope Year 11 and 13 take a moment to remember friends, staff and events at FPSS. We still aim to invite these students back on site when we are able to have some form of finale.

Year 11 Statements and Certificates

Alongside Prom, Year 11 would also have had their Graduation this week offering them a chance to celebrate their achievements alongside their peers, staff, students and carers. While sadly we cannot make this happen, Year 11 will be receiving the statements written by their tutors alongside their Graduation certificates in the post. I hope you enjoy reading what tutors have written.

Years 7, 8 and 9

Thank you to all students who have attended the online tutor sessions and 'live' maths and English sessions this week. The sessions have been positively received by staff and students. As a result, we are adding live online Science sessions next week.

Transition

This week it has been a pleasure to meet the students who are joining us in Year 7 this September, alongside their parents and carers. We know that the last few months have



UPCOMING EVENTS

[ALL EVENTS](#)
[SPORTS CALENDAR](#)

All events are postponed until schools reopen fully. Further information will be sent out in due course.

held concerns for many children but one of the trickiest situations must be for those students who are leaving primary school this summer and starting secondary school in the autumn. I am therefore delighted that we have been able to offer something this term which hopefully eases these worries.

GCSE Pod

Thank you very much for the positive response to our GCSE Pod launch last week. Several students have already viewed many pods which shows the value this new resource can have. Please do encourage your children to log on and get involved.

September

Unsurprisingly, given the announcement last week by Gavin Williamson, the Secretary of State for Education, that schools would reopen in September, I have had several enquiries from parents and carers about what this means. Like on several occasions in recent months, I am afraid that I have to refer to my staple answer that I have been told no more than you. I await the guidance that has been promised. However, I can reassure you that FPSS has a timetable and staff and is ready to accommodate all students back on site at the start of September. It will be any government guidance that dictates whether we can have the full restart we are hoping for.

Student Bravery and Water Safety

This week you will have seen in the news that sadly swimmers got into trouble in Cookham. Several of our students were around the incident. We have called all those who we know were there but should parents and carers wish to share further news please do contact Heads of House.

I was very proud to see that two of our Year 10 boys, Jack Staunton and Ralph Sewell, were involved in bravely helping in the rescue. This was a very traumatic event for all concerned and the boys became

Cont. on page 2

involved at no small risk to themselves. I would like to commend them for their actions. Today the boys featured in a national press article which can be found here:

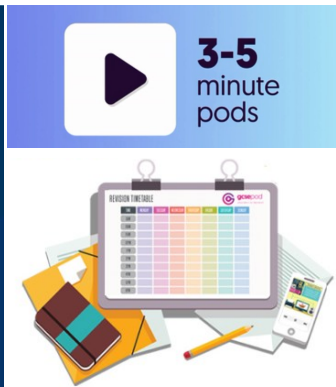
FULL NEWS ARTICLE

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue (RBFS) have issued the following advice: "We are urging residents across Berkshire to take care near water. As the warm weather continues, it may be tempting to swim in open water, but there are many dangers involved. One of the main risks when entering the water is cold water shock, even if the weather is warm. You also do not know what is beneath the surface – there could be unseen currents and reeds, which could pull you under." Please do take care in any open water or pools.

Take care and keep safe.

Dr Andrew J Morrison (BA Hons, PGCE, MA, PhD)

GCSE POD IS UP AND RUNNING...



Following the announcement of the launch last Friday, we are pleased to see so many students already using GCSEPod and streaming lots of useful videos to help with their school work. If your child has not yet logged on, please encourage them to do so using the guide below.

LOGGING IN TO GCSE POD

LINK TO GCSE POD ON FPSS WEBSITE

The video link to the user guide below gives students a tour of GCSEPoD and covers the following:

- setting your home page and selecting the subjects they are studying
- adding favourite videos
- creating playlists (like Spotify)
- check & challenge - test your knowledge and get instant feedback/guidance

GCSE POD USER GUIDE

- how to find assignments (work set by teachers) – students receive detailed feedback on how they performed, reviewing their learning, as well as then being guided to other videos to help with any gaps



The resources below show how parents can help support their children with GCSEPod:

What is GCSEPod?

GCSEPod is an award-winning expert in subject knowledge. We provide 3-5 minute bursts of audio-visual, teacher written learning which can help to reinforce and consolidate key GCSE topics covered in lessons.

Experts read and explain everything clearly including all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and diagrams on screen.

Tips & Tricks



Watch online or offline

Ask your child to download Pods to their mobile device so they can learn on the go!



Favourites

Challenge your child to 'favourite' 10 Pods on topics they find difficult. Watch the Pods together and use one of our other suggested learning techniques to help simplify what it is they're struggling with.



Support Homework

GCSEPod isn't just for revision, it's to help expand your child's subject knowledge. If your child is struggling with a piece of homework, you can search for the topic on GCSEPod and use the Pods as an additional resource.



Personalised Playlists

Use the My Playlists area to create bespoke playlists. Having personalised playlists means your child has fast access to Pods that will help fill knowledge gaps.

Cont. on page 3



Quizzes

Turn it into a competition and reward your child for correctly answered questions. If you're stuck on what questions to ask, head over to our 'Quiz Your Child' crib sheet!



Memory Cards

Watch Pods together and then write down key facts, dates, diagrams and quotes. Test their knowledge to see how much they remember.

"I can genuinely say that my daughter could not have managed without GCSEPod. I only wish that I'd known about GCSEPod when her GCSEs began, as I know that if she'd used it to reinforce her learning after each topic area, the impact would have been even greater."

Lisa Chappell, Parent

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD THROUGH THEIR GCSES

Mr J Dollery, Assistant Headteacher



TOP GCSEPOD USERS THIS WEEK

Here are the top GCSEPod users this week, well done to you all:

Top Podders



Lily Hatch	108
Finn Treacy	42
Theo Phillips	35
Anna Gambrell	26
Laura Mekla	26
Lara Torok	24
Jessica Walker	22
Brayden Winsor	20
Mia Chopra	18
Ellie Gavin	15
Adrian Aboul-Hosn	14
Balraj Kaur	14
Sam King	14
Adleigh Webb	14
Summer Payne	12
Edward Stroud	12
Phoebe Forward	11
Lola Ogden	11
Anabel Zagacki	11
Karim Anabtawi	10

NEW SCIENCE SESSIONS FOR YEARS 7, 8 AND 9 ON MICROSOFT TEAMS

We know that many of you have been asking for online sessions for science so we will be starting these next week. Each week there will be one session per year group run by one of our Science teachers. Students in that year group will

Cont. on page 4

be sent an invitation to that session. At present, we are not sure what the turnout will be so we will trial this as per the timetable below for next week and if the numbers who join the sessions are large, we will look at increasing the number of sessions the following week. These sessions will be comprised of a science 'activity' such as a quiz, bingo etc. but then after that, it will be an opportunity for you to ask any questions you have relating to the topic or topics you have been studying recently, for help with any projects Year 7 and Year 8 students are currently working on, or any other science-related questions you might have. We can't promise to be able to answer everything (particularly if it's COVID-19-related), but we will try our best!

We look forward to talking to you next week.

Dr M Scott, Head of Science

w/c	Year 9 Monday 1pm	Year 8 Tuesday 1pm	Year 7 Wednesday 1pm
29 th June	Biology: Ms Bennett	Mr Wright	Ms McElligott
6 th July	Chemistry: Mr Frankis	Dr Scott	Ms Wilson
13 th July	Physics: Mr Curnow	Mr Haldane	Mr Molin



YEAR 11 STUDENT SECURES APPRENTICESHIP



Great news from Keiron Maddox, Year 11, who has just been accepted for an apprenticeship at Active Security. He will be on a three year course, working five days a week with a qualified electrical engineer and every 7-8wks will attend Birmingham University.

Once Keiron has passed his driving test he will also be given a work van.

Prior to his interview with Active (who manage the school's security cameras and alarms) he researched the company and their history and services in depth, which led to him having a WhatsApp interview followed by a face to face interview. He discussed both his course in Construction and his Duke of Edinburgh Award and was very pleased to have been successfully chosen.

Well done Keiron!



YEAR 11 LEAVERS' HOODIES

If you have ordered a Year 11 Leavers' Hoodie they are ready to be collected next week, times and dates of collection are listed below. Hoodies should be collected from the Portacabin (by the bike shed). Year 11 students have been emailed these times and dates.



Time/Date	Tuesday 30 th June	Wednesday 1 st July	Thursday 2 nd July
1.15 - 1.25pm	BISHAM 1/2/3	COOKHAM 1	DORNEY 1/2/3/4/5
1.30 - 1.40pm	BISHAM 4/5	COOKHAM 2	MARLOW 1
1.45 - 1.55pm	BRAY 1/2/3	COOKHAM 3/4/5	MARLOW 2/3/4/5
2.15 - 2.25pm	BRAY 4/5	HENLEY 1	WINDSOR 1/2
2.30 - 2.40pm	ETON 1/2/3	HENLEY 2	WINDSOR 3/4/5
2.45 - 2.55pm	ETON 4/5	HENLEY 3/4/5	



YEAR 9 STUDENT RAISES HUMANITARIAN ISSUES WITH THERESA MAY, MP

After completing additional research into the refugee crisis in Yemen, Jade Winsor (Year 9) took it upon herself to write to Theresa May, MP for Windsor and Maidenhead, to express concern for the humanitarian situation faced by so many people displaced due to conflict. Yesterday Jade received a response asking if she would like for Mrs May to raise her issue with the Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab, with the notion of debating the issue in the House of Commons. Jade has indicated she would like this very much.

What a way to effect change from a member of our school community, and what a fantastic use of our nation's democratic process. Well done Jade, what a PSHE legend!

FURZE PLATT STUDENT IN YEMEN FUNDRAISER



Message from Macey Collins, Year 12:

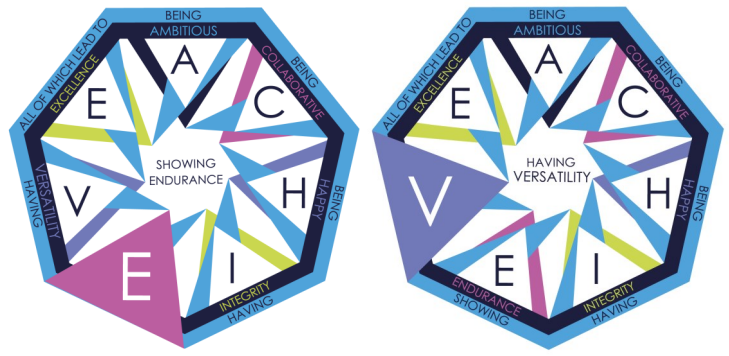
I am reaching out to you to ask for your support on a fundraiser I have just created for the Yemen Crisis. As you may have heard in the news recently Yemen is in the midst of the largest humanitarian crisis in the world, with over twenty four million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including more than twelve million children. This is devastating and because of this myself and a friend are going to walk a marathon on Sunday 28th of June to help gain donations and spread our support.

We would greatly appreciate if you could help donate and share this. I have linked the email for the GoFundMe below. Any donation big or small helps.

Thank you,

Macey

MARATHON WALK TO SUPPORT YEMEN CRISIS



GOLFING DURING LOCKDOWN



Evie Napier, Year 7, has written a piece on how she has carried on practising golf through lockdown:

"I was recently able to return to my sport which is golf. I play for Berkshire Girls' u18 squad representing my county and my club is Hennerton Golf Club.

My handicap has been cut by another 6 points since lockdown golf started meaning I now play off 22 handicap. When full lockdown was happening I kept training every single day using a net in my garden - because I kept training and didn't let lockdown stop me I was able to keep up the momentum of my current golf ability and therefore was able to drop my handicap significantly on my return to golf as if nothing had changed.

They have made some changes to golf for example - no bunker rakes, you cannot swap golf cards and you can't touch the flags on the green, however this has not affected my game and everybody is just so happy to be out playing again.

I have been playing on my golf course 18 holes, 6 days a week in lockdown with only 1 day off. I play after I finish my school work and then at the weekends."

Asha Blundell



Jamie Metcalfe



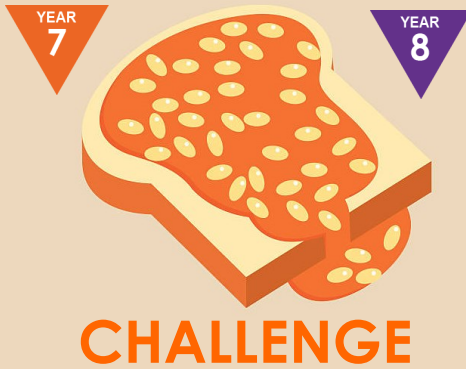
Will Couling



Luka Wilson



BEANS ON TOAST



Charlotte Soden



Marcus Downie



Sara Rendon



Finn Wright



Eugenia Sanchez-Giron Moreno



Nathan Hedges



Mason McArthur



Sarah King



Emmy Ionescu



Sami El Midaoui



Alexander Breen



BEANS ON TOAST



Harrykibir Sandhu



Lars Cheli



WELL EVERYONE,
NEXT UP LAYERED
PRODUCTS!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO MAJOR ANDY
30 MILE WHEELCHAIR MARATHON
COMPLETED**



Former Coldstream Guards officer, Major Andrew Johnston, who has been dependent on a wheelchair for over 25 years, has completed his MajorAndysMarathon lockdown challenge and more.

Andrew and his wife, Catherine, have been working on a long-term music project with La Folia and Furze Platt Senior School, where their late daughter, Katie, was a very popular Head of Music until her death, from Secondary Breast Cancer, in May 2018.

La Folia musicians have already spent a day with students at Furze Platt. We are determined to help the school build on Katie's legacy by providing more creative and performance opportunities for musicians and non-musicians alike, including SEN students, both in the school and, ultimately, in the wider community once things return to something resembling normal. Please support them in this endeavour.

So far, Andrew's effort has raised over £5,000.00 for the long-term music project between La Folia and FPSS, taking account of on and off-line donations and Gift Aid. You can retrace his progress at:

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
MAJORANDYSMARATHON](https://www.facebook.com/MAJORANDYSMARATHON)

and on his Just Giving team page:

[WWW.JUSTGIVING.COM/TEAM/
MAJORANDYSMARATHON](http://WWW.JUSTGIVING.COM/TEAM/MAJORANDYSMARATHON)

which has links to each of the fundraising page for his chosen charities or go straight to his La Folia page at:

[WWW.JUSTGIVING.COM/FUNDRAISING/
MAJORANDYSMARATHON03](http://WWW.JUSTGIVING.COM/FUNDRAISING/MAJORANDYSMARATHON03)

REMINDERS:



YEAR 7 PGL IMPORTANT DATES

- Jumper order by Monday 22nd June using this form:

PGL HOODIE ORDER FORM

- If this is not completed, a medium jumper will be ordered for your child.
- Final payments by Friday 10th July via WisePay.
- Medical form, behaviour agreement and mobile contract forms by Friday 10th July. These can be accessed on the school website from the 'Trips & Visits' section within the 'News and Events' tab. Please either return to school reception or email electronic versions to danielle.boseley@furzeplatt.net

FREE SCHOOL MEALS VOUCHERS



There has been a lot in the press recently about Free School Meals vouchers following a campaign led by the footballer Marcus Rashford for the voucher scheme to be extended through the summer break. Lots of families' circumstances have changed due to coronavirus. If you think you may now qualify please do apply here:

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS





Sixth Form Transition work

Work is on the school website (link below) and will be added to each week. We invite all parents and carers to explore work set by subjects and share in students' progress throughout the tasks.

We hope the Transition Work helps lay an excellent foundation for your future studies with us.

YEAR 11 INTO 12 TRANSITION INFORMATION



Sixth Form Taster Days

Our Taster Days were scheduled to take place on the 2nd and 3rd of July. Due to government guidance, it will be necessary this year to adapt how these important days are conducted. To this end, Sixth Form Taster Days will now be held virtually, much like many Higher Education Institutions are successfully running their Open Days.

The Sixth Form will be operating a series of hour-long Subject Taster Sessions, 30-minute Tutor Taster Sessions and two Sixth Form Assemblies throughout the week commencing Monday 6th July.

Students will be offered the chance to enjoy a seminar in each subject they plan to study in September, allowing them to gain valuable insight into their A-Level and Applied subjects. They will also have one Taster Tutor Session with a member of the Sixth Form Tutor Team to

give them a flavour of how our form time operates. Both of these events will allow students to ask any questions they might have of staff prior to the summer break. Sessions will also help put faces to names for our prospective new Sixth Formers!

The two assemblies will be with me and will happen at the start and the end of the week, which will allow students to be welcomed to the Taster Sessions and given any key pieces of information they may need, before closing the week and wishing them well for the summer break.

All of these sessions will be run via Microsoft Teams, which is available to students easily through a mobile app or directly through the Microsoft website, with no need to register. We are currently putting together the timetable for this week and will send out further details with regard to specific times for seminars and access instructions for Microsoft Teams.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I hope these two transition events are as exciting for you as they are for us.

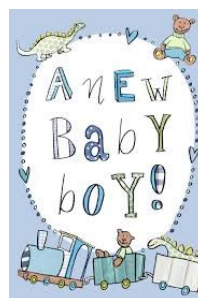
Mr P Ging, Head of Sixth Form



A range of work for all year groups can be found here:

FAMILY LEARNING RESOURCES

AND FINALLY:



Many congratulations to the Colmer family this week - Charlie James Colmer was born on Sunday evening and weighed 9lbs 8oz. Mr Colmer is our Head of History and Politics, and he and his wife already have an older son, proud brother to Charlie.

Site Manager – To start 1st September 2020 (negotiable)

Full time, 37 Hours a week, working hours to be within a shift pattern, Monday to Friday, all year round. Actual salary range for scale 5, £23,208- £25,122pa (pay award pending) depending on experience

We are looking for a responsible, hard-working team player to assist the Facilities Manager in ensuring that the school buildings and school site are maintained to a high standard and are secure, and that the physical school environment is maintained to a standard that allows the school to function efficiently on a daily basis.

This is a varied role ranging from undertaking maintenance and repairs, using electrical equipment such as drills and saws, carrying out cleaning activities using floor polishers and physical activities such as moving furniture and other, sometimes heavy equipment. In the absence of the Facilities Manager, you will support other members of the site team and our cleaning team, ensuring that any urgent issues are dealt with swiftly, calmly and in an appropriate way. You would also be the main point of contact with contractors whilst they are on site to ensure their safety and keep site disruption to a minimum. As a school we take sustainability seriously and would ask you to assume the role of Energy Recycling Champion working with our Head of Operations and Facilities Manager to oversee the school's use of energy and its reduction where possible.

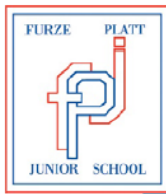
We are looking for a team player, who is able to use their own initiative and who has strong organisational and time management skills. We will offer a comprehensive training package to the right candidate. Previous experience working in a site maintenance role is essential as well as some experience of supervising other staff.

For further information about this role and in order to complete a **Support Staff Application Form** please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

Furze Platt Senior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced disclosure via the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Closing date: Monday 13th July at 9.00am
Interviews will take place week commencing 13th July

APPLY TODAY



Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 7NQ
Tel: 01628 625308
Email: office@furzeplatt.com
Website: www.furzeplatt.com

Parent Support Advisor – To start September 2020

Part time, term time only. 25 Hours a week, start time and finish time within school hours, preferably Monday to Friday, (flexibility may be possible). Salary Scale 5, actual salary range £13,250 - £14,350 pa depending on experience

We are looking for someone with experience of working with children, young people and their families to work with the students, parents and carers of the Furze Platt Primary Federation and Furze Platt Senior School, providing early intervention, support and guidance to improve outcomes for students.

Working under the guidance of senior leaders in both schools you would be an important point of contact with families identified as in need of support. You will establish and foster good relationships with students' parents and carers offering them advice and guidance to reinforce their self-esteem, thus helping them to support student achievements. The role will involve working with a range of external agencies, including health professionals and Children's Centres as well as signposting parents and carers to agencies and charities who can provide help. You would receive any necessary training to enable you to deliver Triple P (positive parenting) seminars, individual and group training for parents and carers and 1-1 and group ELSA (emotional literacy support) sessions with students. The role will require you to work with pastoral support teams in both schools to support students to interact and engage with activities and promote self-esteem and independence.

We are looking for someone who is able to work purposely and collaboratively with families, staff, agencies and charities to improve positive outcomes for disadvantaged students and their families. If you have good organisational and time management skills and are willing to both work as part of a team and independently this is an exciting opportunity to work across the Furze Platt Schools for the benefit of many students and their families.

For further information about this role and in order to complete a **Support Staff Application Form** please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

Furze Platt Senior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced disclosure via the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Closing date: Friday 10th July at 9.00am
Interviews will take place week commencing 13th July

APPLY TODAY

Learning Support Assistant – to Start 1st September 2020

Part time, 30 Hours a week, start time 8.45am, finish time 3.15pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only. Actual salary Scale 2c, £13,300 - £13,500 pa depending on experience

We are looking for an enthusiastic and reliable individual to join the Shine team and provide targeted support to our students with ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder).

You will work under the direction of classroom teachers and, in line with any agreed special needs and other specialist plans, provide support to individual students in the completion of a wide range of learning activities at all key stages. You will support small groups of students for interventions and mentor nominated students. You will help students develop their social and communication skills and gain access to the curriculum by ensuring effective use of differentiated instructions and tasks provided by teachers.

We are looking for a team player, who is able to communicate sensitively and confidently with staff, students and parents. This role would suit someone who is able to use their own initiative and who has strong organisational and time management skills. This role might suit someone who is working with or has worked with students in a school setting with experience or knowledge of either SEN (Special Educational Needs), ASD or both.

For further information about this role and in order to complete a Support Staff application form please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

Furze Platt Senior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced disclosure via the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Closing date: Friday 3rd July 2020 at 9.00am
Interviews will take place week commencing 6th July

APPLY TODAY

Special Educational Needs Administrator – to Start 1st September 2020

Full time, 37 Hours a week, start time 8.30am, finish time 4.30pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only. Actual salary Scale 4, £17,700 - £18,490 pa depending on experience

We have an exciting opportunity for an experienced Administrator to support our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) and Learning Support Department during term time. You will support the SENCo with a range of administrative tasks including responding to emails and telephone queries, maintaining SEN records and preparing reports for students' annual reviews. You will also help set up a transition day for primary year 6 students with additional needs which requires liaising with feeder primary schools to make appropriate arrangements. You would also support the department with managing exam access arrangements for students who are eligible by liaising with parents, school staff and other stakeholders. Attendance at review meetings and taking minutes is sometimes required.

Strong organisational and time management skills with an ability to meet deadlines are key requirements of this role. If you have excellent administrative skills, enjoy using your initiative as well as working with a part of a team and are happy working in an environment with young people where no two days are ever the same then we would be interested in hearing from you.

For further information about this role and in order to complete a Support Staff application form please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

Furze Platt Senior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced disclosure via the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Closing date: Friday 3rd July 2020 at 9.00am
Interviews will take place week commencing 6th July

APPLY TODAY