

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #62.7



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Term One

Thank you to all our community who have been so supportive during this first term of 2020/21. Returning after lockdown was never going to be easy. I appreciate the efforts of all our FPSS staff and students, as well as the support of parents and carers.



Judging from RBWM's request for the borough to enter Tier 2, as well as our own experience this week we are clearly not out of the woods just yet. However, our efforts are enabling students to return to some semblance of normality at FPSS.

In our conversations with students we have been emphasising that all members of our community share the responsibility to keep our school, as well as our friends and families, safe and well. This includes students not attending school should they have symptoms and isolating if they are asked.

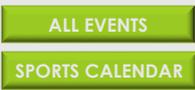
I hope that you all have a fantastic half term, but please do stay safe and well following local and national guidance to protect each other.

Take care and keep safe.

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



UPCOMING EVENTS



Some of our upcoming events may change due to the current situation (eg virtual or adjusted events). Full details will be sent out nearer the time of the specific event.

THIS WEEK

FRI 23 OCTOBER	Year 12 Progress Reports Published (A2L)	All Day
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NEXT TERM (WEEK 1)

THURS 12 NOVEMBER	Year 13 Parents' and Students' Consultation Information will be uploaded to our website	
THURS 26 NOVEMBER	Sixth Form Open Evening Information will be uploaded to our website	
MON 30 NOVEMBER	Year 10 Progress Reports Published (A2L Only)	All Day
TUES 1 DECEMBER	Year 12 Progress Reports Published	All Day
THURS 10 DECEMBER	Year 12 Parents' and Students' Consultation Information will be uploaded to our website	
FRI 11 DECEMBER	Years 9, 11 & 13 Progress Reports Published	All Day
WEDS 16 DECEMBER	Years 7 & 8 Progress Reports Published	All Day
FRI 18 DECEMBER	End of term	

REPORTS - YEARS 12 AND 13



The above reports have now been issued and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools. The service is available either by going to our website (link below) or by going directly to Go 4 Schools www.go4schools.com and selecting Parents.

Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at reports@furzeplatt.net.

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

REPORTS SCHEDULE / GO 4 SCHOOLS LOGIN GUIDE

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

COVID-19

We hope that all students have a great half term. In the unfortunate event that your son/daughter was to have a positive Covid19 test please email our attendance teams:



Years 7-11

Email Attendanceofficers@furzeplatt.net

Sixth Form

Emails should go to our Sixth Form Manager, Mrs Pasa at mary.pasa@furzeplatt.net.



STAFF LANGUAGE AWARDS



This term we celebrated Languages Week and the students voted for which staff member impressed them the most with their language skills - congratulations to Mr Clarke, Mr Harris and Miss Satterthwaite!



HEALTHY AND UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS



Last weekend, one of our Year 11 students sent details of a TED Talk by Katie Hood. The talk, entitled 'The Difference Between Healthy and Unhealthy Love', focuses upon relationships. The student in question described it as very useful in helping them think about their friendship groups and who was a 'true friend'.

Given that the talk clearly helped one of our FPSS students we thought some other parents, carers and students may find it helpful. The link is: https://www.ted.com/talks/katie_hood_the_difference_between_healthy_and_unhealthy_love

SCIENCE CLUB - POSTPONED



Unfortunately Science Club for Year 7 and 8 students (due to start after half term) has had to be postponed.

GCSE POD - WELL DONE EVERYONE!

We've watched 4 times more PODs in half a term than the average school our size watches in an entire term!



Half Term Summary:

13527



This is the total number of Pods watched by students and teachers this term so far.

HIGHEST DAY OF USAGE:

This half term, your students accessed the most Pods on **05/10/2020**.

AVERAGE USAGE FOR YOUR SIZE:

As a further comparison, the average number watched for an establishment of your size (between 181 and 300 Year 10+11 students combined) during the last term was **898**.



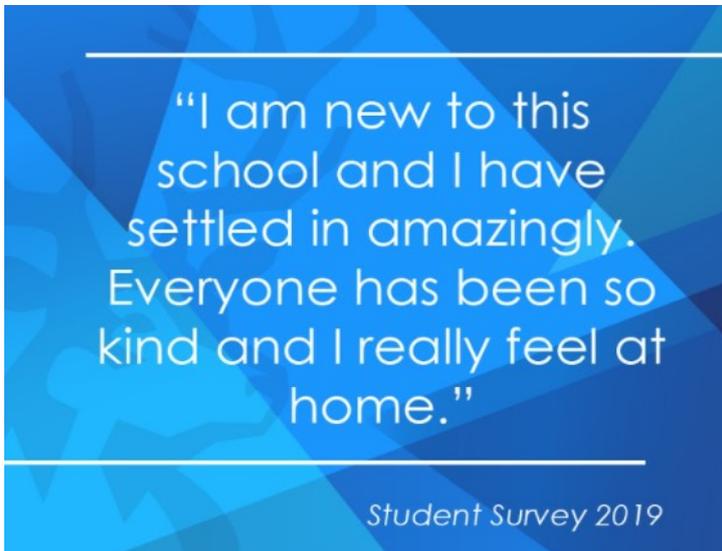
Number of assignments set this half term:

173



Subject setting the most assignments:

Chemistry





Thank you and well done to the 100+ students who took part in the Virtual Bake Off this term to celebrate Languages Week!

Congratulations to our Star Bakers:

- ★ Murphy Camp-Overy
- ★ Hannah Emmett
- ★ Ava Hone-Smith
- ★ Natalia Siata
- ★ Bianca Popa
- ★ Ed Foxton
- ★ Alex Breen
- ★ Jack Gulliver



Hannah Emmett & Ava Hone-Smith Yr7



Natalia Siata & Bianca Popa Yr7



Edward Foxton Yr8



Alexander Breen Yr8



Jack Gulliver Yr9



As part of the Year 13 Geography A Level curriculum students were taken into Maidenhead town centre on Friday 16th October, to conduct a pilot study for their independent investigations into the local area. This trip was planned due to having to cancel their residential trip last summer to FSC Nettlecombe Court, Somerset.

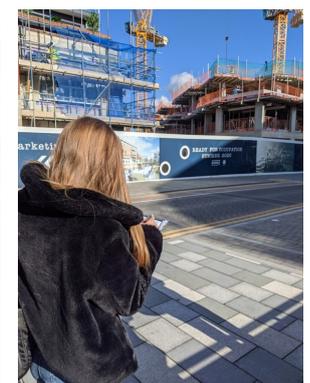
The field trip focused on the local council's plans for regeneration of Maidenhead town centre, focusing on the Nicholson Quarter, the area of redevelopment behind the current Nicholson Centre.

Students conducted themselves superbly through the day and were able to practice the skills needed for their future investigations.

The data they collected will be collated and used as part of an ongoing holistic study of the changes in Maidenhead town centre.

Well done to all who attended.

Mr J Wellard-Jeffs, Head of Geography



“We are delighted with Furze Platt and would happily recommend it to all.”

Parent Survey 2019





DE

THE DUKE
OF EDINBURGH'S
AWARD

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

Well done to the 112 students in Years 10 & 11 for their effort and motivation throughout who collected their Certificate of Achievement this week.

We would also like to extend our congratulations and thanks for the continued support and motivation from parents and carers ensuring students completed their physical, skills and volunteering sections during lockdown.

BRONZE AWARD

Mannat	Aggarwal
Youcef	Ait- Kaci
Samia	Alami- Chaouni
Edward	Aslett- Clark
Caitlyn	Back
Sofia	Blake
Callum	Bleazard
Jemima	Bohdjalian
Harvey- Leo	Bond
Luke	Bowley
Benjamin	Broadbent
Cameron	Burt
Connor	Chaplin
Thomas	Clark
Stephen	Clark
Archie	Connaught- Phiri
Hannah	Cooper
Isabelle	Cowell
Leo	Cox
Finley	Cozens
Andrea	Crossa
Aimee	Croydon
Januki	De Alwis
Naizel	De Souza
Grace	Denbigh
Henry	Drew
Jack	Dunn
Alex	Evans
Joel	Flood
Ashlyn	Fray
Jose	Giron Moreno
Matthew	Godwin
Tim	Golding
Mariana	Gouveia
Chanel	Gratton
Megan	Griffin
Esha	Grover

Amelia	Hadley
Erin	Hanna
Leo	Harris
Owen	Hayward
Adnan	Hussain
Kornelia	Jankowska
Ravindu	Jayakodi
Mabila	Kalam
Joshua	Keane
Callum	King
Leni	Kingston
Poppy	Kingston
Jack	Knibbs
Phoebe	Langley
Pippa	Largey
Emiliana	Larsen
Mia	Lawrence
Michael	Lee- Thorp
Will	Lonsdale
Nikita	Macbride
Aela	Martin
Summer	McDonald
Charlie	McLintock
Laura	Mekla
Holli	Menelaus
Tegan	Morgan
Brandon	Newport
Benjamin	Nisbet
Rhyce	O'Connor
Lola	Ogden
Rafael	Orford
Aidan	Osborne
Summer	Payne
Kiki	Quibell
Esha	Rehal
Michael	Ryan
Sumayah	Siddiqi
Enzo	Singh

Brooke	Stevens
Ella	Stevenson
Ollie	Stone
George	Stratford
Joshua	Sutton
Finnley	Tanner
James	Tapponnier
Polly	Wallis
Joshua	Woodhatch
Levi	Woodward

SILVER AWARD

Matilda	Annereau
Isabelle	Annereau
Damir	Bajohr
Maddie	Bird
Haris	Davis- Hussain
Anna	Gambrill
Dylan	Gardner
Tommy	Grant
Edvinas	Gumuliauskas
Victor	Harrit
Charlie	Hing
Jay Balrai	Keyte
Amy	Lillywhite
Kieron	Maddox
Maja	Nawrocka
Hayden	Paul
Katie	Pettigrew
Alessio	Reina
Noemie	Roels
James	Scott
Ralph	Sewell
Jack	Staunton
Thomas	Stimson
Hannah	Thomas
Finn	Treacy
Harry	Webb
Amy	Winhammar

HOW TO APPLY - YEARS 9 AND 10

We are delighted to let you know that we will be offering the Bronze & Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) to students in Years 9 & 10 this academic year.

The DofE is a great chance for your child to broaden their horizons, discover new interests and talents, have fun with friends, develop essential skills for their future and achieve an internationally renowned Award.

Please see below some information about what a DofE programme involves and the benefits for your child.

About the DofE

The DofE is non-competitive and open to all young people – it's about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. There are three levels of DofE programme which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

Through their DofE, students will make friends and memories and build traits like confidence, resilience and self-esteem, which can benefit mental health. They'll gain skills and attributes for work and life, like problem-solving, team-working and self-motivation – and they'll achieve an Award that's recognised by top employers and can help them stand out when applying for uni or jobs.

To achieve their Bronze & Silver Award, participants must complete four sections: Skills, Volunteering, Physical and their Expedition.

Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them – they can choose what they'd like to do for their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections, and most activities can count. We will provide guidance and support, and students can either choose to continue an activity they already do or discover something completely new.

During and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, participants who complete their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections will also receive a DofE Certificate of Achievement – a formal recognition, by the DofE, of their efforts at this extraordinary time.

Activities for each section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period of time, so they can fit around studying, hobbies and social lives.

About the expedition

The Expedition section involves your child working as part of a small team to plan their expedition's aim, choose a location and do some training to make sure they're fully prepared – before spending [two, for Bronze, and three, for Silver, days and one, for Bronze, and two, for Silver, nights in the countryside.

Ahead of this, they will take part in training, delivered by our chosen Approved Activity Provider, BXM, covering basic expedition principles and introducing them to expedition equipment.

Further details about dates for the expedition and training will follow.

The DofE and COVID-19

Your child can still have the full DofE experience, safely and in line with Government guidance during Covid-19.

The motivation and focus the DofE gives, and its positive impact on mental and physical health, can play an important role in helping your child navigate our 'new normal', safely expanding their world and giving them skills and experiences to open doors in the future.

As participants can choose and change their activities, they can pick ones that they can do while social distancing or from home. The DofE has provided useful advice and information, including activity and volunteering ideas, at DofE.org/DofEWithADifference.

The DofE has also introduced a number of flexibilities to allow expeditions to take place safely, in line with social distancing restrictions and Government guidance. While your child's expedition may look slightly different to those in previous years, they will be able to do theirs safely and with all the benefits and memories they'd get at any other time.

If you would like further information, representatives from the Duke of Edinburgh's Award will be running virtual sessions for parents and carers to help you understand how best to support your child through their Award. The session includes: What the DofE is; How to get started; What to expect; What to do to achieve an award; Where to find help.

There are a range of dates and times for these virtual sessions, held on Microsoft Teams:

- Wednesday 28th October 2-3pm
- Wednesday 4th November 5-6pm
- Wednesday 11th November 6-7pm
- Monday 16th November 4-5pm

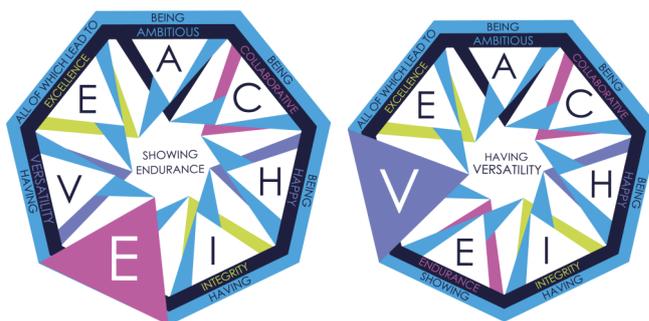
To attend any of these sessions, please copy and paste the link below into your web browser. There is no need to book. <https://bit.ly/32UrAGu>

Instructions about how to apply will be distributed after half term.

If you would like any further information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me at dofe@furzeplatt.net.

Many thanks for your support and we look forward to helping your child to achieve through their Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Miss D Carty, **DofE Manager**





DO YOU QUALIFY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

At Furze Platt Senior School, we know and appreciate that our growing teenagers need to fuel their body and mind to get through the school day, especially whilst we adjust to being back to school. We are also aware of the cost this will have on parents. If this is a struggle for you, it may be worth seeing if you are eligible for free school meals. For more details please visit:

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

OPEN EVENING INFORMATION



Sixth Form Open Evening

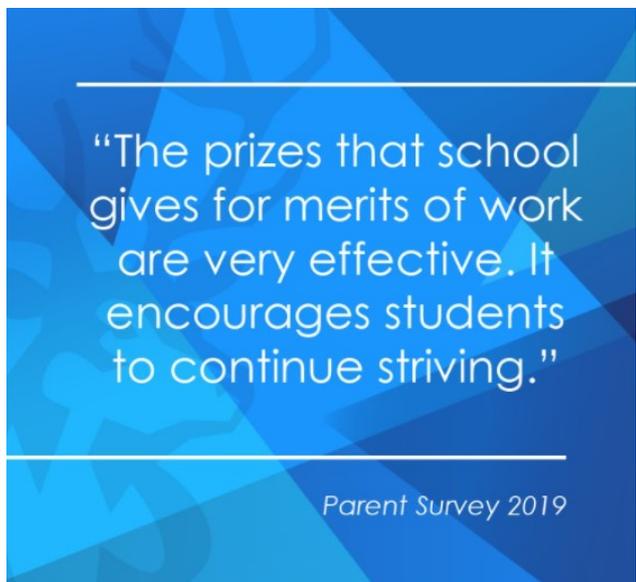
Thursday 26th November

Details will be communicated after half term.

Main School Virtual Open Evening

Please see link below for full details.

VIRTUAL OPEN EVENING 2020



PTFA

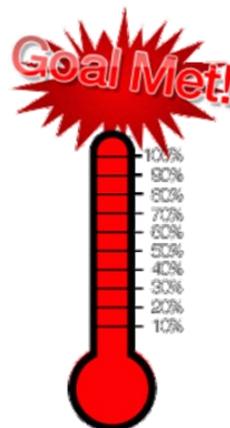
Parents, Teachers & Friends Association

Charity Number 287878

A special welcome to all those who are new to our School this term, in all year groups, and hope you have settled-in nicely.

The biggest and best news we can share with you is our Fundraising Total for last year.....drum roll please.....**a staggering £47,000!!** Much of our campaign was driven to provide the internal fixtures and fittings for the New Theatre, for which we raised almost £35,000.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who has volunteered their time, energy, expertise and skills over



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the last few years because we would not have reached such a phenomenal fundraising achievement without you. However, we would appreciate your assistance again (and everyone else's) this year, please, because we are seeking ways to raise funds to purchase more goods and equipment that the school budget prevents. We welcome all your ideas and thoughts on activities so please email us: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

Since every charity has seen their revenue stream and fundraising opportunities affected this year, we are no different. We imagine you have become quite masterful in using Zoom and Teams to join quizzes, campaigns, performances and classes now which will be handy as we may hold a Meeting this way in the next few weeks.

We consider it is beneficial that you see how we have spent your donations and hope it will encourage you to participate in our activities in the future.

So far this term, the PTFA have funded an extra £4038 for items below that were necessary for the new way of learning:

Food Tech - Food Mixers



Food Tech - Aprons



Technology Dept - Sewing machines



English Dept – Books to extend the diversity of reading



Psychology A level – life size Brain models



PE & Extra-Curricular - Yoga mats x 22 and Yoga blocks x 10 = £344



YOUR FUNDING IN ACTION IN OUR THEATRE



Our fantastic new seating!

Thank you once again to everyone who contributed.



Fundraising – we need your help!

At the moment, circumstances mean we are unable to hold 'en masse' Uniform Sales or our legendary Quiz night this November, so we are hoping to pick up the reins next year and bring you the Big Quiz 11 as soon as possible. In the meantime, we have a number of fundraisers in which we would encourage you to participate.

Who wants to be Cash Prize Winners? Then join The 200 Club



The Club runs 4 draws per year and you could win £200 cash per number. Your winnings are made by bank transfer very soon after each draw so there's no hanging around. The PTFA and school could earn £6000+ per year if everyone joined paying £5 per month. You're in control of the payments by direct debit, there's no contract (like your

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energy or phone!) and there's no spam emails either (we haven't got time to send them!). So it's a win win situation and we hope you'll click through here to join:

200 CLUB: ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

200 CLUB: MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)

Who Shops online? Then you could Donate for FREE!



Did you know that eBay, Argos, M&S, John Lewis & Partners, Compare The Market and thousands of other retailers will donate a percentage of your shop to us? The PTFA and school will receive a donation from the retailer following your online purchases. Given that Black Friday, Primeday and 'gift day' is fast approaching for the Christmas shopping season, please register with your email address. We have earned over £4000 over the last few years so we'd like you to participate to increase our membership and potential income. It's FREE to register with Easyfundraising.org.uk, takes 3 minutes and a Win Win for both of us.....what's not to like?!

SUPPORT FPSS WITH EASYFUNDRAISING

Secondhand Uniform for Sale – who needs spares?

We still have a healthy stock of very good condition uniform (daywear and PE) plus some footwear at very reasonable prices. Payment can be made by bank transfer or by cash. Please email us your sizes and we'll get your order bagged up and ready for collection: ptfa@furzeplatt.net



Matched Funding/



Community Support

Do you recognise your employer? If so, please make enquiries regarding their charitable scheme. We were awarded £14,000 last year from various companies. Our registered charity, Furze Platt Senior School PTFA and number 287878 will be required, plus some other details so please contact us: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

Can you help us access fundraising from your employer with MATCH FUNDING schemes?



Gift Aid – as if by magic, every £1 becomes £1.25!

We are a Registered Charity, **number 287878**, and entitled to reclaim thousands of pounds from the HMRC, so please always tick 'Yes' when asked.

Uniform – has it gone AWOL already?

Can we avoid building a Lost Property Snowman/Mountain?



We would greatly appreciate your purchase of any labels (not just clothing ones) from Easy2name because the PTFA will earn commission. Just choose 'Furze Platt Senior School PTFA SL6' at the checkout – there's no special code to remember either!

[HTTPS://WWW.EASY2NAME.COM/](https://www.easy2name.com/)

Learning Support Assistant – to Start November 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, £13,660 - £13,940 pa depending on experience

We are looking for an enthusiastic and reliable individual to join the core Learning Support team and provide targeted support to our students with Special Educational Needs.

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 SEN (Special Educational Needs).

Outreach Team Worker – To start asap

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 £16,340 - £17,690 pa depending on experience

Furze Platt Senior School is proud to host the Shine Department, which helps young people with autism thrive and succeed in a mainstream school environment. We have an exciting opportunity for someone to work with the outreach team and provide support and training to schools within the Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.

The successful applicant will be responsible for managing a caseload of students with a diagnosis of autism in mainstream education settings. This will involve working collaboratively with school staff to provide strategies and skills and enable them to improve their understanding of autism to allow them to support ASD students with their progress and attainment. You would also deliver targeted programmes to students either on a one to one basis or in groups, observe and record your observations and attend multi-agency meetings to provide advice and support in relation to students' needs within their school.

If you are a Learning Support Assistant or have experience of working with students with ASD we would welcome your application. Specialist training will be provided to the successful candidate. Use of a car is essential for this role as it requires visiting other schools in the Windsor & Maidenhead area (expenses will be covered).

For further information about these 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 2nd November at 9am
Interviews will take place week commencing 2nd November

Parent Support Adviser – To start asap

Part time, 32.5 Hours a week, start time 8.30am, finish time 3.30pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only. Actual salary £17,700 - £19,100 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 at Furze Platt Senior School, providing early intervention, support and guidance to improve outcomes for students.

Working under the guidance of our Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral), 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 our well established and experienced pastoral support team 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 work both as part of a team and independently this is an exciting opportunity to work at our school and benefit many of our 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.

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