

03.10.2025

ST-PHILIP HOWARD
CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



From the Headteacher

Dear Readers,

I hope you and your families are keeping well. It's hard to believe how quickly this term is progressing — we have already completed Week 4. Despite the busy pace, the school continues to maintain a calm and focused atmosphere. Pupils are consistently upholding high standards both in and out of the classroom. Feedback from visitors has been overwhelmingly positive, with many commenting on the excellent manners and behaviour of our students.

This week, I received a message from a member of the public who was travelling from Manchester Airport to Sheffield and happened to stop at McDonald's in Glossop during school finishing time. She shared how impressed she was by the conduct of approximately 40 SPH pupils who entered the restaurant at the same time. She described them as polite, respectful, and a credit to both themselves and the school — a truly heartening reflection of our community.

We also held our first PTA meeting recently, and I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the parents who attended and helped establish this valuable group. If you were unable to attend but are interested in joining, please contact Miss Neves.

Finally, our first parental workshop of the academic year, focused on Teen Mental Health, was both informative and supportive. We look forward to welcoming you to future sessions, which we hope will continue to offer meaningful guidance and assistance.

Kind Regards

Mr M Kays
Headteacher



Important dates

- Open Evening:
Thursday 9th October
2025 – school closing at
1.10pm.
- Year 11 Parents
Evening: Thursday 23rd
October.
- October half term:
Monday 27th - Friday 31st
October 2025
- Year 7 Review Evening:
Thursday 6th November
2025

#TEAMSPH – Head, Heart,
Hands, together on the success
journey

Telephone: 01457 853611

Email:
enquiries@sph.srscmat.co.uk

ST-PHILIP HOWARD
CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



St Ralph
Sherwin
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Open Evening

#TEAM SPH Annual Open Evening – Thursday 9th October

Please note that school will close early for all pupils at **1:10pm** on Thursday 9th October to accommodate our Annual Open Evening.

If this early closure presents any difficulties for your family and you require your child to remain in school until the usual finishing time of **3:10pm**, please contact your child's Head of Year as soon as possible to make the necessary arrangements.



St Philip Howard
Catholic Voluntary Academy

Ofsted
Good
Provider

OPEN EVENING
Thursday, October 9th 2025
6pm-8.30pm

**#Team SPH - Heads, hearts, hands -
together on the success journey**

Scan the QR
code to visit
our website

Sunlaws Street, Glossop, SK13 8DR

St Ralph
Sherwin



Sporting Success



Congratulations to Our Year 7 and Year 8 Football Teams

A huge congratulations to both our Year 7 and Year 8 football teams for their successful fixtures. The matches against Hope Valley and Chapel were played in excellent spirit, showcasing teamwork, sportsmanship, and determination.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Glossop North End for kindly allowing us to use their outstanding facility on Cemetery Road — your support is greatly appreciated.

We look forward to an exciting season ahead with many more fixtures across all year groups

Macmillan Coffee Morning & Welcome Mass

We were delighted to host our annual **Macmillan Coffee Morning**, which brought together staff, pupils, and families in support of a truly worthy cause. Thank you to everyone who contributed, attended, or donated — your generosity and community spirit are deeply appreciated.

We also celebrated our **Welcome Mass**, marking the beginning of the academic year with reflection, unity, and hope. It was a meaningful occasion for our school community, and we are grateful to all who participated and helped make it a special event.

CAFOD Family Fast Day

As part of our commitment to supporting global communities and living out our values, Today we marked **CAFOD Family Fast Day** in school. This important initiative encouraged us to reflect on the challenges faced by families around the world and to take meaningful action through prayer, fasting, and giving.

We invited all pupils, staff, and families to participate in whatever way they can — whether through donations, acts of kindness, or simply taking time to reflect. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of others.

From Student Leadership



This week, the student leadership team has been conducting interviews to build a strong prefect team dedicated to supporting both students and the wider community. We are developing teams in key areas such as Anti-Bullying, Mental Health, Chaplaincy, and more. These initiatives aim to enhance school life and promote student wellbeing. Toby and I are very excited for the upcoming weeks when the new prefects will be officially announced.

Darcy and Toby.

School Attendance update 2025

At SPH, we place a high priority on regular attendance because it directly impacts student learning, wellbeing, and future opportunities. Being in school every day helps students build routines, stay connected, and succeed academically and socially.

According to national guidance, a student is considered a **persistent absentee** if their attendance falls below **90%**—that's the equivalent of missing a **day every two weeks**. Over the course of a school year, this adds up to nearly **four full weeks of lost learning**.

What do attendance figures actually mean?

95%	=	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

Based on 190 school days and 5-6 lessons a day.

We follow the **DfE's "Working Together to Improve School Attendance"** framework, which encourages a whole-school approach involving families, school staff, and support services. We believe in early support and open communication with families to address barriers to attendance.

Staff at SPH will offer support to families to remove any barriers to attendance before considering any legal intervention, this can only be achieved with the full support and cooperation of parents. If support is not engaged with, options become limited and a request to the Local Authority to begin legal proceedings will commence.

Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance

Education Penalty Notices are issued to the parents of statutory school age children and can be issued to each parent or carer who is deemed liable for the child's absence from school.

- First Offence

The first time a penalty notice is issued for Term Time leave or irregular Attendance, the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child, paid within 28 days. This is reduced to £80 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days.

- Second Offence (Within 3 Years)

The second time a penalty notice is issued for Term Time leave or irregular Attendance, the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child, paid within 28 days

- Third Offence (Within 3 Years)

The Third time an offence is committed for Term Time leave or irregular Attendance, a Penalty Notice will not be issued. The case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court.

Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent or child with a high rise in prosecution.

Term Time Holidays

Students can only take a Leave of Absence during Term Time if there is an exceptional circumstance and advanced approval have been secured. Leave taken without Schools knowledge or authorisation may result in a penalty notice and/or prosecution.

At St Philip Howard Voluntary Academy, we are committed to helping every student succeed—and that starts with showing up! If there are barriers to attendance, we are here to help and support.

Monitoring letters will be sent out throughout the Year to ensure all parents and carers are aware of the Attendance of their child. Please contact our Attendance Team on spastore@sph.srsmat.co.uk to discuss any Attendance issues.

We look forward to welcoming all our students every morning at SPH!