



September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you have all enjoyed a restful and relaxing summer holiday. I would firstly like to offer my congratulations to each and every student who sat their GCSE English Literature, Latin and Catering exams in Year 10. As a school we were beyond delighted with the results achieved, and as their Head of Year I am extremely proud of the hard work and effort shown by the students. It was a challenging year with students getting to grips with the pressures of deadlines and the academic rigour demanded from them in the first year of their GCSE courses, but their drive to succeed has been incredibly encouraging.

At the start of this crucial academic year, I thought it would again be useful to outline key information on what will be expected from the students in Year 11, and how the school and I plan to support them as they embark upon the final year of their GCSE courses.

This year, students will not only have the support from myself as Head of Year, but they will also be working alongside Mrs Hunter as our Pastoral Manager and Mrs Ryles-Dean, our Deputy Headteacher. As a Year 11 team, we will be supporting students with managing their workload effectively, how to adopt an effective revision routine, directing them to specific subject intervention sessions as well as looking after their emotional and mental well-being. Whilst Year 11 can often be a stressful and challenging year for students, rest assured that we are vastly experienced in guiding them through the journey.

With a linear approach to the majority of examinations, there is a greater emphasis and demand for students to retain and recall previous knowledge. Therefore, it is imperative that students start to invest greater time outside of the school day into their studies. Adopting an effective revision routine at home will enable them to become more confident in their knowledge and understanding of key content in their courses. As a rough guide, students should be spending a minimum of 1 hour revision per night in addition to their homework, with slightly more at weekends. This should increase to at least 2 hours in the run up to mock exams. It is no coincidence that the students celebrating excellent GCSE examination results were those who adopted a revision routine and stuck to it rigorously throughout the year.

To support students with their revision routines, faculties will be offering their own specific guidance and 'tools' for success such as knowledge organisers, vocabulary lists and past paper questions. Additionally, we will have a variety of optional and compulsory intervention sessions both at lunchtime and after-school, aimed at developing students' understanding of course material and practicing exam technique. More specific information around these sessions will be discussed at our Year 11 Information and Guidance evening being held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm in the Main Hall.

Headteacher: Mr Gwyn Williams

Lymm High School, Oughtrington Lane, Lymm, WA13 0RB  
01925 755458 info@lymmhigh.org.uk www.lymmhigh.org.uk



Whilst the support and resources that we offer will prove invaluable to our students, it can only be maximised if they attend school on time each day, taking full advantage of the opportunities provided. Maintaining excellent attendance is more crucial than ever before to ensure that students do not fall behind in their courses or miss vital intervention sessions available to them. Whilst we understand that illness is sometimes simply unavoidable, at Lymm High School, we strive for students to have attendance above 97%, dropping below this figure has the potential to impact negatively upon their final grade.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to some of the key dates to note for this academic year:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
Year 11 starts	9th September 2019
Year 11 Information Evening	11th September 2019
Make it Stick - Revision Support	October 2019 (date TBC)
6th Form Open Evening	14th November 2019
Year 11 Parents Evening	28th November 2019
Mock Exams	4th-18th December 2019
Mock results day	21st January 2020
Core Mock Exams	2nd-6th March 2020
Easter School	6th -9th April 2020
External GCSE Exams	11th May-18th June 2020
Year 11 Prom	25th June 2020
Whole school Awards Evening	9th July 2020
GCSE Results Day 2020	20th August 2020

I am really looking forward to supporting your child once again as their Head of Year. I am confident that they have the correct environment to thrive and succeed with a strong team working alongside them to guide them each step of the way. It is, of course, important to remember that success requires hard work and persistence. By advocating this message both at home and at school, together we can support them along the way.

As previously mentioned, Mrs Ryles-Dean and I will be hosting an Information and Guidance Evening on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September in the Main Hall. I look forward to seeing you all there, however should you have any queries or questions please see the list of key contacts below to help you identify the best person to contact:

Subject specific query/concern	Subject teacher or Head of Faculty
Student welfare query/concern	Mrs Hunter (Year 11 Pastoral Manager)

General progress query/concern	Form tutor
More serious/complex concerns	Mrs Feast (Head of Year)
Exam query	Communications and Exams section of the school website

Yours faithfully



Mrs E. Feast  
Head of Year 11