

## WHOLE SCHOOL

Dear parents and carers

### **Covid latest**

I'm sure that, like me, you were disappointed to hear that the end to lockdown restrictions has had to be delayed until 19<sup>th</sup> July. From a school point of view, it is certainly frustrating that some of the fabulous events we normally run in the summer term, and were looking forward to getting back to, still won't be able to go ahead as normal. On the other hand, we have coped for this long and I've no doubt we will be able to manage for a few more weeks. In the meantime, we are doing our best to re-arrange some events (such as the Proms and Awards Evening) and to make adjustments to others (such as the Fashion Show) so they can go ahead virtually or in a socially distanced manner.

Warrington has been designated an enhanced support area in light of the rise in cases locally and, to an extent, this has been reflected in school where we have seen our first few positive cases for quite a while. We currently have four 'live' cases and around 40 students having to self-isolate as a result. In addition, there are three members of staff self-isolating after being in close contact with cases outside of school. As things stand, we are not making any changes to existing measures and still trying hard to avoid sending students home unless absolutely unavoidable but, as ever, we are watching things carefully and are ready to make changes if we feel it is necessary or we are directed to do so.

### **Exams and assessments**

Meanwhile, I have been very impressed by the way students in Year 7, 8 and 9 have gone about their assessments over the last week or so and how Year 10 have begun their mock exams. Best of luck to Year 12 too, who start their mock exams next week.

Grades for Year 11 and 13 students have now been submitted to the exam boards for review. This has been an arduous and stressful process for staff and I want to thank them again for their hard work and professionalism throughout. We will be in touch before results days with further information but our overall feeling is that we remain very confident that students will end up with grades at least as good as they would have got in a normal year.

### **Ofsted review into sexual abuse in schools and colleges**

Finally, I wanted to mention the recent report on sexual abuse compiled by Ofsted after visiting 32 schools and colleges across the country. You can read the report by [clicking here](#).

You'll know that we have already been increasing the amount of attention we give to this issue in Lymm High School over recent weeks and this report underlines the need for all of us to do more. There are some very sobering messages about the extent to which certain behaviours have become so commonplace that many young people see them as normal.

I share the view of the Ofsted report that this is an issue that goes far beyond schools and out into society including, not least, the role of social media companies. That said, as a school we do have a very important role to play and we intend to be 'brave' about addressing these kinds of issues – there is no point burying our heads in the sand and pretending they don't impact young people in Lymm. You will soon receive a letter from Ms Taylor about a 'drop down' day on 7<sup>th</sup> July, where students will be off-timetable for the day to explore some of these topics in an open, non-judgemental and age-appropriate way. Going forward, our intention is to share more materials and information with parents to support you in holding discussions with

your children at home. We would really encourage you to take the opportunity to do this wherever possible; it's not always easy, but we will not see the changes in society that we all want to see without taking the time to talk about them properly, and regularly, with young people.

Kind regards  
Gwyn Williams

### School communication

If you have a query about any aspect of school life at Lymm High, all of the staff email addresses are listed on the school website. For a quick guide on who to contact and how, please [click here](#).

### Face coverings

A reminder that all students need to be wearing face coverings on public transport. This is compulsory. As well as protecting other students this is to protect the bus drivers. Thank you for your support on this.

### Car collection and drop-off

Please don't drop off or pick up at the school's Lodge entrance. This is a private residence and needs to be kept clear for staff access. We have also recently had incidences of parents entering the staff car park. Please can you also keep this clear for staff access. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Extra-curricular sport

Please note a slight change to the extra-curricular sports provision for Years 7–10 until the end of term:

- **Tuesday Year 7:**  
Girls – athletics and tennis  
Boys – cricket and tennis
- **Wednesday Year 8:**  
Girls – athletics and tennis  
Boys – cricket and tennis
- **Thursday Year 9/10:**  
Girls – athletics and tennis  
Boys – cricket and tennis

### Foodbank collection

Lymm High is continuing to develop its relationship with Warrington Homeless Shelter and our next collections will take place during the week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> June. If you would like to contribute, students can drop off donations at the staff room. In particular, the Shelter is in need of:

- Deodorant
- Sugar
- Jam
- Tinned spaghetti
- Ravioli
- Macaroni cheese
- Washing powder
- Washing up liquid

In addition, other non-perishable items are always welcome. Every student who brings in items to support the shelter will receive Hall points.

### Cashless catering

Please remember to top up your child's cashless catering accounts via Parent Pay to ensure your child is able to purchase food during their lunchtimes.

### LHS Lottery

Congratulations to Ms Maskall who was this week's school lottery winner! You could be a winner too!

If you have not signed up for our lottery yet, please head to our dedicated lottery website [here](#). If you want to find out how it works, please [click here](#). Tickets are only £1 each week and if you sign up this term you could win a year's supply of fruit and veg boxes delivered to your home. Your support would be hugely appreciated.

## UPPER SCHOOL

### Year 11 Prom

The new Government guidance means we cannot go ahead with the 15<sup>th</sup> July date for our Year 11 Prom. We have therefore decided to push the Prom back to **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**. Year 11 parents have received a [letter](#) about this reschedule and we are all keeping our fingers crossed.

Miss Taylor

## SIXTH FORM

### Mock exams

Year 12 mock exams start on Monday. You can view the timetable by [clicking here](#).

### Year 13 Prom – New date!

Due to the current restrictions remaining in place, we have made the decision to reschedule the Year 13 Prom to **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July**.

Students who have already paid and handed in their permissions slips & medical forms do not need to do anything else. If you haven't yet handed your forms in, please get in touch with us as soon as possible. Those students who have paid and cannot now come, please get in touch and we can refund you.

Thanks, Mrs Jennings