

WHOLE SCHOOL

School uniform

After much thought and discussion, we have taken the decision to change the way families buy Lymm High School uniform. Following a rigorous tender process, we will be outsourcing provision to a company called Touchline.

What this means is that from **Tuesday 9th May**, it will no longer be possible to buy uniform from the school shop; instead, you will be able to buy uniform online or in-store at Touchline on Liverpool Road in Warrington.

There are various reasons for this, but the overall reason is that this should provide you with a better service. In particular, opening hours will be longer and much more convenient for most people – and, given that we anticipate most people will buy from the website, effectively 24 hours a day. Items will be delivered straight to your home if you buy online. In addition, outsourcing supply to a larger retailer means we can better protect against future price rises (because of the economies of scale that Touchline can benefit from).

Touchline will continue to use the same brands as we have been using so there will be no impact at all on the quality of provision – indeed, you will notice no difference at all in the items of uniform themselves. Likewise, there are no changes to the cost of items for this year. Many of you will already be familiar with Touchline because they supply uniform to a number of our partner primary schools as well as local sports clubs.

The website for Lymm High orders will go live on **Tuesday 9th May** and the store will also be stocking our uniform from that date. We will share the Touchline website link with you nearer the time.

Please note that it will still be possible to buy school ties from the school shop. In addition, our second-hand uniform will also be available from the school shop. Further information on our recycled uniform summer sale will be shared with you soon. Information for parents of students eligible for pupil premium regarding these changes to uniform sales will follow shortly.

Strike action

The NEU is continuing its industrial on **Tuesday 2nd May**. School will be open for Years 7, 10, 11, 12 and 13 (i.e. Years 8 and 9 will be at home).

Please <u>click here</u> to read the full letter sent home last week.

INSET day change

The INSET day planned for October is moving from Friday 13th to **Friday 6th October**. This is to accommodate the Year 8 residential trip to Conway and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. If this causes you any particular issues, please let your child's Head of Year know.

Staffing changes

We welcomed Mr Curran to the school last week, who takes over as Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for behaviour across the school. Mr Curran brings a wealth of experience to the position, and we are very lucky to have him here. He takes over from Mr Thompson, who left us at Easter.

Congratulations also go to Mrs Feast, who has been promoted to Deputy Headteacher. She will work alongside Mr Johnson, who become Senior Deputy Headteacher.

Tyn Y Felin

Please see below for a message from Kieran Walshe (Chair of the Lymm Grammar School Trust) about Tyn y Felin ('Tynny'). As things stand, we plan on re-opening Tynny next year, but you will see from Dr Walshe's message that it is becoming increasingly challenging to operate Tynny in the way we have done hitherto.

If anyone would like to contribute to our idea gathering, as mentioned below, please email hheadon@lymmhigh.org.uk

The Lymm Grammar School Trust, which owns Tyn y Felin on Anglesey, and Lymm High School which has operated it for many years, have been discussing the future options for Tyn y Felin.

Tyn y Felin has been used by the school and some other community groups for many years for outdoor learning and activities and occupies a very special place in the hearts of many current and past students, teachers, parents and others. Not many schools have their own residential outdoor learning centre.

But use of Tyn y Felin by both the school and other groups has slowly declined over recent years for all sorts of reasons – the costs and complexity of running school trips, the costs of transport to and from Anglesey, and competition from other, often larger and better equipped outdoor learning centres. Quite a few similar centres in north Wales have closed down. It has also got harder to run Tyn y Felin from the school in Lymm – staffing it, dealing with users, providing residential services like laundry and catering, and so on.

The COVID pandemic was a particular blow for Tyn y Felin – it closed in March 2020, and has not yet reopened, in part because being out of use for an extended period means there is quite a bit of maintenance needed to bring it back into use. During the closed period, the school has borne the costs of running Tyn y Felin – insurance, utilities, rates and so on – but with no income from usage to cover those costs.

We have explored finding a partner organisation – like an outdoor learning company or charity – which might operate Tyn y Felin on behalf of the school and the Lymm Grammar School Trust but have drawn a blank so far.

We now welcome ideas and suggestions from everyone interested in Tyn y Felin about what we should do next. If there is a lot of interest, we'll organise a meeting at Lymm High School to hear ideas and views.

Kieran Walshe Chair of trustees, Lymm Grammar School Trust

Careers Education

We will shortly be sending out a questionnaire to students and parents regarding our Careers Education in school. Please do look out for this.

Cashless catering

Please remember to top up your child's cashless catering account via Parent Pay to ensure your child is able to purchase food at break and during lunchtimes. You can <u>click here</u> to view the lunch menu, which changes each day. The price list can be <u>viewed here</u>.

Band Night

Tickets are selling fast for our Band Night on **Saturday 24th June**. This will be held at Lymm Golf Club. Tickets are £25, which includes a curry, and can be bought on ParentPay.

Lymm Historic Transport Day

Transport Day on **Sunday 25th June** is great for community life in Lymm. It is good for local businesses, and it supports local charities. The PTA, in cooperation with Lymm Historic Transport Day, are seeking volunteers to help the day run smoothly. The event relies on over 120 volunteers to cover everything from car parking and ticket collection to stewarding and litter picking. The volunteers vary in age from 14 years upwards and can give any amount of time from 3 hours to the full day. Those who do volunteer are given two free tickets to the event. If you are able to help, please contact pta@lymmhigh.org.uk

Easy Fundraising

You can help us raise money for Lymm High's PTA while online shopping at no extra cost to yourselves. All you need to do is go to <u>https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/</u>and select Lymm High School as your cause, school will then receive a percentage donation. Last year, we raised over £900 just by shopping! As always, thank you for your support.

LHS Lottery

Congratulations to this week's school lottery winner, Mrs Cordwell, who won £73.80! You could be a winner too! If you have not signed up for our lottery yet, please head to our dedicated lottery website <u>here</u>. If you want to find out how the school lottery works, please <u>click here</u>. Tickets are only £1 each week and your support would be hugely appreciated.

LOWER SCHOOL

Residential trip to Conway Centre

A letter has been sent home about a residential trip for Year 8 (current Year 7) in October. Please <u>click</u> <u>here</u> to read the letter.

Year 9 vaccinations

Year 9's routine Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio and Meningitis ACWY vaccinations are now due. These vaccinations are given by the School-Aged Immunisation Team and the first planned visit is on **Tuesday 2nd May**. Please <u>click here</u> to read the full letter.

Please note that the consent form needs to be returned as soon as possible.

UPPER SCHOOL

Year 10 Mock Examinations

Please <u>click here</u> to read about Year 10 mock examinations and the support available to them. Further resources are available on the <u>KS4 Revision</u> section of the website, including a <u>How to help your child revise</u> <u>guide</u>. Please do check the equipment list and exam timings carefully to ensure that your child is fully prepared for their mocks next week.

Further to the published <u>Year 10 mock timetable</u>, please note a slight change regarding the English GCSE mock exams. Year 10 students will now be examined for their English Language ONLY during the Year 10 mock period. Literature assessment has taken place during lessons to support students in mock preparations. Please speak to your child's English teacher with any initial concerns.

Year 11 GCSE Support

Please <u>click here</u> to read a letter from Mrs Feast about the exam timetable and the support available to our Year 11 students over the next few weeks.

Year 11 Prom

The Year 11 Leavers' Prom will take place on **Thursday 29th June** at the Park Royal Hotel in Stretton. Tickets are now on sale on Parent Pay. Please <u>click here</u> to read the letter sent home to parents.

Year 11 Sixth Form offer letters

Year 11 students received their offer letters during form time today. If you have any queries about these, please contact Mrs Hughes (<u>lhughes@lymmhigh.org.uk</u>).

National Citizen Service

The National Citizen Service (NCS) is an opportunity that helps 15–17-year-olds to build skills for work and life, take on new challenges, meet new people and make a difference in their local community. This year, NCS has three different themes available for young people to choose from, including employability, life skills and community projects. Please <u>click here</u> for more information.

There will be an online Parents Information Session on **Monday 15th May** (6–6.45pm) for parents to gain all the information they need about NCS. To join the Parents Information Session, <u>click here</u> and follow the link in the letter.

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 Leavers' Day and Prom

The Year 13 Prom is on **Wednesday 12th July** at Statham Lodge Hotel. Tickets are £47, payable on ParentPay. For further information about the Prom and Year 13 Leavers' Day, please see the letter sent home <u>here</u>.