



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well and you have all enjoyed your summer break. I am writing to extend a warm welcome to all of you as we embark on this exciting journey together. As the Head of Year 11, it is my privilege to continue working closely with your children and guide them through their final year of secondary education.

Year 11 is an important milestone in their education, and we are committed to providing the support and guidance necessary for their success. At this stage, we understand that your child's education is paramount, and we are dedicated to creating an environment that fosters their growth. Our experienced and passionate team of educators are here to nurture your child's strengths and empower them to reach their full potential.

This year, students will have an extensive support network. They will work alongside Mrs Lambert, our Pastoral Manager, Mrs McGahey, our Assistant Headteacher who oversees raising standards across Year 11, and Mrs Feast, 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, and 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, students must 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 time leading up to their 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 specific guidance and 'tools' for success such as knowledge organisers, vocabulary lists and past paper

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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 practising exam techniques. More specific information about these sessions and all support on offer for Year 11 students will be discussed at our **Year 11 Information, Advice and Guidance** evening being held on **Thursday 14th September 2023** (6–7 pm) in the Main Hall.

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 negatively impact their final grade.

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

Activity	Date
Year 11 starts	07/09/2023
Year 11 Information Evening	14/09/2023 (starting at 6 pm)
Y11 revision support evening	26/10/2023
Sixth Form Open Evening	16/11/2023
Mock Exams	04/12/2023 – 21/12/2023
Mock results day	17/01/2023
Year 11 Parents' Evening	25/01/2023
Core Mock Exams	26/02/2023 - 01/03/2023
Easter School	TBC
External GCSE Exams	TBC
Year 11 Prom	TBC
Whole School Awards Evening	18/07/2023
GCSE Results Day 2023	TBC

I am confident that together, we can provide the guidance and encouragement they need to excel academically, build resilience, and develop into well-rounded individuals. If you have

any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Our doors are always open, and we are here to assist you in any way we can.

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 Lambert (Year 11 Pastoral Manager)
General progress query/concern	Form tutor
More serious/complex concerns	Miss H Crowder (Head of Year)
Exam query	Communications and Exams section of the school website

We look forward to seeing you this Thursday at 6 pm.

Yours faithfully,

Miss H Crowder
Head of Year 11