



Longbenton
HIGH SCHOOL

HT Update 3 Dec 25

Dear Longbenton High School Parents and Carers,

As we reach the final day of the autumn term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible energy and progress we have seen across the school over the past 4 months. It has been a long and productive term, and I am immensely proud of the resilience and dedication shown by our students and staff alike. A particular mention must go to our Year 11 and Year 13 students, who have recently completed their mock examinations. This is always a high-pressure period, yet the focus and maturity they demonstrated were exemplary. Teachers are currently finalizing feedback, which will be vital as we move into the final "sprint" toward the summer. For now, they have earned a well-deserved break from their revision.

The Christmas break often brings a surge in "screen time," and for our teenagers, the pressure to stay constantly connected can be exhausting. You may have seen the press notice released this week by the Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, regarding digital habits over the festive period: [read more about it here](#)

Her research highlights that many young people actually feel a sense of relief when given a "social permission" to step away from their devices. As adults, the most powerful thing we can do is model that behaviour—showing them that it is possible to be fully present without a phone in hand. The guidance for parents is useful as a way to keep the discussion going about digital lives – please take the time over Christmas to have a look.



We have a busy start to 2026 planned. Please make a note of the following key dates:

Monday 5th January: School re-opens for all students (Week 2 of timetable)

14th January: Year 8 Parents' Evening

22nd January: Year 10/11 Revision Evening

5th February: Year 13 Parents' Evening

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support of the school. The partnership between home and school is what makes our community so strong.

Whether you are celebrating Christmas or simply enjoying the winter break, I wish you a peaceful, restful, and—perhaps—a slightly more "unplugged" festive season.

We look forward to welcoming all students back on Monday 5th January 2026.

Warm regards,

Kelly Holbrook, Headteacher

PS - Don't forget to read our latest editions of the Waffle and the half termly newsletter - click on the images below left!



'Christmas Companions' by Sophie Clark in Year 10 and 'A Bear Family on Christmas' by Noah De Geeter in Year 7 - winners of our Christmas card competition

Content online
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Attendance, appointments, etc: attendance@longbenton.org.uk

Pastoral queries: [year7@](mailto:year7@longbenton.org.uk) [year8@](mailto:year8@longbenton.org.uk) [year9@](mailto:year9@longbenton.org.uk) [year10@](mailto:year10@longbenton.org.uk) [year11@](mailto:year11@longbenton.org.uk) [sixthform@](mailto:sixthform@longbenton.org.uk) - all followed by longbenton.org.uk

SEND queries: SEND@longbenton.org.uk **MCAS and all other queries:** lhs@longbenton.org.uk