



11 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe we are already two weeks into the new term. It has been another productive week across the school as everyone settles into their new timetables and daily routines.

Sixth Form Welcome: On Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome the parents of our new Year 12 students into school. The Post-16 leadership team delivered an information session where parents were able to meet key staff, hear about the expectations and daily routines of our students, learn about the academic and pastoral support available, and explore the exciting opportunities on offer, such as the EPQ and community-based enrichment placements. It was lovely to see so many families there—both familiar faces continuing their learning journey with us and brand-new members joining our school community. We are really excited for the academic year ahead

Exam Review Success Following formal reviews submitted to the exam board, we are delighted to report that a number of last year's Year 11 students have received upgraded marks on their GCSE Mathematics papers this week. Huge congratulations to them on their well-deserved success! Our students worked exceptionally hard throughout their revision, and we are pleased that their final results now accurately reflect their true achievements.

Classroom Highlights: I have spent much of this week visiting lessons across all year groups—certainly getting my steps in! My goal is to visit every classroom so I can experience firsthand what daily life is like for a pupil at Longbenton High School. I have been immensely heartened by the engagement across every subject. Highlights included a Year 10 student giving a brilliantly vivid description of a dinosaur in English Language, followed closely by a Year 11 pupil lobbying for a new rule that staff must mark work in glitter pen! The pride students are taking in their work is fantastic to see.



Open Evening Preparation: Our staff and students are working hard behind the scenes preparing for our Open Evening on **Tuesday 22nd September (4pm - 6.30pm)**. This is a wonderful opportunity for prospective pupils and families to experience what makes our school community so special. You may have already caught some of our preview content on social media; if you haven't yet, please follow our official school accounts to keep up to date.

Lunchtime Catering Update Regrettably, our lunchtime till systems have not performed quite as seamlessly as our pupils this week. We are still working through technical issues with card payments, but we expect these to be fully resolved next week. Thank you for your patience, and apologies for any inconvenience this has caused. Catering accounts are being regularly updated behind the scenes, so please monitor the **'My Child at School'** app to track balance updates. If you have any queries or questions regarding lunch payment please do contact the school office for support.

Please do take the time to rest and refuel this weekend ahead of another busy week starting on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Watson
Headteacher