

**Year 8**

**Guide for Parents**

**2019-2020**

Our Aims and Values

At Longbenton High School we value all of our students as individuals with different needs, talents, strengths and aspirations. In the time that your child spends at Longbenton High School we want to see them EVOLVE into a confident young people ready to take their place in society. We want them to take the many opportunities that are on offer here to help CREATE their future, DISCOVER new talents and interests, PERFORM to their best and ACHIEVE high standards in all that they do.

While at Longbenton High School we hope that students will settle into school, make lots of friends and be inspired to learn by excellent teachers in brand new, great facilities. We will look after your child pastorally and challenge them to be the best that they can be academically.

As a school, we want to achieve the best possible results for our students. To do this we consider that we must focus on the five most important areas that will affect this. These are our keys to success.

**The Five Keys:**

1. **Teaching** – we strive deliver outstanding teaching to our students. Delivering stimulating lessons that students enjoy and are engaged in.
2. **Attitudes to learning** – we want to foster a positive attitude to learning and inspire our students to develop their understanding further.
3. **Curriculum** – we will offer an appropriate curriculum for all our students. This may also involve opportunities beyond the normal every day curriculum. We recognise that these opportunities will further enrich student’s individual experiences.
4. **Assessment for learning** – we recognise that regular, timely and accurate assessment will support progress and improve outcomes for students. Student progress is closely monitored across all subjects and appropriate interventions applied, if necessary.
5. **Care, welfare and guidance** – we want to get to know our students well, understand them and be able to support them throughout their time with us. We will give them excellent guidance along the way, no matter what their chosen path may be. Student welfare is at the heart of the school and we constantly seek to ensure that students are happy, healthy, safe and well cared for.

**Introduction**

The main school is organised into 5 year groups from Year 7 – 11. Each year group is led by a Year Leader, who has responsibility for the progress, behaviour and safety of the year group. They are supported by a range of staff including an Assistant Headteacher, SENCO, Behaviour Welfare Coordinator, Senior Family Support and Welfare Officer, Student Mentor and Form Tutors. Students are allocated a tutor group in Year 7 and will normally stay with this Tutor throughout their time in school. Form Tutors play a vital role in helping students settle in, encouraging progress, identifying problems that may arise and in finding solutions to these. Form Tutors also have an oversight of their tutees progress. Tutors are, in most cases, the primary link between home and school. Should you require information on school matters please contact your child’s Form Tutor in the first instance. If there is a change of circumstances, which could affect your child’s, behaviour or work at school, please contact us so that we are aware of the issue and can deal sympathetically with your child.

**Please ensure that we are kept up to date with any changes of address or telephone numbers.**

**It is crucial that we are able to make contact with a parents should the need arise.**

Staff: Our Team

Senior Leader ship Team

Headteacher Mr P Quinn

Deputy Headteacher Mrs K Holbrook

Assistant Headteachers Miss S Callender

Mrs V Short

Mr I Williams

Director of Support Services Mrs A Peach

The Year 8 Team

Behaviour Welfare Coordinator

Miss L Foster

Senior Family Support and Welfare Officer

Ms S Wood

Student Mentor

Mrs A Phillips

Year Leader Mrs N McPherson

Form Tutors Miss D Purvis

Mrs H Richardson

Miss S Norton

Miss E Doucet

Miss H Misra

Mrs L Hutchins /

Ms L Robinson

Curriculum Leaders

English Ms A Westgarth

Mathematics Mr E Hunter

Science Mrs J Anderson

ICT/Business Studies Ms A Teale

Modern Foreign Languages Mrs D Baldwin

History Mrs L Skinner

Geography Mr J Foley

Religious Studies/PSD Miss L Lowery

Create Mr M Charlton/ Ms J Younger

Physical Education Mr R Towler

Learning Support Mr I Little

Performing Arts Miss M Houlton

Useful contact information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Longbenton High School**  Hailsham Avenue  Longbenton  Newcastle upon Tyne  NE12 8ER | **Tel: 0191 218 9500**  Fax: 0191 270 6760  Website: [www.longbenton.org.uk](http://www.longbenton.org.uk)  Twitter: @longbentonhs |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mrs N McPherson**  **Year Leader for Year 8** | 0191 218 9500  [lhs@lblearning.com](mailto:lhs@lblearning.com) |
| **Mr I Little**  **SENCO** | 0191 218 9500  [lhs@lblearning.com](mailto:lhs@lblearning.com) |
| **Miss R Standish**  **Clerk to the Governing Body** | 01912189500  [lhs@lblearning.com](mailto:lhs@lblearning.com) |
| **Mrs S Palmerley**  **Chair of Governors** | 01912189500  [lhs@lblearning.com](mailto:lhs@lblearning.com) |
| **Admissions Access Team (North Tyneside)** | 0191 6438724 https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/129/school-admissions |
| **Free School Meals** | 0191 643 2288  https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/238/free-school-meals# |

Travelling to school

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Image result for person walking | Many of our students live within a mile or two of Longbenton High School and use this to their advantage by taking the healthy option and walking to school. You can use Googlemaps to work out a walking route from your house; just enter ‘Longbenton High School’ as your destination and you will see it clearly on the map. |
| Image result for bicycle clipart black and white | A growing number of children cycle to school, taking advantage of the secure and well-covered bicycle shed at the front of school. We recommend that students bring their own bicycle lock to secure them inside the shed. We advise that students cycling to school should wear an appropriate helmet. |
| Image result for car clipart black and white | Parents and carers may drop their children off at school by parking on Hailsham Avenue. Parents are advised not to enter the school gates and park in the marked bays in the main car park for the purpose of dropping children at school, as this can delay or prevent teachers and other staff from parking. Please note that it can get very busy at the end of the day. |
| Related image | The No.18 Stagecoach public service bus travels from Walker to Benton and has a stop at the bottom of Hailsham Avenue right outside the school. See the timetable and route here: <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables> The No. 62 or 63 Arriva bus travels towards Longbenton from Killingworth. We are well-served by the bus network being so close to Four Lane Ends Interchange. See here for other bus routes: <https://bustimes.org.uk/localities/E0031020> |
| Image result for metro clipart black and white | Many students travel to Benton or the Four Lane Ends Metro stations and walk from there to school. Metro trains run regularly every 15 minutes or so at peak times; the walk to the school is approximately 10 minutes. <http://jplanner.travelinenortheast.info/nexus> |

Communication with us

Parents are important to our school and we rely on your support with the education of our students. Where possible we will communicate with you electronically via School Comms. Parents will receive letters and information directly to their own personal email or by text to a mobile phone (if you have downloaded the school gateway app). If you have not already registered, details regarding how you can do this will be sent out to parents early in the Autumn Term. Copies of our correspondence are also displayed on our website.

Your help can aid in the smooth running of our school in the following ways:

* Check planners regularly, read and sign these each week
* Please talk to your child about what they are doing in the classroom and their general school life
* If you would like to come into school to discuss any issue please contact the school to arrange an appointment, if this is not possible and the situation is urgent please be aware that staff are busy or may be teaching
* Attend events specific to your child so that you are aware of their progress and opportunities available to them
* If at any point you are unhappy with how the school have dealt with an issue and need to speak to us about it, please do not let your feeling override normal courtesy.

In particular please speak calmly to Year Leaders and teachers or any other member of staff who deals with your concern. When you are patient, calm and polite it will make it easier for them to respond quickly and appropriately to the concern. It is important to remember that we all want the best for your child.

School meals

The school is committed to promoting a healthy lifestyle and making sensible food choices. In school, we have an excellent catering provision, with a wide choice of food including soups, sandwiches, snacks and full meals. Currently the revised school meal price is £2.25, which will buy a substantial meal. Students can spend more or less than this amount depending on their own food choices. Students have the facility to pre book meals and collect them at the start of their lunchtime. In addition, students can bring in a packed lunch should they prefer to do this.

Students may be eligible for free school meals, if you think this may be the case and your child is not currently receiving them, please contact North Tyneside Council – see useful contact information.

We also have a number of water fountains available throughout the school building, students are encouraged to use these and to replenish their water bottles. To help students drink more water and make more sensible choices, energy drinks are banned. Students with these drinks in school will have them confiscated.

Illness

In the event that your child is unwell or has an accident this must be reported to a member of staff as soon as possible. Usually students will be taken to the main school office where a trained first aider can take care of them. **Students should not initiate contact with home themselves and arrange for family or friends to collect them.** If students are too ill to remain in school, parents will be contacted and arrangements made for the student to leave the site. Until a parent arrives, students will be taken care of by staff in school.

Medicines

Before school staff can administer medicines or students self-medicate, school must have written confirmation of this from a parent. There is no legal duty for staff to administer medication; however, those who do so cannot complete this without appropriate consent being completed.

Medical Information

Should you child have a medical condition please ensure that a health care plan has been completed. This allows school to know how we should react if an issue connected to this were to arise in school. Please contact either Mrs Foster or your Child’s Year Leader to discuss this further.

Child Protection

We are committed to keeping our students safe and have a legal duty to safeguard you child’s welfare. Our school policies around safeguarding are constructed in line with guidance given from North Tyneside Local Safeguarding Children’s Board. If there is ever a concern that a child is at risk of serious harm, staff will notify the member of staff responsible for safeguarding matters in school. All referrals will be investigated and then a decision will be made, regarding referral of this to social services. In these situations, staff are following the law and must report concerns appropriately.

Operation Encompass

This is a relatively new project that schools in North Tyneside are part of and is run in partnership with North Tyneside Council and Northumbria Police. The project, aims to support children who are affected by domestic abuse. Witnessing domestic abuse is really distressing for a child or young person, they may, see the abuse, hear it from another room, see a parent’s injuries or witness distress afterwards or can be physically hurt trying to stop the abuse. As a result, following any domestic abuse incident being reported to the police, the Police will make contact with Children’s Social Care Front Door service who will then communicate relevant and necessary information to nominated school staff. This will ensure that the school is made aware at the earliest possible opportunity and can subsequently provide support to children in a way that means they feel safe and listened to. This information is treated confidentially in school.

From the Summer of 2019 this service has been extended to cover work with our students in school and families who would like additional support. Details regarding these opportunities will be communicated with parents as they arise.

The School Day

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Period** | **Timing** |
| Students arrive, first bell sounds | 8.25am |
| Registration/Assembly | 8.35 – 8.55 |
| Lesson 1 | 8.55 – 9.55 |
| Lesson 2 | 9.55-11.00 |
| **Break** | 11.00-11.15 |
| Lesson 3 | 11.15 – 12.20 |
| **Lunch** | 12.20 – 13.05 |
| Lesson 4 | 13.05 – 14.05 |
| Lesson 5 | 14.05 – 15.10 |
| End of teaching day | 15.10 |

**TUESDAYS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Period** | **Timing** |
| Students arrive, first bell sounds | 8.25am |
| Registration/Assembly | 8.35 – 8.55 |
| Lesson 1 | 8.55 – 9.55 |
| Lesson 2 | 9.55-11.00 |
| **Break** | 11.00-11.15 |
| Lesson 3 | 11.15 – 12.20 |
| **Lunch** | 12.20 – 13.05 |
| Lesson 4 | 13.05 – 14.05 |
| End of teaching day | 14.05 |

The Home School Agreement

We want all of our students to be successful and achieve the very best that they can. Education at Longbenton High School is three way partnership between students, their parents and us the school. This involves commitment from all parties to do their best to follow our agreement.

**The student will do their best to:**

* attend school regularly and on time
* arrive at lessons on time
* bring an appropriate school bag containing all the equipment needed every day (pen, pencil, ruler and planner)
* keep an up to date planner and show it to parents/guardians regularly for signing
* follow the school uniform policy, including general appearance, this includes wearing PE kit, in the appropriate manner
* follow school rules, work hard in class, do all homework set and hand it in on time
* be polite and helpful to others, creating a climate that does not accept any form of bullying behaviour
* try to make school a happy place for all who work in it
* respect the building and keep the school pleasant and tidy, free from litter and graffiti
* behave in a way which allows others to learn and follow the school’s BfL code and expectations, including substance misuse and the no smoking policy
* follow the guidelines for the use of the computer network and the internet in school
* follow guidelines for the appropriate use of mobile phones and iPads in school
* inform their family about school by delivering newsletters, reports and other communications
* take pride in and celebrate their achievements and those of the school
* report any concerns they may have to their Form Tutor, Year Leader or teacher
* act responsibly in the community as a representative of the school
* where appropriate, follow all guidelines regarding examination board rules and regulations e.g. plagiarism

**Parents/Guardians will do their best to:**

* ensure that my/our child attends school regularly, following the school uniform policy, is on time and with the correct equipment
* inform the school of any concerns or problems that may affect my/our child’s work or behaviour
* not contact my/our child on their mobile phone during the school day
* support the school rules and policies, such as those relating to uniform, behaviour and homework and reinforce any punishment given by the school in terms of misbehaviour
* encourage my/our child to be polite and helpful to others, creating a climate that does not accept any form of bullying behaviour
* support my/our child in completing homework and other opportunities for learning
* read, check and sign my/our child’s student planner
* attend Parents’ Evenings, discussions and/or meetings about my/our child’s progress
* be respectful in dealings with all school staff
* ensure that my child gets adequate sleep, is well fed and does not have access to drugs, alcohol or other substances
* get to know about my/our child’s life at school, e.g. via Parents’ Evenings and events
* encourage my/our child to take part in extra-curricular activities and the wider life of the school
* avoid term time holidays
* notify school promptly of any unavoidable absence of my/our child

**The School will do its best to:**

* promote a broad and balanced curriculum to meet the individual needs of all children
* care for your child’s safety, happiness and welfare
* encourage students to be polite and helpful to others, creating a climate that does not accept any form of bullying behaviour
* ensure that your child achieves success as a valued member of the school community
* promote high standards of work and behaviour through promoting a partnership between home and school and developing a sense of responsibility
* keep you informed about school activities and achievements through regular newsletters, notices and other lines of communication
* send home regular reports and arrange Parents’ Evenings during which your child’s progress will be discussed
* set, mark and monitor homework and provide facilities for children to do homework in school
* let parents know about concerns or problems which could affect their child’s work
* celebrate achievement and success through school reward systems and public acknowledgment
* be welcoming and offer you opportunities to become involved in the life of the school
* offer you opportunities to develop your own learning and to learn with your child
* ensure that you are fully aware of all school systems and procedures
* be respectful in communication with parents and students
* ensure equality for all

**Signature of Parent:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Student:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

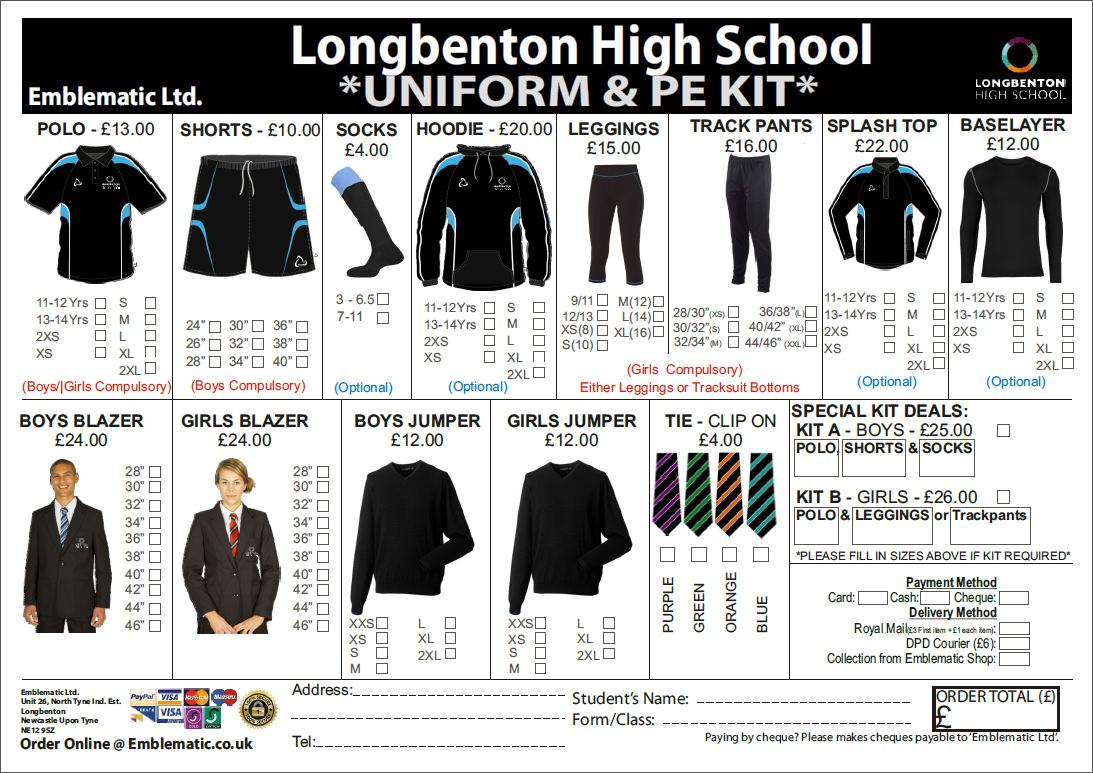
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**Signature of Headteacher:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School uniform and PE kit

All students must wear a white shirt, school tie, blazer as well as suitable trousers or a skirt. Trousers and skirts must be black, please note that leggings and jeans are not acceptable. Students must also wear black shoes, not trainers with markings or canvas equivalents.

School ties are available in four different colours and students should choose the colour they would prefer. On the school website there is also a brochure from Wynsors outlining acceptable footwear.



Uniform that is not allowed:

1. Black jeans or combat trousers
2. Leggings
3. Polo neck shirts, tee-shirts and shirts with a sports type collar (Shirts must be able to accept a tie)
4. Any colour, other than white, for shirts
5. Grey trousers
6. Brown or any other coloured shoes
7. Trainers with any coloured markings on them
8. Boots (higher than the normal shoe)
9. Baseball caps
10. Denim, corduroy, brushed cotton or other standard materials for skirts and trousers
11. Jewellery, which includes more than one pair of stud earrings, finger rings, bracelets and necklaces, are not to be worn in Years 7, 8 and 9
12. Any piercings other than one pair of stud earrings (including expanders)
13. Students in year 7, 8 and 9 should not wear make up
14. Long Acrylic painted nails (in the interest of safety and hygiene)
15. Extreme hair styles – e.g. hair which is cut particularly short or dyed an unnatural colour.

School equipment

Students are expected to have the following in school with them for lessons – Bag, Planner, Pen, Pencil and ruler. Additional items that are useful are - scientific calculator, protractor and compass.

Please support us by ensuring that your child has the correct uniform and equipment and that they are ready to learn and engage fully in lessons.

Mobile phones

A real focus for us as a school is always to ensure the very best climate for learning, so that students are fully prepared for lessons and any distraction is eliminated.  Parents can really help on this by NOT ringing or texting their children when they are in school.  **If you need to contact your child urgently, please ring the school office.** Please be aware of our mobile phone protocol below:

* Mobile phones should be **‘off and away’** at all times. Any phone seen or heard will be confiscated, regardless of the reason. Students may have their phone with them, but it must remain silent/turned off in their bag.
* Phones that are confiscated will be returned to students at the end of the day in the first instance, although should there be a second occurrence a call will be made home with the requirement for a parent / carer to collect the phone on their child’s behalf. Following a third occasion the student will be required to hand their phone into the main school office at the start of the day and collect this at the end of the school day.
* The restriction is in place at all times while students are on the school site. Phones should be away before students enter the school grounds and not accessed until they have left the site.
* Should students wish to use their phone at the end of the day to contact parents with any concerns or for collection following school based activities, they are asked to use the reception area of the school where phones may be used during this time.

Assemblies

It is school policy that we have regular assemblies, both in Tutor groups and as a full year group. This is based on a particular theme of the week. Year group assemblies are held in the main hall, once a week. Tutor group assemblies are held in the tutor room and are also once a week.

Form time activities

Each day we follow a format for registration. In a typical school week, students are involved in a range of the activities on allocated days:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **MONDAY** | **TUESDAY** | **WEDNESDAY** | **THURSDAY** | **FRIDAY** |
| **YEAR 7** | Admin/planner check/  Attendance | Skills | Tutor Assembly in tutor room | News and topical issues | Year Group Assembly in Main Hall |
| **YEAR 8** | Admin/planner check/  Attendance | Tutor Assembly in tutor room | News and topical issues | Year Group Assembly in Main Hall | Skills |
| **YEAR 9** | Admin/planner check/ Attendance | News and topical issues | Year Group Assembly in Main Hall | Skills | Tutor Assembly in tutor room |
| **YEAR 10** | Admin/planner check/  Attendance | Year Group Assembly in Main Hall | Skills | News and topical issues | Tutor Assembly in tutor room |
| **YEAR 11** | Year Group Assembly in Main Hall | Admin/planner check/  Attendance | Skills | Tutor Assembly in tutor room | News and topical issues |

Attendance

Aim for your child to achieve 100% attendance and good punctuality to give them the very best chance in life. Poor attendance and punctuality can affect overall achievement. Establishing good habits from the start helps children to settle more quickly into new settings and routines.

**WHAT MUST I DO IF MY CHILD IS ABSENT?**

● Parents/Carers must telephone on the day if their child is absent before 9am

● Keep school informed and let us know of the return date

Whenever possible, medical and dental appointments should be made outside of the school day. If this is unavoidable then it is expected that your child will be in school either before or after this appointment.

Amendments to the Education Regulations (Pupil Registration) which came into effect from September 2013; they state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Therefore, any leave of absence requested for holidays in term time will not be granted as they seriously disrupt the continuity of your child’s learning. Letters requesting leave of absence should be sent into school outlining the exceptional circumstances that necessitate this absence. These should be marked for the attention of Mrs Short.

Any leave of absence taken without permission will be marked as unauthorised. Under government guidelines, any absence marked as unauthorised can lead to involvement from the Education Placement Service in cases of persistent poor attendance. Please consider that any absence or punctuality problem will seriously disrupt the continuity of learning for your child and will have an impact on their progress, achievement and relationships in school.

We monitor attendance and categorise students using the information below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ATTENDANCE**  **CATEGORY** | **ATTENDANCE**  **PERCENTAGE** | **COLOUR**  **CODING** |
| **Excellent** | 98-100% |  |
| **Good** | 95 - 97.9% |  |
| **Cause for Concern** | 90.5– 94.9% |  |
| **Persistently Absent** | 90% and below |  |

Punctuality

Being punctual to school is vital. Lateness can have a huge effect on learning and progress. Students who are late to school will complete a lunchtime detention that day. This will last for 15 minutes. If further punctuality problems persist students may be placed onto report, or be involved in additional mentoring/interventions or require parents to attend school for a formal meeting, to bring about an improvement to the situation.

**ARE YOU HEADING FOR THE DANGER ZONE?**

5 minutes late each day 3 days lost

10 minutes late each day 6.5 days lost

15 minutes late each day 10 days lost

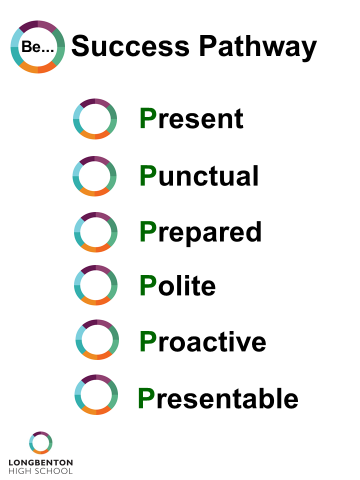
20 minutes late each day 13 days lost

30 minutes late each day 19 days lost

Behaviour For Learning

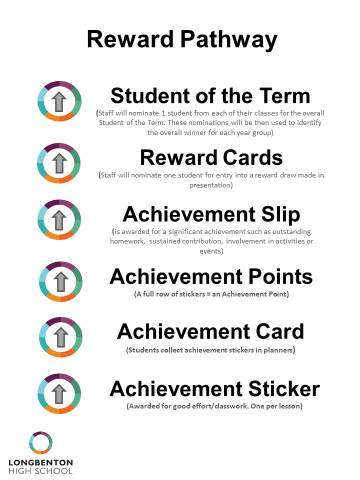
The staff of the School are committed to ensuring that their classrooms are places in which students want and are able to learn. Likewise, we expect students everywhere across the school to show respect to others and their environment. In order to achieve this we shall promote behaviour for learning. This involves praising and rewarding students for making a positive contribution to lessons and school life in general. It also involves students accepting the consequences of any wrong behaviour. Consequences will be set at a level appropriate to the misdemeanour committed by the students. Students will be aware of what is expected of them and how the system of praise and consequences will be administered.

At Longbenton High School we want to recognise and celebrate our student’s hard work and achievement. Parents are integral to this process and we feel that they need to be involved in day-to-day successes as well as major achievements throughout the year involving their children. Regular praise and rewards are considered to be vital for effective motivation and success of individuals. This is at the core of our school ethos. The rewards system is centralised in order that all students are treated fairly and consistently.

**The full behaviour for learning Policy is available to view on the school website.**

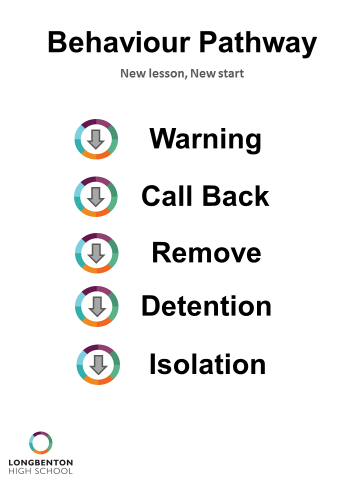
**Ultimately, we encourage our students**

**to follow our success pathway:**

**Students who consistently follow these guidelines**

**will be recognised and can expect to be considered**

**for various rewards:**

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All behaviour has a consequence, be that positive or negative.

While we want to focus on rewarding students,

unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated in school.

In the instance of unacceptable behaviour in the classroom

students will follow the behaviour pathway.

**WARNING** 1st incident - verbal warning

2nd incident - written warning

**CALL BACK** 3rd incident - CALL BACK to the teacher for a 10 minute CONVERSATION

**REMOVE** any further issues in a lesson result in the student being removed to another classroom

**DETENTION** Behaviour DETENTION for 30 minutes after school

Homework DETENTION for 30 minutes after school

Punctuality DETENTION for 15 minutes at lunchtime

**ISOLATION**  situation that results in a day in ISOLATION

Should the situation not be resolved or there has been a serious breach of school rules then either an **INTERNAL** or **A FIXED TERM EXCLUSION** may be considered.

On occasions where students are either isolated or excluded, they will work in our Behaviour Support Unit. This involves keeping students in school, but isolating them from their peers. When in this situation, students will usually complete work set by their teachers that they would have normally completed during their lesson.

Starting in Year 8

Year 8 curriculum

Students follow a broad and balanced curriculum throughout year 8 which covers all of the subjects outlined below.

* Religious Studies
* Personal and Social Development
* Design Technology
* Food Studies
* Art
* Physical Education
* Computing
* English
* Maths
* Science
* French
* Geography
* History
* Music
* Drama

Students’ will choose options for Year 9 in the summer term. Three options will be selected from the list below (Note: Food Studies or DT need to be one of the options);

* Food
* Design Technology
* Music
* Art
* Drama
* Spanish

Year 8 Assessment

Following the removal of National Curriculum levels in Key Stage 3 schools have been given the autonomy to develop their own assessment systems for year 8. This enables schools to have much greater flexibility in how they assess students’ progress.

At Longbenton High School we use an assessment system based on the acquisition of key skills to move through each area of study. In all subjects students’ knowledge and understanding of each area will be assessed as Emerging, Developing, Securing or Mastering.

* Emerging : Beginning to grasp some of the main ideas and skills in the Y8 curriculum
* Developing : Grasped some of the main ideas and concepts and skills in the Y8 curriculum
* Securing : has a secure understanding of the main concepts and skills in the Y8 curriculum
* Mastering : demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the concepts and skills in the Y8 curriculum

Each curriculum area has their own criteria for progression across the key areas of the Year 8 curriculum which are outlined on our website.

Key dates for the year group

HPV immunisations – Friday 4th October

Josh Green Roadshow – Wednesday 13th November

Ski Trip – Saturday 7th to Sunday 15th March

Parents’ evening – Thursday 30th April

HPV immunisations – Friday 15th May

HPV immunisations (catch up) – Tuesday 2nd June

Homework Programme

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **W / B** | **Year 8** |
| 9th Sept | Maths, Science, MFL & RE |
| 16th Sept | DT |
| 23th Sept | English |
| 30th Sept | History |
| 7th Oct | Maths, Science, MFL & Art |
| 14th Oct | IT |
| 21st Oct | Maths, Science, MFL & Art |
| **Half Term** | |
| 4th Nov | English |
| 11th Nov | Maths, Science, MFL & RE |
| 18th Nov | Food |
| 25th Nov | Geography |
| 2nd Dec | Spanish |
| 9th Dec | Maths, Science, MFL & Art |
| 16th Dec | DT |
| **Christmas** | |
| 6th Jan | Geography |
| 13th Jan | IT |
| 20th Jan | Maths, Science, MFL & RE |
| 27th Jan | History |
| 3rd Feb | English |
| 10th Feb | Maths, Science, MFL & Art |
| **Half term** | |
| 24th Feb | Food |
| 2nd Mar | Maths, Science, MFL & Art |
| 9th Mar | Geography |
| 16th Mar | History |
| 23rd Mar | Maths, Science, MFL & Art |
| 30th Mar | English |
| **Easter Holiday** | |
| 20th Apr | History |
| 27th Apr | Maths, Science, MFL & RE |
| 4th May | English |
| 11th May | Maths, Science, MFL & Art |
| 18th May | IT |
| **Half Term Break** | |
| 1st June | English |
| 8th June | Maths, Science, MFL & RE |
| 15th June | Food |
| 22nd June | Maths, Science, MFL & Art |
| 29th June | Geography |
| 6th July | DT |

Extra Curricular Activities

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MEMBER OF STAFF** | **CLUB/ACTIVITY** | **DAY** | **WEEK** | **TIME (LUNCHTIME AFTER SCHOOL)** | **LOCATION** |
| VS | Peer Mentoring | Monday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | EX00 |
| LH/HM | LHS Dance Team | Monday | 1 and 2 | After school (3.15-4.30) | Studio |
| GKM | Netball/Basketball | Monday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | MUGA/Hall |
| RT/RCA | Table tennis | Monday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | Studio |
| RT | Basketball | Monday | 1 and 2 | After school (3.15-4.30) | Sports Hall |
| JDU | Boys' rugby | Monday | 1 and 2 | After school (3.15-4.30) | Field |
| GKM | Netball fixtures | Monday | 1 and 2 | After school (3.15-4.30) |  |
| PKE | Guitar Legends | Tuesday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | PF11 |
| RT | Basketball | Tuesday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | MUGA |
| LL | Curious! Debate and discussion club | Tuesday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | EX00 |
| AMG | Y8 Drama Club | Tuesday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | PF02 |
| PKE | Guitar Legends | Wednesday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | PF11 |
| JDU | Basketball | Wednesday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | Sports Hall |
| RT | Badminton | Wednesday | 1 and 2 | After school (3.15-4.30) | Sports Hall |
| RCA | Netball | Wednesday | 1 and 2 | After school (3.15-4.30) | MUGA |
| KA/HT | Homework Club | Wednesday | 1 and 2 | After school (3:15-4.00) | EV11 |
| RO | KS3 Creative Writing Club | Wednesday | 2 | Lunchtime | CM17 |
| JY | Art Club | Wednesday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | CR05 |
| GB | First Lego League | Wednesday | 2 | After school (3:15-4.00) | EV11 |
| MH | Junior Choir | Thursday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | PF12 |
| RT | Badminton | Thursday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | Sports Hall |
| GKM | Trampolining | Thursday | 1 and 2 | After school (3.15-4.30) | Main Hall |
| RT | Table tennis | Thursday | 1 and 2 | After school (3.15-4.30) | Studio |
| RCO | Girls' rugby | Thursday | 1 and 2 | After school (3.15-4.30) | Field |
| AB/NS | LHS Surf Club | Thursday | 1 and 2 | After school (3:15-6:30) | Longsands |
| GS | Chess Club | Friday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | EX09 |
| GS | Warhammer Club | Friday | 1 and 2 | After School |  |
| MH | Orchestra | Friday | 1 and 2 | 8.15-8.55am (run by Mrs Clark - violin teacher) | PF12 |
| MH | Senior Choir | Friday | 1 and 2 | After school (3.15-4.30) | PF12 |
| PKE | Ukulele Club | Friday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | PF11 |
| LH/LMK | Longbenton Pride | Friday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | CM03 |
| GKM | Just Dance | Friday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | Studio |
| GB | Cyber Discovery (mentoring) | Friday | 1 and 2 | Lunchtime | Field |

Accelerated Reader

All students at Longbenton High School follow the Accelerated Reader programme throughout Year 7 and Year 8; this is an exciting reading scheme which helps students to choose and read books that are suitably challenging for them and is designed to boost reading skills. Students have a fortnightly Accelerated Reader lesson in the school library, in which they read their books and take online quizzes about their chosen books. The programme gives students hint and tips on how they can improve their reading skills, and also sets them personal points targets and challenges.

All Year 7 form classes also spend morning registration in the library for a full week each half term to participate in the Accelerated Reader programme. Students can also go to the library to use the Accelerated Reader programme before school, at break/lunchtimes and after school too. Each student has a personal reading target and earns points towards their target when they pass the online quizzes. The programme also gives students personalised tips and guidance to help them make progress.

After reading three books and passing their quizzes, students receive a certificate and a coloured wristband, which works exactly the same way as belts in martial arts: white band being the first band that students receive, and black band being the last. As well as using the Accelerated Reader programme at school, students access the website at home for more reading practice, and to enable them to collect more points, certificates and prizes.

Acting lessons

In addition to the timetabled classroom drama lessons that all students have in years 7 and 8 , we additionally offer private acting lessons with a visiting specialist LAMDA practitioner who teaches students on a one-to-one or paired basis. Students use these acting lessons to work towards LAMDA acting performance exams; these are recognised qualifications which not only help structure the tuition but also help to build confidence and self-esteem within a student. This is an excellent opportunity for students who are passionate about performing to gain additional tuition and develop their skills beyond the classroom.

As with the instrumental lessons, our LAMDA teacher visits the school on a weekly basis and delivers 30 minute lessons which take place during the school day. Lessons are timetabled on a carousel system so that students do not miss the same classroom lesson each week. Places on the timetable are awarded on a first come first served basis; if we become over-subscribed we will operate a waiting list system.

The payment of lessons is managed directly between the teacher and parents/carers. Lessons are paid for in monthly or half termly blocks. Lesson costs are subject to review at the start of the new academic year; the current lesson prices are outlined below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Individual weekly lesson cost** | **Paired weekly lesson cost (per student)** |
| Acting Lessons | £13.00 | £7.00 |

Instrumental lessons

All students have the opportunity to take instrumental lessons whilst at Longbenton High School.

We have a team of talented visiting instrumental teachers who offer weekly lessons on the following instruments:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Singing | Piano/Keyboard |
| Guitar/Ukulele/Bass Guitar | Upper Strings (Violin/Viola) |
| Drum Kit | Brass (Trumpet/Trombone/French Horn) |
| Woodwind (Flute/Clarinet/Saxophone) | |

Students may have had instrumental lessons at primary school and wish to continue at high school or may see this as an opportunity to try something new. Taking instrumental lessons supports the learning that takes place in the classroom music lessons that all students have in year 7 and 8 but is also proven to have many additional benefits to learning in general including the improvement of coordination, mathematical skills (associated with rhythm and counting) and memory. Students also commonly find their confidence increases and they develop team work skills through performing with others.

Instrumental lessons take place during the school day; students come out of their classroom lessons to attend their instrumental lessons. Instrumental lessons are timetabled on a carousel system so that students do not miss the same lesson each week. We currently have spaces available on all timetables and are eager to engage students of all ages within this. Places on the timetable are awarded on a first come first served basis; if an instrument becomes over-subscribed we will operate a waiting list system.

Payment of instrumental lessons is managed directly between the visiting teacher and parents/carers. Students can either have individual weekly lessons or paired lessons with another student. Lessons are paid for in monthly or half termly blocks. Lesson costs are subject to review at the start of the new academic year; the current teachers and lesson prices are outlined below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Instrument** | **Teacher Name** | **Individual weekly lesson cost** | **Paired weekly lesson cost (per student)** |
| Singing | Mrs Jenni Evans | £13.00 | £7.00 |
| Guitars | Mr Joel Bryne-McCullough | £12.50 | £7.00 |
| Drum Kit | Mr David Lourie | £15.00 | £7.50 |
| Piano/Keyboard | Miss Grace Alexander | £14.00 | £7.00 |
| Upper Strings | Mrs Liz Clarke | £14.00 | £7.00 |
| Brass | Miss Abigail Brierley | £14.00 | £7.00 |
| Woodwind | Mrs Sue Belshaw | £15.10 | £9.20 |

We would be delighted for your son/daughter to start instrumental and/or acting lessons when they join Longbenton High School in September.

Please complete and return the enclosed reply slip in order to express your interest or email Miss Houlton ([mh@lblearning.com](mailto:mh@lblearning.com)) if you require any additional information.

Term dates 2019-20

Autumn term

Tuesday 3 September – Friday 25 October 2019

Monday 4 November – Friday 20 December 2019

Spring term

Monday 6 January – Friday 14 February 2020

Monday 24 February – Friday 3 April 2020

Summer term

Wednesday 20 April – Friday 22 May 2020

Monday 1 June – Thursday 16 July 2020

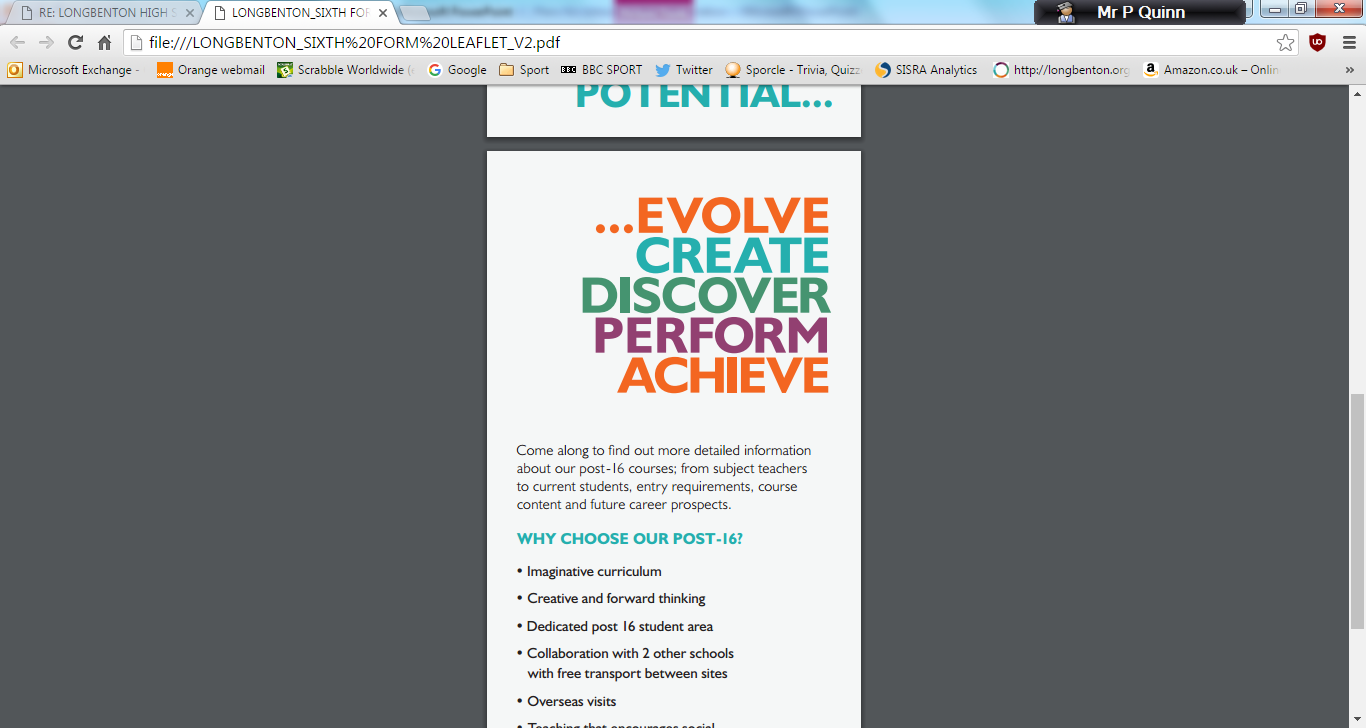
Staff training days

Monday 2 September 2019

Friday 22 November 2019

Friday 26 June 2020

Friday 17 July 2020



**Contact us…**

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