



19th April 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you had a lovely Easter break. It is great to have the building full of students' energy and enthusiasm again as we head into what is a busy 6 week period up to May half term, particularly with final exams starting from 22nd April.

Staffing Update

We have a new Year 10 Pastoral Manager working with this year group as of Monday: Debbie Aikman. Miss Hindhaugh is leaving us this month, so we have a current Pastoral Manager vacancy in Year 7. We are currently recruiting in English, Geography and Computer Science: <https://longbenton.org.uk/about/work-with-us>

Year 7 places - September 2024

I am delighted that our school is oversubscribed for the second consecutive year as more and more parents make us their first choice school. Our first new parent welcome event was held just before the Easter break and our transition programme starts shortly. We have no places in Year 7 for September 2024.

Exams

GCSE exams start next Monday 22nd April (MFL, 3D Art & Design, Photography and Art). The first full cohort exam is Biology on Friday 10th May. We do not release Year 11 students for study leave until after the May half term holiday (*this year the last date for students to be in school attending lessons is Thursday 6th June - TBC*), **so students need to attend school as normal until that point**; this is so they do not miss final revision time with their teachers, pre-exam briefings, etc. **The full timetable of exams is [here](#) on our website.** Key points to remember:

- Morning exams start at 9.30 and afternoon at 1.30pm.
- Students need to be available for exams up to and including 26th June for contingencies.
- Parents will be billed for every exam that students miss/fail to attend without a medical reason to cover our costs as a school; (see previous letter sent to Year 11 parents on our letters page).
- Students cannot pass exams unless they sit all of the exams in a series (eg all 3 Maths papers, not just one).
- Students need to continue to wear full uniform up to 26th June.

A Level & BTEC/CTEC Exams

These begin on Tuesday 14th May. **The full timetable is [here](#) on our website.**

- Students should continue to attend lessons until their final exam
- Start and end times for exams are the same as outlined above for GCSE

Good luck to all of our Year 11 and 13 students; we are incredibly proud of you!

Bromcom & MCAS

Our Bromcom launch took place earlier this week. Thank you to parents who have downloaded the MCAS app and set up their accounts. A reminder that we will be moving to MCAS as the term progresses as the **method for all school communication and information** (live attendance information, timetable and behaviour information, school dinner accounts etc) so please set this up if you haven't done so already. Get in touch with us if you need support doing so.



LONGBENTON
HIGH SCHOOL

Mellors catering

Our new catering system has also been up and running since the start of the new term and we are delighted with the positive response we have had. The kitchen staff have been brilliant. You can see the updated menu and photographs from the break and lunch service on our website [here](#). The team have been trialling a wide range this week at both the break and lunch service. Mellors are keen for any parents who have concerns about the changes we have made to attend a **parent taster session next Wednesday (24th April) at 2.30pm**. There are also feedback cards and a box for students to use in the dining area and we will gather some feedback more formally from the student council and house captains at the end of the month.

As predicted, we did have some teething problems with the till system which were resolved as of Thursday 17th April (the tills were not 'talking' to MCAS accounts in terms of updating balances accurately) but this is now fixed. Now that these issues are resolved **we will not be allowing students to overspend on accounts from Monday 22nd April onwards**. Please check your child's account balance. The facial recognition system is helping the queues to move really quickly; you can still give consent for this facility to be added to your child's account.





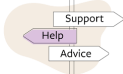


You can find a summary of key updates and links on the following page.

Yours faithfully

Kelly Holbrook
Headteacher



LONGBENTON HIGH SCHOOL

<p>How will my child pay for lunches from Monday 15th April?</p>	 <p>Facial recognition has been in place since Wednesday 17th April. This links to MCAS accounts so you can see what your child has eaten/purchased. You can still give consent at this link</p>	 <p>PIN code PIN codes link to MCAS accounts. This works in the same way as facial recognition but is just slower as students have to input a code.</p>	 <p>Contactless card We have a temporary contactless solution in place at the minute which unfortunately is a little slow.</p>																																										
<p>How do I add money to my child's lunch account?</p>	<p>Register for the MCAS App or add your child's account if you already have the app. Our school code is 14794.</p> 	<p>Follow the instructions here (or see pages 6-8 in the guide we sent to you before Easter) How to guide</p>	<p>If you need support setting this up please get in touch. The issue with balances showing accurately has been resolved as of Thursday 18th April.</p> 																																										
<p>Where can I see the new menu?</p>	<p>https://longbenton.org.uk/parents/school-menu</p> <div style="text-align: right;">MENU</div> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Week 2</th> <th>Monday</th> <th>Tuesday</th> <th>Wednesday</th> <th>Thursday</th> <th>Friday</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Traditional Main Dish Meat</td> <td>Chilli con carne & rice w/ garlic bread</td> <td>Hot pan chicken, salad & flatbread w/ mint yogurt</td> <td>Roast gammon, roasties & yorkies with gravy</td> <td>Beef & bean Jost with rice</td> <td>Crusty battered fish goujons with chunky chips</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Traditional Main Dish Vegetarian</td> <td>Pizza Margherita</td> <td>No chicken teriyaki noodle</td> <td>Cheesy potato and leek pie topped with golden puff pastry</td> <td>Aubergine and chickpea bhansak, rice & cucumber raita</td> <td>Falafel pitta, crunchy daw and chunky chips</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Accompaniments</td> <td>Roasted root vegetables</td> <td>Corn of the cob</td> <td>Steamed carrots and broccoli</td> <td>Green beans</td> <td>Mushy peas</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Street Food</td> <td>Southern style quorn burger with caramelised red onions</td> <td>Fiery Mexican chilli, rice, sour cream and salsa</td> <td>Mediterranean chicken kebab w/ flatbread, salad & garlic mayo</td> <td>Cheeseburger, burger sauce & salad</td> <td>Sweet chilli chicken noodles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Italian Eats</td> <td>Tomato & mascarpone pasta w/ garlic bread slice</td> <td>Ham & mushroom pasta w/ focaccia toast</td> <td>Italian meatballs w/ garlic bread</td> <td>Pasta arabbiata w/ garlic bread toast</td> <td>Vegetarian pasta bolognese w/ focaccia toast</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Desserts</td> <td>Marble sponge</td> <td>Chocolate sponge w/ chocolate sauce</td> <td>Jam shortbread w/ custard</td> <td>Sticky toffee pudding w/ custard</td> <td>Eton Mess</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>KEY 1 OF YOUR 5 A DAY (FIBRE) MEAT-FREE (VEGETARIAN) CHEF'S CHOICE PLANT-BASED (VEGAN) Mellow's FOOD HAPPY</p> <p><small>*Allergens and Intolerances* All of our food is lovingly hand crafted and prepared on site daily. We have an allergen procedure in place, so please ensure you make our catering team aware of your allergen/your child's allergens prior to using the restaurant. Our kitchens are used for multi-purpose production so we cannot guarantee the above dishes are completely free from allergenic ingredients or traces of these.</small></p>			Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Traditional Main Dish Meat	Chilli con carne & rice w/ garlic bread	Hot pan chicken, salad & flatbread w/ mint yogurt	Roast gammon, roasties & yorkies with gravy	Beef & bean Jost with rice	Crusty battered fish goujons with chunky chips	Traditional Main Dish Vegetarian	Pizza Margherita	No chicken teriyaki noodle	Cheesy potato and leek pie topped with golden puff pastry	Aubergine and chickpea bhansak, rice & cucumber raita	Falafel pitta, crunchy daw and chunky chips	Accompaniments	Roasted root vegetables	Corn of the cob	Steamed carrots and broccoli	Green beans	Mushy peas	Street Food	Southern style quorn burger with caramelised red onions	Fiery Mexican chilli, rice, sour cream and salsa	Mediterranean chicken kebab w/ flatbread, salad & garlic mayo	Cheeseburger, burger sauce & salad	Sweet chilli chicken noodles	Italian Eats	Tomato & mascarpone pasta w/ garlic bread slice	Ham & mushroom pasta w/ focaccia toast	Italian meatballs w/ garlic bread	Pasta arabbiata w/ garlic bread toast	Vegetarian pasta bolognese w/ focaccia toast	Desserts	Marble sponge	Chocolate sponge w/ chocolate sauce	Jam shortbread w/ custard	Sticky toffee pudding w/ custard	Eton Mess
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<p>How can I see my child's attendance, timetable and behaviour information?</p>	<p>We are phasing out Class Charts. You can still see this information through the Class Charts App at present, but will be removing this at the end of the academic year in July.</p> 	<p>Attendance, behaviour and timetable information will be accessible through the MCAS app from September, so that everything is in one place and you do not need to use two systems.</p> 																																											
<p>Where can I find my child's exam timetable?</p>	<p>Year 11: https://longbenton.org.uk/learning/ks4-years-10-11</p> <p>Year 13: https://longbenton.org.uk/nc12-6th-form/study-skills</p>																																												