



Longbenton High School

March 2023

Dear Students and Families,

Pastoral Team staffing Y7-11

In recognition of the increased support many young people are requiring at present, we have expanded our pastoral team. From the summer term onwards, there will be two members of staff attached to each year group: one teaching RSL (responsible for the academic progress of students) and one non-teaching Pastoral Manager (responsible for pastoral support regarding mental health, behaviour and attendance). There are also new direct contact email addresses for each year group below.

Year group	RSL	Pastoral Manager
Year 7 Year7@longbenton.org.uk	Kat Lambert	Liam Stevens
Year 8 Year8@longbenton.org.uk	Kevin Leigh	Kay Clark / Kate Parkin
Year 9 Year9@longbenton.org.uk	Alex Maughan	Frazer Vodden
Year 10 Year10@longbenton.org.uk	Danny Harold	Louise Gardner
Year 11 Year11@longbenton.org.uk	Nicola McPherson	Kate Parkin

Kate Parkin will support Year 8 in the summer term until the new Year 7 cohort arrives in September (when Mrs McPherson will move down from Y11 to become Y7 RSL).

Uniform

We have one of the cheapest uniforms in the borough, as the only branded main school uniform items are ties and blazers. The majority of our students look incredibly smart every day, but there are some persistent issues we would like to iron out with a minority of students. Pastoral Managers will be in touch with you in the new term if your child is wearing incorrect uniform. If parents are purchasing new items over the holidays, please do ensure that **footwear is PLAIN BLACK** (eg Converse trainers are NOT permitted) and that trousers are appropriate (not leggings, joggers or cargo pants). Coats are not to be worn in the building or in classrooms after the Easter holidays. If you have any issues with financial hardship and purchasing uniform, please do get in touch so we can support you. We do hold a small stock of uniform within the school for such circumstances.

Year 11 and 13 Exams

Final examinations start very soon for both Year 11 and Year 13, with the exam season running from May until June. Everyone has been working incredibly hard and we are very proud of the resilience and positive mindset that so many have demonstrated, including during the final Year 11 mocks that have been taking place this week.



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Students in Year 13 will continue to attend lessons until they have sat the final exam in each subject (so there is no collective 'leaving date' as such). **Year 11 will continue to attend lessons until the exam timetable becomes quite heavy** for everyone - this date is **Monday 12th June**. There will be a small leavers' celebration after the Biology exam for Year 11 on Friday 9th June prior to the prom on 30th June.

There is a **Year 11 booklet** including a reminder of revision strategies and the dates for exams here on the school website: <https://longbenton.org.uk/learning/ks4-years-10-11/year-11-2022-23> There are **revision sessions running in school over Easter** which will be published on the same website page.

Students in Year 11 and 13 need to follow the same **exam protocols**:

- Arrive 15 minutes before the exam is about to begin. Wait in the Dining Hall. There are strict cut-off points for entry into the exam hall after exams have started - these are set by the exam boards.
- For Year 11: wear full school uniform for all examinations and revision sessions.
- All mobile phones and smart watches **MUST** be turned off and put in bags (not pockets) or handed in to invigilators to collect at the end of the exam.
- Students must attend all the exams they are entered for. Illness will not be considered by any exam board unless there is medical evidence - eg an authorised doctor's sick note. Failure to attend exams will lead to students/parents being invoiced (this is approximately £45 per course) as it costs the school to administer every exam entry.

Forthcoming dates

Year 10 mock exam week - 17th April

May Bank Holiday - 1st May (school closed)

Additional Bank Holiday (coronation) - 8th May (school closed)

Year 9 Options Information Evening - 10th May

Year 8 Parents Evening - 17th May

Year 10 Work Experience Week - 22nd May

Staff training day - Friday 30th June (school closed)

Fundraising

School staff are taking part in a half marathon hike from Alnwick to Craster this July. This is to fundraise for Macmillan Cancer as part of their Macmillan Mighty Hike programme, in memory of our colleague Lisa Kennedy, who sadly passed away earlier this year. We have a fundraising target of £8,500. You can donate to our staff team here - every small contribution helps! <https://www.justgiving.com/team/LisasLongbentonHeroes2023>

We return to the new term on Monday 17th April 2023. Wishing you all a Happy Easter.

Yours faithfully

Kelly Holbrook Headteacher