

21 July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

## **SEPTEMBER RETURN FOR YEAR 12 > YEAR 13 STUDENTS**

Now we have reached the end of this rather unusual term, I wanted to write to you to say how proud we are of each and every one of our students. The speed at which they have adapted to online learning, completed their assessments and managed to begin their UCAS applications is admirable. I have also been delighted to see how many students have engaged with the virtual work experience and careers days we have offered, alongside the large number who have accessed sessions from universities, those we have hosted ourselves and those we have advertised to them weekly. Students have been sent a careers booklet to begin working through and we strongly recommend they complete this before September as their form tutor will be asking for this on our return in September. Students can find this <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

In response to the assessments students sat this half term, we have decided to release the results to students immediately, with staff spending time going through the assessments and, where possible, having a one-to-one session with each student. You will not receive an official progress report with these grades on, as we felt the process and the feedback is more meaningful than receiving a final grade. Please do ask your son/daughter to share their results with you and if you do have concerns, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Students choosing to apply to university should be well underway with their UCAS applications now. The personal details, education, finance and employment sections should all be complete and they should be considering their choices and completing their personal statement. Students have access to a help video on their Teams page if they need additional support. We have also asked students to choose who they would like their UCAS referee to be and they should have contacted that member of staff before the end of term, showing them a first draft of their personal statement. We appreciate this is difficult if students have not finalised their course choices yet, but all students should be able to write some sections on their current interests, what skills they have developed in their current subjects, and how any part-time employment/volunteering has helped them. Students have access to lots of resources on their Teams page to help them and we strongly recommend they do not wait for their magical first sentence to appear before they begin writing; they will find their first and final drafts will be very different! Those students applying to early entry courses (Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science) should make sure that their statement has been seen by their referee and that they know which pre-entrance tests may be required. Further guidance is available on the Gateway Team.

We have asked that subject teachers set summer work for students to give them the chance to revisit topics studied during the past term and help prepare them for September. Work will be shared via Show My Homework as usual and it is important that students engage with this as it will keep them in good study habits. We do recognise that students have worked incredibly hard this term and they should also take time to rest over the summer so they are in a good position to return to school in September. All Year 13 students will return on Tuesday 8 September at 8:25am; the finer details will be shared with students before we return. Based on government guidance, students will be expected to return wearing full business dress, including their blazers.

## Headteacher: Mr Gwyn Williams

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We ask that students check that they have the correct business dress and, if new shoes are being purchased, please do not buy trainers as these are not allowed. Girls are reminded that their skirts should be an appropriate length and any new trousers purchased are smart as we do not allow leggings.

Students will need their swipecard ready for September too. This is particularly important as using the swipecard will eliminate the need to touch the signing-in screen and the printer screens. Please ask your son/daughter to email <a href="mailto:mwedgwood@lymmhigh.org.uk">mwedgwood@lymmhigh.org.uk</a> if he/she needs a new card printing. Our expectations are clearly laid out on page 16 of our Behaviour Policy, which you can find <a href="mailto:here">here</a>.

I hope you all have a lovely summer and students get to have a well needed rest with their families. Please do not hesitate to contact either myself or any member of the sixth form team if you have concerns of any kind.

Yours faithfully

**H JENNINGS (Mrs)** 

Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form