



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you are all well and had a fantastic summer.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all as your children begin their GCSE journey with us at Lymm. I am privileged to continue working with your children for another year as they embark upon this vital stage of their education.

The start of Year 10 is an important milestone for all our young people and we are wholeheartedly committed to providing them with the best possible support and guidance necessary to ensure their continued success.

We understand that your child's education and wellbeing is paramount and we are dedicated to creating an environment that fosters their growth. Our experienced and passionate team of educators are here to nurture your child's strengths and empower them to reach their full potential.

Students can continue to take advantage of an extensive support network in Year 10. They will work alongside myself as their Head of Year, Miss McMullen (our Pastoral Manager), Mrs Feast (our Deputy Headteacher), Mrs Jennings (Deputy Headteacher in charge of behaviour and attendance), Miss Yates (our SENDCO) and our fantastic Student Services team.

As a Year 10 team, we will be supporting students with managing their increased workload effectively, how to adopt an effective revision routine, directing them to specific subject intervention sessions and looking after their emotional and mental wellbeing. Whilst the transition into Year 10 can often be a stressful and challenging year for students, rest assured that we are vastly experienced in guiding them through the journey.

With a linear approach to the majority of examinations (most examinations take place at the end of Year 11), there is a greater emphasis and demand for students to retain and recall previous knowledge. Therefore, students must start to invest greater time outside of the school day into their studies. Adopting an effective revision routine at home will enable them to become more confident in their knowledge and understanding of key content in their courses. As a rough guide, students should be spending a minimum of 1 hour revision per night in addition to their homework, with slightly more at weekends. This should increase to at least 2 hours in the time leading up to their mock exams. It is no coincidence that the students celebrating excellent GCSE examination results this year, were those who adopted a revision routine and stuck to it rigorously throughout Years 10 and 11.

To support students with their revision routines, faculties will be offering their specific guidance and tools for success such as Knowledge Organisers, vocabulary lists and past paper questions. More

specific information about these sessions, as well as general information around GCSE examinations, revision, expectations, and support will be discussed at our **Year 10 Information and Guidance** evening being held on **Thursday 26th September 2024 (6–7 pm) online**.

Whilst the support and resources that we offer will prove invaluable to our students, it can only be maximised if they attend school on time each day, taking full advantage of the opportunities provided. Maintaining excellent attendance is more crucial than ever before to ensure that students do not fall behind in their courses or miss vital intervention sessions available to them. Whilst we understand that illness is sometimes simply unavoidable, at Lymm High School we strive for students to have attendance above 97%, dropping below this figure has the potential to negatively impact their final grade.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to some of the key dates to note for this academic year:

Activity	Date
Year 10 starts	05/09/24
Year 10 Information Evening (IAG)	26/09/24 (starting at 6pm, online)
Year 10 Progress Report 1	December 2024
Year 10 Progress Report 2	March 2025
Year 10 Parents' Evening	03/04/25
Year 10 Mock Exams	22/04/25 – 07/05/25
Year 10 Progress Report 3	June 2025

I am confident that together, we can provide the guidance and encouragement they need to excel academically, build resilience, and develop into well-rounded individuals. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Our doors are always open, and we are here to assist you in any way we can.

Should you have any queries or questions, please see the list of key contacts below to help you identify the best person to contact:

Subject-specific query/concern	Subject teacher or Head of Faculty
Student welfare query/concern	Miss McMullen (Year 10 Pastoral Manager)
General progress query/concern	Form Tutor

More serious/complex concerns	Mrs Wagstaff (Head of Year 10)
Exam query	Communications and Exams section of the school website

We look forward to seeing you online on Thursday 26th September at 6pm.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs J.M. Wagstaff
Head of Year 10