



Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I really hope that you have all had a lovely summer and I am delighted to tell you that our Year 9 students have settled really well back into school. I am certainly looking forward to continuing to work with Year 9. At the start of this academic year, I thought it would be useful to outline key information on what will be expected from the students in Year 9 and how the school and I plan to support them.

This year, students will not only have the support from myself as Head of Year, but they will also be working alongside Mrs Lambert as our Pastoral Manager, who the students already know from the end of Year 8. As a Year 9 team, we will be supporting students with the decisions they will have to make for their Option choices as well as providing information and guidance to you as parents/carers. Year 9 is an important year for students to focus in lessons to ensure they are well prepared for making their Option choices. I have spoken to the year group in our assembly already about my expectations for this year; the importance of focus in lessons/homework, social responsibility and the need for excellent attendance.

It is important that students start to invest more time outside of the school day into their studies, ensuring that homework is completed and to a good standard. Adopting effective revision strategies when they have key assessments will help to prepare students for the start of their GCSEs next year.

More specific information for Year 9 will be discussed at our Year 9 Information and Guidance evening (IAG) on **Wednesday 25th September**, which you will be able to access virtually. A reminder of this event and a link will be sent out nearer the date.

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 crucial to ensure that students do not fall behind in their learning and miss other extra-curricular opportunities 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 impact negatively upon their grades.

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

Activity	Date
Year 9 Information Evening	25/09/2024 (starting at 6pm)
Year 8 Progress Report 1	End of November 2024 (approx.)
Year 9 Options assemblies (students only)	13/01/25 to 17/01/25
Year 9 assessments (English/Maths/Science)	20/01/25 to 24/01/25
Year 9 Options evening (parents/carers)	30/01/25

Year 9 Parents' Evening	13/02/2025
Year 9 Progress Report 2	End of February 2025 (approx.)
Year 9 Options deadline	7/03/25
KS3 EBacc exams	9/06/25 to 20/06/25
Year 9 progress Report 3	Mid July (Approx.)
Sports Day	15 th July 2025
Founders' Day	16 th July 2025

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	Mrs Lambert (Year 9 Pastoral Manager)
General progress query/concern	Form Tutor
More serious/complex concerns	Miss Beck (Head of Year)

Yours faithfully,

Miss N Beck
Head of Year 9