WHOLE SCHOOL

Dear families,

I do hope you have had a lovely summer and were able to spend some time together enjoying the hot weather.

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back for the new school year. We are delighted with the start students have made; they have settled back into routines remarkably quickly and are already working hard in lessons. So many teachers have already commented to me on how great their new classes have been. For my part, I always spend much of the morning of the first full day of term in the corridor outside the Main Hall as students file in for assemblies and I was really struck by how so many of them, completely unprompted, offered a cheery “Good morning, Sir, how are you?” on their way past. This may only sound like a little thing, but I think it says a huge amount about our young people; and their lovely manners and good humour really helped to energise me for the year ahead.

I want to extend an especially warm welcome to parents and carers of the new Year 7 cohort, as well as those who have joined the school from elsewhere for the Sixth Form. Your children have made an excellent impression so far and we are really looking forward to working with you over the next few years. As ever, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you are worried about anything or need any support.

Of course, it always helps with the start to a new year if exam results over the summer have been good and we are delighted with ours again this year. When the government publishes national data later in the year, we will doubtless come out again as one of the very top performing schools in the region. As ever, we work hard to make sure this level of success is not taken for granted but it is also important to take a moment to congratulate staff, parents and – most importantly of all – the students themselves for achieving such high performance. Part of my message to students on the first day is that, if they work hard and do as their teachers ask, they can be very confident of leaving Lymm High School and Lymm Sixth Form with excellent GCSE and A' level grades, which has to be a great position to be in.

We look forward to helping students succeed academically again this year, but also making sure they take part in lots of other exciting and enriching activities whilst further developing as decent, socially responsible citizens. Thank you in anticipation of your support again this year and best wishes to everyone.

Kind regards
Gwyn Williams

Homework expectations

Please click the links below to read a letter from Miss Mulholland about homework expectations this academic year.

- Year 7
- Years 8–11

Flu vaccination

Intrahealth are due to attend Lymm High School on **Thursday 17th** and **Wednesday 30th September** to give students their annual flu vaccination. Please remember to complete the consent form sent out earlier this week.

Year group photographs

Whole year group photographs for Year 7, 11 and 13 students will be taking place on the morning of **Monday 14th September**. This will take place either outside or in the Sports Hall (weather dependent), and disruption to classes will be kept to a minimum. Please can you ensure students arrive to school in full, smart uniform and are aware of the photos being taken. Students, parents and carers will have the opportunity to buy a copy of the print in due course.

Lymm High is a nut-free school

Please can we remind parents and carers that Lymm High is a completely nut-free school. All our catering outlets are nut-free, and we ask for your help in ensuring that all packed lunches and snack items brought to school are also completely nut-free. This includes food taken on school trips and any items labelled with 'may contain traces of nuts'. Please click here to read information detailing our commitment to safeguarding all students with allergies in light of new statutory requirements (commonly referred to as 'Benedict's Law').

In addition, if you still haven't completed the allergy and medical information form for your child/children, please click here. It only takes 2 minutes.

Free School Meal entitlement – could your child now be eligible?

The rules about Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility have just changed. If you receive Universal Credit, you are now eligible for FSMs, regardless of your annual income (which was not the case last year). You can use this useful eligibility checker to see if your child is eligible. Choose Warrington in the first box, and Lymm High School in the second box. Then it will ask you for just three pieces of information: your name, National Insurance number and date of birth. Finally, it will ask for your child's name and date of birth. It takes just a few seconds to return an answer. If you add your email address when prompted, it will automatically email you the outcome too. If it comes back as Eligible Targeted or Eligible Expanded, please let us know so we can start to provide FSM credit in the canteen for your child (they will be unaware of this – it will simply look like you've topped up their account). We are registered on this checker now so we should also receive a notification of newly eligible students, but it is a new system for us so please get in touch with your child's Head of Year (HOY) or Pastoral Manager to make sure.

For further information and to apply, please see the links below.

- Could your child be eligible for Free School Meals?
- FSM Application Form
- FSM Updates

If you are in receipt of Universal Credit, please use the above FSM eligibility checker and email your child's HOY/Pastoral Manager if the checker shows that your child is now eligible for FSM.

On a different note, if your child was eligible for FSM last year and is now (after re-checks) either not eligible for FSM or has not been checked because of missing details, please reapply for FSM using the FSM application form. You may also want to use the above checker to see if still eligible. Any queries, please contact Mrs Mogey in Student Services (amogey@lymmhigh.org.uk).

Extra-curricular sport

Please click here to see the full list of clubs, which run at lunchtime and after school. No sign-up in advance is required, students can just arrive to the club in full Lymm High PE kit. However, parents and carers are advised to complete this consent form before your child attends their first session.

Netball training

Please click on the links below for information on Year 7 and Year 8 girls netball.

- Year 7
- Year 8

Honours Boards

Lymm High School has Honours Boards that display the names of all students who have, over the years, represented their county or country at sport. Recognition is also given to those students who are placed (top 3) in national competitions. We update the Boards every 2 years; therefore, any student from Years 8–13 who has achieved county honours in the period of time from September 2024 to the present day should be recognised on these boards. Please click here to access the application form. We will then contact applicants before the end of the deadline of October half-term.

Life Programme overview, 2026–27

Please click here to see an overview of our Life Programme for Years 7–11 this academic year.

Wellbeing support

Lymm High School strives to educate young people about their mental health and emotional wellbeing, removing the stigma relating to mental illness, referring students to services that support students both in school and in the community. Please click here to access our Emotional Wellbeing Support Guide, which has been created to help provide mental health support for our students and families. In addition, we have a Wellbeing Information Evening on **Wednesday 30th September** (5.30–6.30pm) in school for parents and carers. Please click here to sign up.

Old revision guides

If any students no longer need their used revision guides, please could these be dropped off at Main Reception for the attention of Mrs Tasker. We will then distribute them to students that need them. Many thanks for your support.

Request for old trainers

We are particularly short in PE of trainers in sizes 3, 4 and 5 to lend to students when they've forgotten theirs. If you've got any old trainers in these sizes kicking around at home that you'd be happy to donate, we would be really grateful. Please drop off at Reception when you can. Many thanks.

Online training sessions

The Domestic Abuse Hub at Warrington Council is hosting two online training sessions for parents, carers and other family members on the subject of Teenage Domestic Abuse and Online Safety. Click on the links below to sign up.

- Teenage Domestic Abuse: **Thursday 24th September,** 6–7pm

  49% of teenagers (aged 13–17) in intimate relationships in England and Wales have experienced violent or controlling behaviour (Youth Endowment Fund, 2024). This 1-hour online session is aimed at helping build awareness of teen abuse.

- Online Safety: **Monday 12th October,** 6–7pm

  70% of teenagers have encountered real-life violent content online (Youth Endowment Fund, 2024). This 1-hour online awareness session will help parents and carers in Warrington understand the risks and harms young people may encounter online.

Cashless catering

Please remember to top up your child's cashless catering account via ParentPay to ensure your child is able to purchase food at break and during lunchtimes. You can click here to view the lunch menu, which changes each day. The price list can be viewed here.

Easy Fundraising

You can help us raise money for Lymm High's PTA while online shopping at no extra cost to yourselves. All you need to do is click here and select Lymm High School as your cause, and school will then receive a percentage donation. As always, thank you for your support.

LHS Lottery

Congratulations to this week's school lottery winner, Ms Chiorando, who won £47.75! And a huge thank you for donating the winnings back to school. If you have not signed up for our lottery yet, please head to our dedicated lottery website here. If you want to find out how the school lottery works, please click here. Tickets are only £1 each week and your support would be hugely appreciated.

LOWER SCHOOL

Year 7 IAG and Tutor evening

There will be an Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) evening for Year 7 parents and carers on **Monday 21st September**. This will also provide a chance to meet your children's Tutors. Please click here to read the letter from Miss Taylor, Head of Year 7, sent earlier today.

Year 8 IAG

The Year 8 Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) evening will take place on **Tuesday 22nd September**. This will be an online event and a link to join this meeting will be sent out nearer the date. Please click here to

read a letter from Mrs Wagstaff, which includes expectations, staff information and important dates for the new academic year.

Keep it up Year 8!

A huge well done to Year 8! They have had a great start to the new term: attendance and punctuality are really good and they are looking really smart. Year 8 have had lots of positive points and they continue to impress us with their excellent effort and attitude. Keep up the great work Year 8!
Mrs Wagstaff

Year 9 IAG

The Year 9 Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) evening will take place on **Thursday 1st October**. This will be an online event and a link to join this meeting will be sent out nearer the date. Please click here to read a letter from Mr Barnett, which includes expectations, key dates and staff contacts for the new academic year.

Life Programme

On **Thursday 24th September**, students will complete Session 2 of the Extended Life Programme (ELP). These extended sessions give students more time to explore important Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) topics in greater depth through discussion, activities and age-appropriate scenarios.

- **Year 7** – Puberty & Emotional Change: Students will learn about some of the physical and emotional changes that take place during puberty, including changing feelings, emotions and relationships as they grow up.
- **Year 8** – Prejudice & Discrimination: Students will explore different forms of prejudice and discrimination, considering the impact these can have on individuals and communities and how we can challenge discriminatory behaviour.
- **Year 9** – Respectful Relationships: Students will consider the features of healthy and respectful relationships, including boundaries, communication, respect and recognising behaviours that may be unhealthy.

Alongside the Extended Life Programme, students continue to receive weekly PSHE during Form time. In the coming sessions, all year groups will learn about vaccines, including how they work and their role in protecting individuals and wider communities. Year 7 will also focus on friendships, including developing and maintaining positive relationships as they settle into secondary school.

UPPER SCHOOL

Year 10 IAG

On **Thursday 24th September** at 6pm, we will hold an Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) evening for Year 10 parents and carers. This will be an online event and a link to join this meeting will be sent out nearer the date. Please click here to read the welcome letter from Mrs Levy sent yesterday.

Welcome to Year 11

Please click here to read a letter from Miss Beck, Head of Year 11, which includes expectations, staff information and important dates for the new academic year.

Life Programme

On **Thursday 24th September**, students will complete Session 2 of the Extended Life Programme (ELP). These extended sessions give students more time to explore important Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) topics in greater depth through discussion, activities and age-appropriate scenarios.

- **Year 10** – Consent and the Law: Students will develop their understanding of consent, including how consent should be communicated, relevant aspects of UK law and the issue of sexual harassment.
- **Year 11** – Family, Civil Partnerships & Marriage: Students will explore different forms of long-term commitment, including marriage and civil partnerships, as well as considering the responsibilities and characteristics of healthy, committed relationships.

Alongside the Extended Life Programme, students continue to receive weekly PSHE during Form time. In the coming sessions, all year groups will learn about vaccines, including how they work and their role in protecting individuals and wider communities.

Amazing Apprenticeships newsletter

If your Year 11 child is thinking about an apprenticeship when they leave us, please sign up here to receive a monthly guide providing practical advice and events to help you support them to find an apprenticeship.

SIXTH FORM

The Sixth bulletin

Click here to access all issues of *The Sixth* bulletin, which include all the news and updates for Year 12 and 13 students, parents and carers.

Amazing Apprenticeships newsletter

If your Year 13 child is thinking about an apprenticeship when they leave us, please sign up here to receive a monthly guide providing practical advice and events to help you support them to find an apprenticeship.

Personal Development Update

As we embark upon a new academic year, we start with a personal development focus on **participation**. At Lymm High School we are very fortunate to have a wealth of opportunities available to our students both during the school day and after school. Actively participating in the school community through clubs, teams and events is an important part of your child's school experience with us, supporting them in developing key skills of teamwork, resilience and confidence. Ultimately, these important skills shape the character of our students, equipping them to enjoy success both in and out of school. We are currently updating our list of extra-curricular clubs and activities, but hope to communicate these with students, parents and carers next week.

Please click here for the latest sports clubs timetable. In addition, here are some other events which students can enjoy over the next fortnight.

WEEK A: 14–18th September **Assembly theme:** *Hall Assemblies*	**WEEK B: 21–25th September** **Assembly theme:** *SLT choice*
• **Monday 14th September:** Roald Dahl Day 2026 in the ILC at lunchtime. • **Tuesday 15th September:** Choir with Mrs Lyons is every Tuesday in D110 at 1.30pm for all students. • **Friday 18th September:** Introductory Rocket Club session, 1.30pm in E315 with Mr Barratt. Complete the sign-up sheet on the door of E311 if interested. • School Nurse drop-in at break time on Friday in Student Services.	• School Nurse drop-in at break time on Friday in Student Services.