

Prepare for the New Term



Dear Parent / Carers,

We are very excited to have everyone back in school at the beginning of September. There are some big changes and new opportunities for next year so I am writing to you at this point in the the holiday to remind you about some of the key changes that are happening in September, which will require your support.

The school day has been extended to 3:15. We have added an extra 5 minutes to break and lunchtime, and we have 4 different serving points. It means that queues will be short and all students will have plenty of time to get food and to go to the toilet. It means that we will no longer need to have a toilet window, students with a medical need will be issued with a toilet pass which they will be able to use if they need to go to the toilet during lesson time. They will need to show this to their teacher so it is important that they have it with them at all times.

We have kept the uniform very simple and have reduced costs as much as possible while ensuring that students still look smart. All students must wear a white shirt and tie (provided for Y7 students on day 1), black trousers or skirt, either a Lyng Hall blazer or a Lyng Hall jumper, or both, and, plain black footwear. Trainers if worn must be plain black. No other footwear is acceptable. Full details of the uniform can be found on the website. Students will be sent home to change if they arrive at school incorrectly dressed.

Attendance regulations have also changed nationally. All students should be in school for 8:45am ready for an 8:50 start to lesson 1. The door to the sports centre will now be our separate late entrance for students. However, any student who arrives after 9:15 will be classed as absent for the morning session. If this happens on a regular basis it will trigger action under the absence procedures, which include the possibility of a penalty notice.

There will be occasions when your child is ill and unable to come to school. Please let us know as soon as possible preferably using "studybugs" which you can access on our website.

Students who attend school every day get by far the best results and therefore more opportunities.



We will have over 200 students in the sixth form in September and so we have designated a part of the school just for them. We are offering a wide range of courses at level 2 and level 3. Post 16 students will have their own classrooms and social spaces but will still have plenty of opportunity to set a good example to the rest of the school.



It is important to remember that mobile phones and listening devices are not allowed in school. We realise that many pupils will have them but they must not be used at any time during the school day. If phones are seen, they will be looked after by staff until the end of the day, although if this is a persistent problem we will ask parents to keep phones at home. Your support with this is really important. Sixth form students are only allowed to use their phones in the sixth form area of the school at break and lunchtime only.

Performing Arts has rapidly become a very strong and popular subject in school. If you saw the production of Fame this year you will agree that this popularity is fully justified. In response, during the summer we have installed a new and improved dance and drama studio with an adjacent music room. It will now be possible to study performing arts subjects from Y7 through to Y13 and on to University or specialist college.

For the scientists and budding engineers we now have a thriving robotics programme and this year we will be challenging other schools in the MAT and internationally in a series of competitions. We also have a 3D printer which allows students to combine elements of computer programming with the production of high quality objects. This work will allow us to develop some exciting collaboration between science, art and design.

Our Mandarin programme grows from strength to strength and students in Y9 have recently returned from a 10 day trip to Shanghai. Two students who studied Mandarin at Lyng Hall completed A level Mandarin this year and are looking at future careers in international business, finance and commerce. Learning to speak, read and write Mandarin creates even more opportunities for students and I am pleased that we have a full group of students starting their studies in Y7.

By January our new sports hall should also be complete, which alongside our swimming pool, athletics track, pitches and gym will also give us more indoor courts, a fitness room and a weights room.

The student council has produced an excellent charter which describes how the students expect each other and the school community to behave towards each other. It is on display in every classroom and in corridors. You can find a copy on the website

It really is an exciting time to be starting or returning to Lyng Hall and we look forward to seeing all of our students, on time, in correct uniform and working hard.

Y7 and Y12 8:45 on Wednesday 4th September. Everyone else 8:45 on Thursday 5th