



Longdendale
HIGH SCHOOL

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Head of School

Michael Chiles
Executive Principal
Melanie Wicks

Dear Longdendale families,

As we embark on a new academic year, I extend a warm welcome to all our students and families, both new and returning. We are excited about the opportunities this year holds and are committed to ensuring that each student achieves their full potential through excellence and ambition for all. To achieve this, I want to highlight some key areas that are critical to a successful start.

Attendance

Regular attendance is vital for academic success. Each day of learning builds on the previous one, and missing school can create gaps that are hard to fill. We ask for your support in ensuring that your child attends school every day, on time. Should your child need to miss school due to illness or an unavoidable circumstance, please inform the school as early as possible. If your child should be absent for a while, we will support them in ensuring missed learning is caught up and give them the best opportunities to achieve this when they are ready to return to school.

Behaviour and Attitudes to Learning

A positive and respectful learning environment is essential for everyone's success. We expect all students to exhibit behaviour that reflects our school's values of respect, resilience, and aspiration. This means being kind and considerate to peers and staff, following school rules, and actively participating in their learning are important. Encouraging your child to approach school with a positive attitude, curiosity, and a willingness to engage, will set them on the path to success. We believe that a collaborative effort between home and school will foster these important traits.

I will be holding a series of family forums during September with dates and times communicated during the first week of the academic year. This will be an opportunity for families to hear my vision for Longdendale and how we can work together to achieve this.

Uniform Expectations

Our school uniform promotes a sense of community and equality among students. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that your child comes to school dressed in the correct uniform each day. Please refer to the school's uniform policy for specific guidelines. If you have questions or need help with uniform needs, please contact the school to discuss.

For the first week of the new academic year, we will be welcoming students back into the academy and reflecting on our mission and core values of respect, resilience and aspiration. This will give all students the opportunity to be reminded of our high expectations and settle into the new academic year.

On **Wednesday 4th September**, only **year 7 and 11** will be required to attend with students gathering on the top yard by **8:30am**. Staff will be available to guide students to the correct place.

On **Thursday 5th September**, all year groups will be required to attend with all students on the top yard by **8:30 am**.

I look forward to meeting you in September.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Chiles
Head of School

