



**Longdendale**  
HIGH SCHOOL

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#### Head of School

Michael Chiles

#### Executive Principal

Melanie Wicks

12<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Longdendale Families,

I hope this letter finds you well.

### Homework update

Homework plays a crucial role in reinforcing what your child learns in the classroom and offers them the opportunity to practice and deepen their understanding of key concepts.

Here are a few reasons why homework is so important for your child's educational success:

1. **Reinforces Learning:** Homework provides an opportunity to review and practice concepts taught in class. Repetition helps solidify new knowledge, making it easier to recall and apply when needed.
2. **Encourages Responsibility:** Completing homework helps children develop responsibility, time management, and organisational skills.
3. **Fosters Independent Learning:** Homework encourages students to become more independent learners. It allows them to explore topics on their own, seek answers, and problem-solve, helping build confidence and self-reliance.
4. **Promotes Parent-Child Interaction:** Homework is also a way for families to stay connected to what their children are learning. When parents offer guidance or discuss assignments, it strengthens the learning process and fosters meaningful dialogue about academic goals.

For this reason, the homework strategy has been reviewed and from this week students will be expected to complete the following:

### Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9)

1. 30 mins completing masters of knowledge work per day (five days a week).
2. 60 mins Sparx Maths per week
3. 60 mins Sparx Reader per week

### Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11)

1. 30 mins completing masters of knowledge work per day (five days a week).
2. 60 mins of Sparx maths/reader per week (on rotation).
3. 30 mins subject specific per week – can be online platform or specific task such as practice papers.

We recognise that each child has different needs and that balancing homework with other activities is important. If at any point your child is struggling or feeling overwhelmed, please reach out to their teacher. We are here to support them and make sure that learning remains a positive experience.

### Attendance update

Excellent attendance at school is paramount for young people in order to make the most progress in school. Longdendale recognises this importance and are therefore informing you of an exciting research project we are working on with our partner ImpactEd.



ImpactEd is a social enterprise research company which evaluates what is working well in schools across the country and what impact this is having on the outcomes of our young people.

We are using the ImpactEd platform to complete self-report surveys to help us understand some of the barriers to achieving higher attendance rates. This will help us put in place targeted interventions and support for our students.

To fully understand our local community and any potential barriers to high attendance at school, both students and parents / carers are asked to complete these surveys. Students are completing a short self-report survey to gather their feedback on the following areas related to attendance rates:

Psychological sense of school membership - focused on a sense of belonging to the school community.

- School engagement - measures students' behavioural, emotional, and cognitive engagement with school.
- Wellbeing - includes contentment, overall sense of purpose and day-to-day happiness.
- Grit - perseverance and passion for long-term goals

You are invited to complete our survey relating to your views on attendance and how we can further support you. We really appreciate your honest feedback and time in completing this survey.



The link to the survey is below or using the QR code:

<https://impacted.typeform.com/longdendale>

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education. Together, we can create an environment where learning extends beyond the school day and every child has the opportunity to succeed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Chiles'.

Mr Chiles  
**Head of School**