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Longley Park Sixth Form - Term Two Update

 10th January 2023

Hello and Happy New Year.

We welcomed our students back into lessons for the new year this week. As we start the new term, we wanted to provide you with some information to help you support your child. Many students are due to sit examinations in January and we are only 14 weeks away from the final assessment and examination window in Summer. A great deal of work is underway to support students in preparing for these, including trial assessments and support sessions, and our Learning Matters initiative, and this will continue to give students the best possible chance of success in their examinations.

You can also see the Brigantia Learning Trust’s Autumn Term newsletter to see what has been happening across the our academies: [Brigantia Trust Newsletter Autumn 2022](https://www.longleypark.ac.uk/news/latest-news/brigantia-trust-newsletter-autumn-2022).

There are regular updates on all our social media about student successes, events, and important dates. If you are not already following us, take a second now to click through and like or follow Longley Park Sixth Form so that you never miss important news.

   

We also have a parents and carers handbook with lots of useful information and contact details – many of you will have received a copy at our first consultation event in December. You can access an online copy here: <https://sway.office.com/sCbU7TudZBsU0HED?ref=Link>

**Learning Matters**

Every week this term we are promoting learning and how to do it well. Our learners will bring with them many skills and good habits developed from GCSE study. We want to help students strengthen these skills and develop them into habits.

Learning Matters gives students weekly strategies to develop their study habits and approach to learning, to help them know and remember more and crucially, enjoy the process. At the end of each week, we will be giving out free resources to help you put some of these strategies into action.

[Learning Matters at Longley Park Sixth Form](https://www.longleypark.ac.uk/learning-matters)

We encourage you to look at the Learning Matters strategies and have conversations with your child about how they learn best and what strategies they are using. Also, make sure that they look out for Freebie Friday around the sixth form each week.

**Attendance and Absences**

Good attendance and punctuality are some of the key factors for student success. We expect all students to aim for 100% attendance. We will be sending letters to the large number of students who did achieve 100% attendance last term. The graphic below shows the impact that missing just a few days of learning could have.

Where students are missing lessons or have low attendance, this will be challenged robustly and could result in sanctions across the sixth form.

A reminder that all holidays or visits that are not linked to education should be organised outside of term time. Any extended absence within term time will have a significant impact on student progress and needs to be avoided. You can find our term dates here: [Term Dates - Longley Park Sixth Form](https://www.longleypark.ac.uk/parent-information/term-dates)

**January Vocational Exams and GCSE English and Maths results**

BTEC and LIBF exams are taking place in January and February 2023. Students should know if they have been entered for these exams and should check Cedar, under ‘Exam Timetable’, this will show students what exams they have been entered for. Room and Seat numbers will be available on this page nearer the dates of the exams. Students should check this and report any errors to their subject teacher, or a member of the Examinations Team (S37) - Tel. 0114 262 5724 / 5770.

Parents can access the exam timetable by logging onto the 6th Form CEDAR system. If you need help accessing CEDAR email cedarsupport@longleypark.ac.uk

Email and text messaging are the preferred mode of contact with students, so it is important that students check their emails regularly. If students change their mobile phone number, they must inform the 6th Form immediately.

There is additional information on this link: [2023 Winter Examinations Newsletter.](https://www.longleypark.ac.uk/news/latest-news/2023-winter-examinations-newsletter)

For those students who sat GCSE English or maths resits in November, the results will be released to students on CEDAR on Thursday, 12th January. Good luck to all of those awaiting a grade.

**Progression**

Many students completed trial examinations in December and over the next half-term we will be starting discussion with Level 2 students and Level 3 Year 1 students about progression pathways for them in September. We have high expectations of our learners, and we expect 95% attendance and evidence of good progress for automatic progression within the sixth form. At Level 2 this means that we want to see students working to at least a Merit grade and at Level 3 working around their minimum expected grades.

Where students are not meeting this, we will put interventions and support into place, and you may be requested to speak with a teacher or team of staff to ensure that all who are involved can provide support to ensure a successful outcome.

**Cost of Living**

We appreciate the cost-of-living crisis is providing a challenge for many of us and as such we continue to extend our offer of support, help and signposting to specific services that may be able to help. Below you will find some information that be useful to you. Alternatively, please do contact the Safeguarding and Wellbeing Team at the Sixth Form who are able to support your further.

There is additional information on this link: <https://www.longleypark.ac.uk/media/2155/financial-support-information.docx>

Learn Sheffield is offering a free webinar we are offering to parents/carers in January on how to eat well and save money. This is the link to book: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/10-top-tips-for-a-healthier-bank-balance-how-to-eat-well-and-save-money-tickets-466197137187>.

**Dream Big. Aim High. Reach Further.**

A range of support will be available to students over the next half term, including intervention, revision and exam preparation sessions and the ILC is open every day for students to use independently.

Parental support with learning and preparation for assessments is so important and we welcome your support in helping students use and act on the feedback given to them by their teachers and tutors. Should you have any questions about how your child is progressing, what it means or how you can help, please contact your son or daughter’s Tutor in the first instance.

We all wish you and your family all the best for 2023.

Regards,





Jamie Davies, Executive Principal

principal@longleypark.ac.uk

**Useful Links and Information**

* Accessing Cedar – this is our online parent portal. Here you will be able to track the progress, attendance and any concerns and commendations that are received. It’s a great way to keep informed about what is happening at the Sixth Form.  Click [here](https://longleypark.ac.uk/media/2078/cedar-information-for-parents-and-carers-2.pdf) to view.
* BTEC student handbook – many of our students are study BTEC qualifications and for some, this maybe a different way of studying. We want to support students to make the transition to this qualification and this handbook outlines expectations, demands and rules around the submission of work. Click [here](https://longleypark.ac.uk/media/2074/btec-booklet.pdf) to view.
* Information around Sixth Form ID – to keep our site safe, we ask all students to always wear an ID card when they are on site. The ID card is also a student’s card for printing and to spend bursary money in the canteen. Where a student continues to forget their card on multiple occasions, we will refuse them entry to the site. The process around this is detailed on the attached letter.  Click [here](https://longleypark.ac.uk/media/2075/student-id-process.pdf) to view.
* Wellbeing support apps – starting at a new sixth form can be an emotional time for some. We have a wellbeing team to help students settle into their new surroundings. There are also a range of apps that students can access to support their wellbeing throughout their time with us.  Click [here](https://longleypark.ac.uk/media/2076/welbeing-apps.pdf) to view.
* Parent’s and Carer’s Handbook – there is a wealth of information about the sixth form, the support that students can access, and information from curriculum areas within the handbook. Click [here](https://sway.office.com/sCbU7TudZBsU0HED?ref=Link) to view.

