

Parent & Carer Newsletter

As we approach the end of the half-term, we are sending our first half-termly update for parents and carers. It was wonderful to meet so many of our at our parents and carers welcome event in September. This half-term we welcomed over 600 new students to the Sixth Form and we are proud of how well learners have made the transition to post-16 studying. Many students are making excellent use of our Independent Learning Centre, taking part in our Enrichment programme and supporting their mental and physical fitness in our gym and with our wellbeing team.

Every week this term we are promoting learning and how to do it well. We want all our learners to love learning and excel at it. You can help your son or daughter do this by talking about their day – what content they have covered and what tasks they must complete and crucially, when, where and how are they completing their learning beyond the classroom. Just the process of explaining their learning to someone else can be extremely powerful. We hope you will join us in promoting this and making sure that Learning Matters at Longley Park.

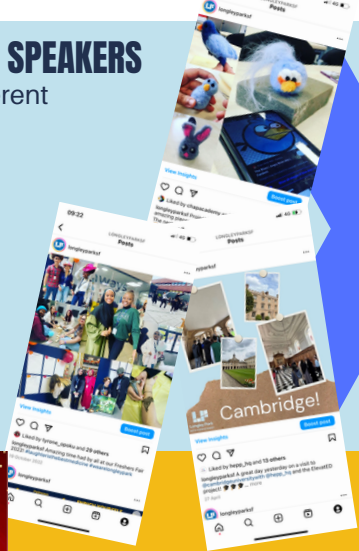
We are always looking to get your views on the sixth form. You can always contact me on principal@longleypark.ac.uk with any questions or queries. Our safeguarding and wellbeing team are available over the half-term should you have any issues or concerns. You can contact them on safeguarding@longleypark.ac.uk. We look forward to students returning from half-term on Monday 30th October at 9am.

PROJECT YOU >>

For our students, achieving their qualification is just one part of their time at the sixth form. We talk a lot about PROJECT YOU- that means developing students as a learner, individual and a member of our community.

ENRICHMENT, EVENTS, VISITS & SPEAKERS

In 2022/23 we offered over 70 different societies, clubs and enrichment opportunities for our students to engage in. Learning first hand from industry professionals helps our students to develop their understanding of the world of work; this year we are hoping to have over 50 different visiting speakers.



SHEFFIELD HALLAM UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

We are thrilled to announce that our sixth form has officially entered into a working partnership with Sheffield Hallam University. This collaboration opens the doors to endless possibilities and a bright future ahead for our students. Together, we're set to create something truly extraordinary.



Our Freshers Fair 2023 created a memorable start to the year. There was dancing, laughter and sweet treats available for the students. This annual event allows students the chance to create memories together and to showcase the spirit of our vibrant community. We want that enthusiasm and positive energy to carry on throughout the year.



RESULTS DAY SUMMER

This summer, our students exhibited outstanding dedication and determination, resulting in a remarkable set of results. A significant number of our students have been accepted into universities across the country, pursuing a diverse range of courses and programs. Their hard work and commitment have paid off, and we couldn't be prouder of their accomplishments. It's not just about university placements; we are equally thrilled by the success of our students who have chosen apprenticeships and other career pathways. These students have demonstrated the versatility of their skills and are well on their way to building successful careers.



What's happened this term?



BUSINESS, IT & LAW

Business have been supporting their Level 2 students to build team building skills by mixing students across both groups to build the largest tower. L3 Business year 1 students have been exploring different types of customer service and have been on a visit to Meadowhall tasked with speaking to staff in different types of shops to observe and review the levels of customer service they were exposed to. This was then brought back into the classroom to create a debate around customer service levels in different branded and product value shops. Level 3 Year 2 Business students have been learning about breakeven, the ability to calculate the point at which a business makes not profit and no loss and then assess the impact of breakeven analysis to a business.

Financial Studies students have been investigating how to budget and plan for mandatory, essential, and discretionary expenses and how to save for the future with the impact of cost of living and inflation against the value of their money now and then.

IT and Computing students have been building their skills around coding language, hardware devices from the past to the present day and around network diagrams whilst learning the fundamentals of databases.

Law students have been learning about criminal and civil courts in the English legal system. They have been researching and creating presentations exploring the different legal professions including solicitors, barristers, legal executives and paralegals. Students have been able to explain their understanding of lay people, explaining the roles, powers and qualification of magistrates and juries.

STEM

As we embark on a new academic year, the STEM department welcomes both returning and new students with enthusiasm and a shared commitment to exploration, innovation, and discovery. This academic year promises to be a journey filled with exciting challenges and opportunities as we delve into the realms of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology and Mathematics. Our second-year students are already hard at work using directed study periods in the ILC for additional independent learning and Applied Science students are starting to show their knowledge and understanding with their first assignments. Students in A level maths embarked on the national maths challenge and Psychology second year Thursday morning and Friday afternoon interventions are well attended.



HEALTH

Our second year Health and Social care students are studying hard towards their anatomy and physiology exam that they will sit in January 2024. The students have studied the structure and function of a typical human cell along with key organelles that control and influence cell behaviour. Additionally, learners have discovered the key tissue types that make up the human body and examined the role that they play in supporting body functions. From this, students have developed a keen awareness of the role of energy in the body, types of genetic disorders and their effects as well as homeostatic mechanisms and the consequences of homeostasis failure on the body. In the coming weeks, learners will acquire knowledge of the structures and functions of main body systems such as the cardiovascular and respiratory systems and the numerous disorders associated with them.



CRIMINOLOGY

Criminology students are busy preparing for their Controlled Assessments. These are for both first and second year Criminology students and will be in the week commencing 11th December, these form 25% of the overall grade for the Criminology course. The controlled assessments are 8 hours (over three sessions), students can take notes in with them. Please encourage your student to be making clear notes in preparation.

In History students are engaged in study of the challenges facing ruling powers – Tsar Nicholas and the February Revolution of 1917 and the first Stuart Kings' clashes with Parliament. They are honing their source analysis skills understanding the usefulness and reliability of different accounts of the past as well as considering how historians background shapes their interpretations of key events

HISTORY

ENGLISH

A Level English Literature students have been learning about the Tragic form this half term. They have explored stage designs, characterisation, and the ways in which writers shape the meaning of their works. A Level English Language students have been getting to grips with the key concepts and ideas of linguistic study. The learning they are undertaking now will really support them as they begin to explore sociolinguistics, child language acquisition and language change

CREATIVE ARTS

In Creative Arts, students have been exploring different techniques and styles through a range of shorter introductory projects. Students are enjoying the opportunity to acquire and develop a wide range of traditional and contemporary technical skills. The current projects are designed to help students develop and conceptualise an understanding of art contexts and implement their conceptualisation of art theory and art history into the production and refinement of their individual work.



SAFEGUARDING @THE SIXTH FORM



We all have a statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children and young people in our care. We have safeguarding policies and systems in place to help their safety and ensure a consistent approach to practices throughout the school, followed by all staff.

We are committed to working closely with parents and carers for the benefits of our students. We also work with a range of professionals to support our students and their families to get the right help at the right time.

ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet regularly and may be involved in more online activity than their parents and carers. Some children and young people may have greater technical knowledge than their parents and carers, but they may be unable to identify the risks of giving too much personal information online and may be unable to spot scams as readily as adults. So, take time to get involved with your child's or young person's internet use and teach them about online safety. More detail is on the information commission website <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/online/social-networking/>

CEOP

If children or young people or parents or carers are worried about the way someone has been communicating with a child or young person online, you can visit Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command online to make a report and seek support using via <https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>



LPSF PANTRY

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, and as such I am pleased to report that our local Tesco supermarket support our LPSF Pantry (Food Bank). You can access this support discreetly by contacting a member of the safeguarding team safeguarding@longleypark.ac.uk. Just ask always here to help!

OUT OF HOURS CONTACT

Longley Park Sixth Form opening times are 8.00am until 4.30pm Monday to Friday. Outside of these times, and during school holidays, we will endeavour to respond to your query as soon as possible. However, if you have any concerns about the welfare of a child or young person during these times, please contact the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub on **0114 273 4855** (24-hour service). If you think a child or a young person is in immediate danger, please call the Police on **999** at any time.



Dates for your diary

SAVE THE DATE

The November GCSE exams will take place on the following dates.

GCSE English

Tuesday 7th November at 9.00am
Thursday 9th November at 9.00am

GCSE Maths

Wednesday 8th November at 9.00am
Friday 10th November at 9.00am
Monday 13th November at 9.00am

Students should arrive early for all exams and will need to make sure they bring everything they need with them. We will provide secure storage for bags, coats and mobile phones, as students are not allowed access to these during their exam periods.



New to Sheffield: Building Connections

We're thrilled to share the success of our very first "New To Sheffield" group meeting last week! Our goal is to create a welcoming space for students who are new to Sheffield, to connect with others in the same boat, and nurture beautiful friendships

The turnout was fantastic, with so many students coming together to share their stories, experiences, and dreams. It's amazing to see such a diverse and dynamic group taking shape!

At our next meeting, we're taking things up a notch by inviting parents to join us. We believe that family is an essential part of a student's journey, and we want to make them feel just as included. This will be held on Wednesday 1st November from 5.30pm.

Stay tuned for details about our upcoming meeting, and don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or suggestions. Let's make Sheffield feel like home!

JOIN NOW

AAC

I would also like to take this opportunity to invite interest to join our Academy Advisory Council (AAC). Each AAC consists of a group of people who could be parents, community nominees and academy staff. The key aims of the AAC are to act to support and challenge the Sixth Form leadership; to advise about local issues that we may need to consider; to represent the interest of the community in the running of the Sixth Form and to represent the Sixth Form in the community. If you would be interested in supporting us on our AAC or know of a local stakeholder that could work with us, please do contact principal@longleypark.ac.uk.

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.

