



Longridge High School

NEWSLETTER 5th October 2026



Year 11 begin their final, most important year. Keep up the great work and your efforts will pay off!

Dear Parents

Welcome Back

A warm welcome to all our students and families as we begin another exciting school year. It has been wonderful to see the school full of energy, enthusiasm and ambition from the very first day.

We would also like to extend a special welcome to our new Year 7 students, who have made a fantastic start to life at Longridge High School. They have settled quickly into routines, embraced new opportunities and demonstrated our values of Respect, Learn, Grow, Together from day one. We look forward to seeing all our students continue to thrive throughout the year ahead.

As you will be aware last week we welcomed Ofsted to Longridge High School. During the inspection, inspectors spent time reviewing many aspects of school life, including the quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, leadership and management, and our provision for pupils with SEND. Although I cannot share the outcome until the final report is published, we are extremely pleased and look forward to sharing the details soon. Throughout the visit, our pupils were exceptional, demonstrating the respect, kindness and ambition that make our school so special. Thank you to our parents and carers for your ongoing support and for the positive feedback many of you shared with inspectors. We are also incredibly grateful to our staff, whose dedication and commitment help make Longridge High School such a positive place to learn and thrive.

Exceptional GCSE Results

We were delighted to celebrate another year of outstanding GCSE results this summer.

Our students achieved an Attainment 8 score of 51.1, significantly above the national average of 46.0. Attainment 8 is the government's headline measure of academic achievement and reflects students' performance across eight key qualifications, including English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and other approved subjects.

These excellent outcomes are a testament to the hard work and determination of our students, the dedication of our staff and the unwavering support of parents and carers. We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 leavers and wish them every success in the next stage of their education and careers.

Attendance Matters

Thank you to all parents and carers for your support with our continued focus on attendance.

Good attendance is one of the strongest indicators of future success. Every lesson counts, and students who attend school regularly are better placed to achieve their full potential both academically and socially.

We appreciate the efforts families make to ensure students attend school every day and arrive on time. By working together, we can provide every student with the best possible opportunity to succeed.

Parent Survey Reminder

Thank you to everyone who has already completed our parental survey via Synergy.

Your feedback is extremely valuable and helps us understand what we are doing well and where we can continue to improve. We are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers, and your views play an important role in shaping our future priorities.

Travel and Roadworks Update

Please be aware that roadworks are currently taking place at both Roman Way and due to start at Stonebridge, Longridge.

These works may affect journey times for some students travelling to and from school. We kindly ask families to review travel arrangements where necessary and allow additional time for journeys to ensure students arrive in school by 8:40am each morning.

Thank you for your support and understanding while these works are ongoing.

Keeping Students Safe

Supporting students to make safe and informed choices is an important part of our personal development programme.

This month, students participated in workshops delivered by No More Knives, which focused on raising awareness of the dangers and consequences of knife crime. The sessions encouraged students to think carefully about decision-making, personal responsibility and staying safe within their communities.

Our Year 7 students also took part in a Streetwise Road Safety session. As many students are now travelling independently to school for the first time, these workshops provided valuable guidance on staying safe when walking, cycling and travelling on local roads.

Preparing for the Future

Our Year 11 students have already begun considering their next steps beyond Longridge High School.

During September, representatives from a range of local colleges and training providers delivered assemblies to students, outlining the opportunities available after GCSEs. These sessions form part of our wider careers programme and help students make informed decisions about their future education, training and career pathways.

We look forward to supporting students as they begin exploring the exciting opportunities available to them.

A Successful Open Evening

We were delighted to welcome prospective students and their families to our annual Open Evening earlier this month.

The evening was a tremendous success and provided visitors with the opportunity to experience life at Longridge High School, meet our staff and students, and see our excellent facilities and learning environment first-hand. A special thank you goes to our student ambassadors, who represented the school exceptionally well throughout the evening. Their confidence, enthusiasm and pride in our school were evident to all who attended.

School Production: Legally Blonde

We are excited to announce that this year's school production will be Legally Blonde.

Auditions have taken place and casting has now been completed. We were hugely impressed by the talent, dedication and enthusiasm shown by all students who auditioned.

Rehearsals are now underway, and we look forward to sharing updates as preparations continue for what promises to be another fantastic school production.

Looking Ahead

The new school year has started exceptionally well, and there is much to look forward to in the months ahead.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to ensure every student can achieve their full potential. By maintaining high expectations, encouraging strong attendance and working in partnership, we can continue to provide the very best opportunities for all our young people.

As always please get in touch if there is anything you want to ask or for any support you think we might be able to offer.

Kind Regards **Neil Riley**
Headteacher

WHAT OUR WONDERFUL YEAR 7'S HAVE TO SAY SO FAR

I have felt happy because all of my friends are with me! I have enjoyed seeing all the new year 7's and seeing all my friends, also I have seen lots of people in other years that I know some from gymnastics and dance. At first I was worried about the older children and being lost however the older children are kind and helpful and also you can ask if you are lost you could ask an older child or teacher and they will help you. I am still looking forward to helping the next year 7s settle in in next year and also I've been excited to do things in DT and read Refugee Boy in English.

I have felt alright but a bit nerve racking starting LHS. I have enjoyed meeting all these new people and teachers in all different classes. I have also liked how much freedom we get because in primary school we'd usually just stay in class. At first I was worried about not finding my classes but I found my way just fine. I am still looking forward to my music lessons and all the pe lessons.



This week has been exciting it has been so fun exploring different buildings and rooms ,even though I got lost a few times. I have also enjoyed different lessons that I didn't have in primary school. I have made new friends that are very different compared to the ones I have in primary school. I am looking forward to getting to know them better as we go through the 5 years of high school we have together.

So far in year 7 I have enjoyed making new friends, meeting lots of people and having more responsibility than I used to have. It has been so fun being able to find my way around school with my friends. My favourite things in school is only having one lesson after lunch and walking to and from classes. Right now the subjects I enjoy the most is: Pe, Music and History. I don't normally prefer history than other subjects but all of teachers have made me feel welcome.

A Spectacular Summer School for Our Newest Students

This summer, we were delighted to welcome 48 Year 6 pupils from local primary schools to our Transition Summer School. Ahead of their September start, this fantastic group of future Year 7 students embraced a wide range of activities designed to help them build friendships, develop confidence, and feel at home within our school community.

Starting secondary school is an important milestone, and throughout the week our pupils demonstrated enthusiasm, resilience, and a willingness to step outside their comfort zones. As a result, they left with new friendships, increased confidence, and a greater sense of excitement about beginning their high school journey.

The programme combined engaging in-school enrichment activities with exciting outdoor adventures at Hothersall Lodge. In school, pupils developed their communication and teamwork skills through a variety of activities, including team-building challenges, British Sign Language workshops, and an introduction to beekeeping, complete with a honey-tasting session.

At Hothersall Lodge, students challenged themselves with rock climbing, zip-lining, caving, and canoeing. Their determination and courage were evident throughout, particularly when many took the opportunity to leap into the lake and experience wild swimming. Even Mr Anyon joined in the fun, taking the plunge alongside the students and helping to create memories that will last for years to come.

By the end of the week, our newest cohort had grown in confidence, strengthened their connections with one another, and developed the skills needed to make a successful start to secondary school. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mr Wright, Mr Anyon, Mr Brown, Mr Nawaz, Mrs EP, and Mrs Jackson for their dedication and enthusiasm in making the Summer School such a memorable and rewarding experience.

We look forward to welcoming this wonderful group of students in September and cannot wait to see all they achieve during their time at our school.



Year 7 Pupils Take Part in Streetwise Road Safety Theatre Presentation



As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping pupils safe, our Year 7 pupils recently took part in Streetwise, an engaging and thought-provoking road safety theatre presentation funded by Lancashire County Council.

The one-hour interactive performance explored the very real dangers that can arise when pedestrians become distracted or take unnecessary risks around roads. Through realistic scenarios, powerful storytelling and audience participation, pupils were encouraged to consider how everyday choices can affect their safety.

The presentation focused on common distractions that young people may encounter when travelling to and from school or spending time with friends, including:

- **Using mobile phones while walking near roads**
- **Listening to music through headphones and becoming unaware of their surroundings**
- **Being distracted by friends and engaging in unsafe behaviour near traffic**
- **Making impulsive decisions without fully considering the risks involved**

The performance highlighted how a split second of lost concentration can have serious, life-changing consequences. Pupils were encouraged to reflect on their own behaviour and think carefully about the decisions they make as pedestrians.

The programme was designed to:

- **Raise awareness of the dangers of distractions when using roads as a pedestrian, particularly when travelling familiar routes on "automatic pilot".**
- **Identify common risks young people may take around roads and understand the potential consequences of these actions.**
- **Highlight the dangers associated with crossing in front of or behind school buses and other vehicles.**
- **Help pupils develop practical strategies to resist peer pressure and make safer choices.**
- **Encourage the use of safe crossing points, including school crossing patrols, zebra crossings and pedestrian-controlled crossings.**
- **Increase pupils' confidence and knowledge when navigating roads safely.**
- **Promote positive, long-term attitudes and behaviours towards road safety, particularly on daily journeys such as the route to and from school.**

The session was both informative and impactful, providing an important reminder that staying alert and aware around traffic can help prevent serious accidents and keep everyone safe.

We would like to thank Lancashire County Council and the Streetwise team for delivering this valuable road safety education programme and helping our pupils develop the knowledge, awareness and confidence needed to make safer choices every day

OPEN EVENING ACTIVITIES IN THE ART DEPARTMENT

Inspired by *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds, our Opening Evening featured a wonderful collaborative art project that brought together pupils, parents, and staff.



Pupils from Years 4, 5 and 6 were joined by parents and our Head Teacher, Mr Riley, to take part in this creative activity. Each participant began by drawing and cutting out their own dot, taking inspiration from the book's message of creativity, confidence, and self-expression.

Everyone then had the opportunity to personalise their dot in their own unique way by adding drawings, designs, and imaginative decorations, ensuring that every piece reflected the individuality of its creator.

The project truly showcased the creativity of our school community. Once the dots were completed, our Year 9 pupils were on hand to help assemble them into a striking collaborative display. Their support and enthusiasm played an important role in bringing the artwork together.

The finished piece is a vibrant celebration of creativity, teamwork, and community spirit. Just as *The Dot* encourages us to make our mark and believe in our abilities, this artwork demonstrates how many individual contributions can come together to create something truly special. The display now serves as a colourful reminder of an enjoyable evening and the strong connections that exist across our school community.





ONLINE WORRY GROUP



A SAFE SPACE TO UNTANGLE YOUR WORRIES -
AN ONLINE GROUP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HIGH SCHOOL

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Tips to manage your worries
- Learn techniques and strategies you can use anywhere
- A safe space to talk and share experiences
- 6 online sessions, over 6 weeks - join from home
- Join on Microsoft Teams - communicating with peers on screen



WHAT OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE THOUGHT OF THE GROUP?



"The group helped me understand my worries and gave me proper strategies to try and handle them so that I'm more in control"



"I liked it being online because I could stay in my safe space at home but still get support."



"The mix of videos, chats and activities made it interesting"



"I loved having the booklet and looking back at the strategies in the week"



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