

Dear Parents and Carers,

16th September 2026

I am writing to you to outline some key messages regarding the year ahead.

Firstly, the year group has made a good start to the academic year. I hope you are aware from my letters that this summer we saw a great improvement in GCSE results. Our ambition is to improve next summer, this means of course there is lots of hard work and preparation to do between now and then. The next round of PPEs will be before the Christmas Holiday so your son/daughter should be revising each day in addition to completing home learning. We will send out further guidance and offer workshops regarding revision and preparing at home.

We recognise this year can be stressful not only for students but for families too. I ask that you trust us in what we are doing but also do come and ask for support and clarification if needed. Regarding revision it is important that when your child is revising, they do so in silence and not using devices or listening to music. Revision is preparing for an exam and so must be done in the same conditions as an exam. It is advisable to complete revision in 40-minute blocks of time as after this further information becomes difficult to absorb. After 40 minutes take a 10-minute break. Your child should not then go on their phone or watch television instead take the 10 minutes to hydrate and relax. If possible, bounce a ball or do some stretches as this will work other parts of the brain helping to relax. Then repeat this two more times. There is no merit in revising late into the night as the brain becomes over tired. Therefore, little and often rather than trying to cram it all in is much better.

When revising we suggest a session reading then doing mind-maps on blank paper and then doing some knowledge tests. All students can use Seneca which is really good for knowledge tests. I would also encourage your child to present to you what they have been studying, this way you can help but also by them presenting and teaching others really helps knowledge re-call and memory. It is of course, very important that your child gets to do the activities and hobbies they enjoy, socialising with family, friends and regular exercise really helps with mental well-being.

During this term we will open 6th Form applications. We expect every Year 11 to apply for the 6th Form. It is vital that at this stage your child applies and then makes a final decision in August. Of course, your child may want to apply for other institutions. You will have noted that our outcomes for A-Level and Level 3 subjects have improved again. Staying here at the 6th Form offers both continuity and teachers will be familiar with your child's academic strengths and areas for improvement. We are developing A* - A tutoring programmes and we have increased the numbers applying and gaining places at Russell Group universities. In key subjects such as maths and science new teachers and department leaders are raising levels of performance and expectations. Our pastoral care and enrichment post-16 is exemplary.

A reminder of some important dates:

- Monday 21st September teachers will be submitting the latest assessment grades
- Tuesday 6th October is Parents Evening
- 21st October is Progress Review Day and it is vital as with parents' evening you attend
- 30th November – Pre-Public Exams (PPE2) begin

At Progress Review Day we will provide parents with the PPE2 timetable and you can collect revision materials. In the meantime, do contact the school if you have any questions and remember the Year 11 team are at the gate each day.

Finally, this is an important year and I must emphasise that staff at Langdon Park want the very best for your child. Teachers have already started morning and after school classes which is testament to their dedication. We want to work closely with you as we all have a shared and common goal – ensuring that your child achieves the best qualifications possible. So, do come and speak with us, let us work as a team and please do show your appreciation to the hardworking and committed staff here at Langdon Park School.

I wish you and your child every success this year and look forward to seeing you at parents' evening on the 6th October.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Langham', with a large loop at the end.

Mr N Langham
Headteacher