

LITTLE HEATH SCHOOL

LEARNING FOR LIFE ○ TOGETHER ○ ONE COMMUNITY

The Class of Year 9 2023-2024



Mr Coulson

THE PLAN FOR THIS EVENING

- Introduction to GCSEs
- What will Year 9 be like?
- The Year 9 & KS4 support team
- Key dates, including an assessment timeline
- Importance of strong attendance
- Parental support
- The Tutor Programme
- Communication with us



WHY ARE GCSEs IMPORTANT?

- Provide **choice** for the future – many young people are unsure of their career path at this stage so a good range of high quality GCSE results will keep all options open to them
- They create opportunities for your child to achieve their aspirations

**WELL ROUNDED EDUCATION +
QUALIFICATIONS = CHOICE**



TARGET GRADES

- Bronze, Silver and Gold GCSE Targets based on CAT scores
 - ***Beat bronze; strive for silver and beyond!***



WHAT WILL YEAR 9 BE LIKE?

- 3-year KS4:
 - Increased time to do their very best in final examinations & Controlled Assessment (coursework)
 - Opportunity for enrichment within each subject
- Due to the large amount of content and increased demands in the final exams, it is imperative that students work equally hard in Year 9, 10 and 11
- Increased importance on revision strategies – retaining and recalling information as well as applying it appropriately to the exam questions

What should I expect?

- Homework
- Tutor programme
- House Points
- Students to come fully equipped and ready to learn
- Year 9 students must have a **reading book** with them each and every day, as we will be continuing with **DEAR Time** ('Drop Everything And Read') in lessons.



TUTOR PROGRAMME

- The Tutor should be the first point of contact for any concerns.
- The Tutor Programme in Y9 covers topics such as:
 - ❖ Reflection
 - ❖ Kindness
 - ❖ Resilience
 - ❖ Healthy Mindset
 - ❖ Happiness
 - ❖ Identifying your own Strengths
 - ❖ Effective Communication
- And uses resources from PIXL: Support Me / Being Me / Build Me / Connect Me.
- Along with the weekly rota of activities: Literacy/Numeracy, Wellbeing, Tutor Work & The epic Friday Quiz.



SUBJECTS AND HOURS PER FORTNIGHT

SUBJECT	Lessons/Hours per Fortnight
English	7
Mathematics	7
Science (Trilogy)	7
Religious Studies	4
Games	3
Personal Development	2
Option 1	5
Option 2	5
Option 3	5
Option 4	5

Science (Trilogy) is a **Double** award leading to **2 GCSEs**

Triple Science =
Science + an Option

This gives $7 + 5 = 12$ lessons/hours per fortnight, which is 4 lessons/hours each for Biology, Chemistry & Physics



JOHN HATTIE EFFECT SIZES



“the effect of parental engagement over a student’s school career is equivalent to adding two or three years to that student’s education”.



“You can’t go back and change the beginning, but you can change where you are, and change the ending.”

- **C.S. Lewis**



WHAT CAN PARENTS DO TO HELP?

- **Unplug** – sensible boundaries for technology
- **Promote health** – Sleep, Move, Eat
- **Encourage** out of school interests /time out
- **Provide** a quiet space for study (not on a bed)
- **Know the GCSEs** – check the exam boards, texts being used etc.
- **Test your child** –take interest in their revision; use the PLCs they receive
- **Communicate** – home/pupil/school
- **Support** our Behaviour for Learning policy
- **Monitoring homework – quality** rather than if it has just been completed (SMHW – Satchel One checking)
- **Regular communication at home** about their studies – ‘What book are you reading for English Literature?’ ‘What topic are you currently studying in History?’
- **Ongoing revision support**
- **Aspiration** – grade quality
- **Attendance** – ensure your child comes to school every day they possibly can



KEY MESSAGES TO PARENTS

- Your children will **never** have “no homework” or “nothing to do for school”
- This year will be challenging and they may feel stressed/anxious at times about their GCSEs
- Grade quality matters
- More than ever, consistent hard work matters!



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Last year's Year 11s:

Attendance	Average Grade	% of students achieving 4+ in Maths and English
98%+	6.3	100%
96%+	5.3	95%
94-96%	5.2	86%
92-94%	4.5	61%
88-92%	4.3	56%
80-88%	3.5	45%
Below 80%	2.5	20%

Every lesson counts; punctuality is crucial.



WHAT WE AIM TO DO

- We continue to work hard to ensure each student has the best possible chance of achieving their best results, whatever their ability, interest or ambition.
- Even more than ever, we are committed to delivering high quality teaching and learning in the classroom.
- We continue to offer a broad and balanced education to all students to enable greater choice in the future.
- We continue to be a caring and kind school where every person matters.
- The pastoral team of tutors, Heads of Year, Achievement Leaders and Inclusion are all here supporting your children.



LHS WEBSITE – WELLBEING PAGE

- [Little Heath School - Student Wellbeing](#)

[Home](#) > [Information](#) > [Student Life at LHS](#) > [Student Wellbeing](#)

Student Wellbeing

Optimistic October 2022

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month	2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)	3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you	4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list	5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good	6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better	7 Look for the good in people around you today
8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding	9 Share an important goal with someone you trust	10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently	11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward	12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today	13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing	14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation
15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted	16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting	17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society	18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead	19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future	20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time	21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you
22 Share a helpful tip	23 Recognise	24 Write down	25 You can't	26 Find a new	27 Be kind to	28 Ask yourself



KEY DATES FOR YEAR 9 2023-24

Date	Event
Late January 2024	Introductory report sent home
May 2024	Two weeks of Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs)
June 2024	End of Y9 Report sent home
13 th June 2024	Y9 Parents' Evening



ENHANCED EQUIPMENT LIST

- At least 2 blue or black pens
- A purple pen
- At least 2 pencils
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Ruler
- Protractor
- Compass
- Glue stick
- Coloured crayons or pens
- A scientific calculator
- Any other specialist equipment (e.g. Art)



THANK YOU

- Finally, we would like to say a massive thank you in advance for all the support you will give your son/daughter as they move through KS4, and for supporting us all, here at school
- Finally – thank you for attending and listening to us

