



Longley Park
SIXTH FORM ACADEMY
Creating Excellence Together,
through a culture of care

Parent & Carer Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We are already approaching the end of this half-term and have less than 10 weeks until the final assessments and exams start. A great deal of work is underway to support students in preparing for these, including trial exams and support sessions. Our Learning Matters campaign continues, and this will continue to give students the best possible chance of success in their examinations. You can see all the revision techniques on our website and use these to support at home with revision and exam preparation. <https://longleypark.ac.uk/learning-matters> It is vital that students are using their time well to prepare for final assessments and examinations.

Being here and on time to sixth form is vital if students are to achieve to the highest standard. We know that when the weather is cold and wet, getting up and getting here can be that little bit harder but every lesson every day is what we need from all our students. Students with 95% or better attendance are proven to have the best chances at success during their studies and beyond that into employment. For any reason students are unable to attend then they should be completing the online absence reporting form to let us know about their absence.

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.

PROJECT YOU Enrichment, events, visits & UCAS

2023-24 ENRICHMENT

Block 4

Podcast club
Wednesday 11:45 - GS4 - Miran

Bollywood Dance/Fitness
Thursday - 12:50 - Liversidge - Parmi, Sarah

Indoor cricket
Monday 10:20 - Concord - Julie

Dungeons & Dragons RPG Club
Monday - 3:20 PM - 073 - Kai, Ellie

Chess Club
Mondays - 3:20 PM - 5:05 - Hugh, Ruth, Jon

Gaming Club
Tuesday - 3:20 PM - F07 - Matt Collin

Board Game Cafe
Friday 2:45 - 5:21 - Nisida Marshall, Pieter Formby

Go Club
Tuesday - 10:20 - 5:35 - Duncan

RUNNING AT KEY TIMES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

LIBRARY Club - Friday Lunch in B06 - Yamen

Ready Set Go - Tuesday 3:30 - 5:00 - Masha

Jamnah congregational program - Friday 5:30 - Clifford

LPSP Book Club - Friday Lunch 10:00 - Helen, Alica, Pete

National Theatre Live Screenings - Wed 3:20-5:23 Jaha, Alica

Science Documentary - Monday 3:20-5:20 - Chris

Running Club - Tuesday 3:00 Gym - Ben

Fantasy Football - Tuesday 3:20 - 5:30 - Mark, Peter

Crafting - Like Gilding - Friday 3:20 - 5:27 - Yasmine, Kriston

Indoor Climbing - 7:30 - 10:45 - Off Site - Anna, James

We are thrilled to share the latest update on our students' UCAS journey! So far, an incredible 40 students have accepted offers for university places, marking a significant step towards their academic dreams. Excitingly, 11 of our talented students have secured spots at the prestigious University of Sheffield! Their diverse choices in subjects, ranging from Law, Biomedical Science, Robotic Engineering, to Chemistry, reflect the breadth of expertise and interests within our community. A whopping 249 students have received offers for university placements, showcasing the impressive achievements of our graduating class. Among these acceptances, 70 students have been offered places at renowned Russell Group universities, including Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield, and York. The spectrum of subjects spans from Philosophy, Architecture, Politics, and Economics to nursing, education, computer science, and law. This outstanding accomplishment reflects not only the academic excellence of our students but also the diversity of their aspirations.

Proud moments

Ellie- Louise is studying a BTEC Extended Diploma in Health & Social Care and has been offered a place at the University of Nottingham to study Midwifery.

UCAS

339

applications sent. We are done!

JOB WELL DONE!

This term we have also had our Health students on placement in the community and the feedback has been fantastic, making us feel very proud. Students across the sixth form have also been visiting Sheffield Hallam University, engaging in science practical's and stock trading in the Bloomberg Trading Room.



CERTIFICATE COLLECTION EVENING

We had the pleasure of welcoming back our extraordinary 2023 leavers to collect their hard-earned qualification certificates. The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement and nostalgia as we witnessed the familiar faces that once filled our corridors' return, now adorned with the glow of accomplishment. Seeing these bright individuals, who were once a crucial part of our community, brought an overwhelming sense of pride. As they shared their experiences of university life and professional endeavours, it became clear that our leavers have truly embraced the opportunities that lie beyond the classroom.

Learning Matters

We believe in the unique brilliance of each student, recognising that everyone learns in their own distinctive way. Our commitment to fostering a culture of continuous learning and growth is embodied in our innovative Learning Matters program. Every week, our students receive strategies designed to enhance their study habits and elevate their learning experience. Delivered straight to their Sixth Form email, these insightful strategies cover a spectrum of topics crucial for academic success. At the sixth form, we understand that education is not a one-size-fits-all journey. Learning Matters is our way of empowering students to embrace their individuality, providing them with the tools and strategies needed to excel in their studies and beyond.

Learning Matters #16

Working Under Pressure - timed conditions

What's happened this term?

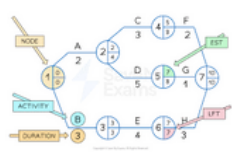
Business, IT & Law

Financial Studies students in year 1 have finished Unit 1 – Financial Capability for the Short to Medium term and are awaiting their exam results which will be released w/c 5th Feb. They have now moved onto Financial Capability in the Short to Medium Term and have focused on cost of living, needs, aspirations and wants and savings and investments to date.

Financial Studies students in year 2 have finished Unit 3 Sustainability for Individual Finances and are awaiting their exam results due next week. They have now moved onto Unit 4, focusing on Financial Service providers and have started to learn about the competitive nature in the Banking Industry and the need to increase competition, break down barriers to entry so to increase challenger banks and bring more consumer choice and value.

Business year 2 students are close to finishing their Unit 5 International Business assignments and are currently looking at cultural differences and barriers in international markets and reasons why businesses trade overseas. They have also completed their Unit 6 Leadership and Management exam and Unit 7 Business decision making exam with results pending in March. They will now move onto Event Planning and Pitching a new Business idea and are looking forward to their team building residential in April.

Students in Y2 A Level Business have been focussing on business decision making this half term using a range of mathematical models to aide businesses in making decisions to support their progress. One technique is Critical Path Analysis which allows a business to identify which tasks within a project can be carried out simultaneously or be delayed without delaying a whole project. (See image)



In Y1 students have been exploring the concepts of supply and demand and looking at the price elasticity of demand which explains how responsive demand is to a change in price for a variety of goods and drawing diagrams to illustrate the impact of a range of factors that impact supply or demand, such as population, advertising, substitute goods, costs of production and government subsidies to name a few.

Law BTEC – Unit 1 / unit 3 exams took place. Y1s are moving onto the criminal justice system. Y2 are now looking at consumer law. A Level Law– Y1 have completed criminal law and now looking at liability in Tort Law – claiming damages for negligence. Y2s are focusing on exam revision and technique.

STEM

In the STEM Curriculum area this half term, our primary focus has been on the January exams for Applied Science courses, spanning both Level 2 and Level 3. We have been exceptionally proud of the focus and revision that students have demonstrated for these and are hoping for another excellent set of results on the March results day. As part of our enrichment experiences, the L3 Extended Diploma Applied Science students had the opportunity to engage in an ester synthesis practical at Sheffield Hallam University. This hands-on experience aimed to deepen their understanding of practical applications in science and complete a required practical for their assignments. For our second-year A-level students, targeted intervention groups have been running successfully. These sessions are designed to offer additional support as we approach the summer exams. We hope that in the last 5 months students use every opportunity available to really push their grade.

Health

This half term has seen our second year Health and Social Care students complete their final exams and they are now working hard on assignments to finish their qualifications. Our first year Level 3 Extended Certificate students have been out on placement for their Health and Social Care course. Students worked in schools and nurseries, care homes and charities and thoroughly enjoyed their placements. We have had some great feedback too from placement providers. We're always on the look out for more providers to support with placements for our students, if you know anyone who could help them please email placements@longleypark.ac.uk.

Humanities

Criminology students visited the National Justice Museum where they took part in a mock trial in a real courtroom and visited exhibitions, a hugely enjoyable experience for them which brought their course to life

English

During this half term our A Level English Literature students have started studying the Gothic and Romantic genres. They have been developing skills in analysis and contextual linking, applying the social, historical, political and literary contexts in which texts are produced to help understand texts on different levels.

In A Level English Language our students have been completing the final parts of their coursework portfolios. They have each developed an independent language investigation, researching an area of personal interest (such as the way language use changes across different generations of the same family), and a piece of creative writing.

Tutorial

In our Tutorial sessions, the Year 2 students have have been looking at team building by constructing towers made of paper! Here is Faffy, one of Academic Tutors, with his groups creations! Clearly we have some budding engineers in this group!



Creative Arts

2nd year UAL Art & Design students have transformed the art corridor into an exhibition on the theme of 'distortion'. Each student has produced work based on their own personal specialisms and career aspirations, but the class has then worked together as a team to make the exhibition a success.

UAL Game Art and Design students are currently sending their application forms off for a competition organised by the BAFTAs. Each student is preparing a pitch for a game, alongside a series of artwork to explain their designs. The competition entries will be judged by a team of professionals from the British Games Institute, with the lucky winner receiving mentorship opportunities in the games industry.

A-Level 3D Design students will be visiting HLM Architects, as part of an ongoing partnership with the architecture firm. Students will have the opportunity to design and pitch buildings for an area of Sheffield, while receiving feedback from real architects.

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.

Through our ongoing discussions with our young people, and information received from our local community and wider, we are increasingly concerned around the number of young people vaping and the implications this can have on their health, in particular when there are vapes purchased from unreliable sources that may contain illegal substances. Here at the sixth form, we will continue to educate our students around these aspects however it is important that as parents and carers you also have factual information in relation to vapes, and vaping so that you are able to monitor your child and have conversations also.

If you're a parent who is worried about your child or young person vaping, the resources at the bottom of this page can help you to have positive conversations with them about the risks of smoking and vaping, the law, and the impact on the environment.



WHAT IS VAPING?

Vaping is the use of an electronic device to inhale vapour derived from a heated liquid. The main ingredients are vegetable glycerine and propylene glycol, but most e-liquids also contain nicotine, which must be no more than 2% or 20mg per ml, as well as small amounts of flavourings and sweeteners.

SMOKING VS VAPING

Smoking is much more harmful than vaping. Tobacco smoke contains carbon monoxide and tar, a sticky soup of around 250 toxic chemicals, 69 of which are known to be carcinogenic, causing disease, disability, and early death.

HOWEVER, VAPES ARE NOT HARMLESS

Short term effects can include:

- coughing
- headaches
- dizziness, and
- sore throats.

Lung-term effects are, as yet, unknown.

WHAT ARE THE CONCERNS WITH VAPING AND CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE?

Most children and young people don't vape or smoke. However, in 2022 the number of 11-17 year olds in Great Britain currently using vapes rose to 7% compared to 4% in 2020. While this increase is concerning, it is important to note that most vaping is experimental, with regular vaping mainly confined to children who currently smoke or have done in the past.

The increase in youth vaping has coincided with the arrival on the UK market of a new category of cheap and attractive disposable vapes that have proven particularly popular with children and young people and have been promoted extensively on social media. We are working hard nationally and locally to address these issues.

HOW DO VAPES HELP SMOKERS QUIT?

Like nicotine patches and gum, vapes containing nicotine are a useful aid to quitting as they deal with the craving smokers get when they try to stop. Nicotine vapes are proven effective and have become the most popular quitting aid for smokers in recent years. However, vapes are not recommended for non-smokers, particularly children.

THE LAW AND VAPING

Vapes and vaping products containing nicotine, like tobacco, are age restricted. It's illegal to sell them to under 18s, and for adults to buy them on their behalf.

Children and young people can find out more information on vaping on the FSA's website: [saferank.com/young-vapes](https://www.food.gov.uk/news/newsdetail/0/young-vapes)

Or read the AGR Briefing, authored by the AGR Unit, for local authorities on youth-vaping.pdf

For more information about vapes and stopping smoking, visit the Sheffield Safeguarding website: [safeguardingsheffield.ac.uk](https://www.safeguardingsheffield.ac.uk)

Children and young people can find out more information on vaping on the FSA's website: [saferank.com/young-vapes](https://www.food.gov.uk/news/newsdetail/0/young-vapes)

Or read the AGR Briefing, authored by the AGR Unit, for local authorities on youth-vaping.pdf



OUR ADVICE TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IS: DON'T SMOKE? DON'T START TO VAPE.

SEND Parent & Carer Event

Meet our Additional Learning Support Team and find out more about your child's future.

We also have a guest speaker, Janet Shah, from Sheffield Supported Employment to help provide a better understanding about apprenticeships, internships and employment opportunities for young people with SEND.

Book your place



SEND PARENT & CARER EVENT

We would like to invite you to our SEND event on the 8th February from 2:30pm until 3.30pm.

We are thrilled to announce that we have secured an engaging guest speaker for this occasion – Janet Shah from Sheffield Supported Employment. Janet specialises in discussing apprenticeships, supported internships, and employment opportunities specifically tailored for young people with SEND.

This will be a great opportunity for parents and carers to gain a better understanding about the service and support available, whilst enjoying cake and beverages!

Please confirm your attendance by scanning the QR code below, or by calling the sixth form on 0114 262 5757.



LPSF pantry



LPSF Pantry

Support with both food and toiletries

Located in F47



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!



We also offer free toast to our students, available daily in the canteen before 8.45am.

OUT OF HOURS CONTACT



Please note that during the half term period the safeguarding team may not be able to respond to emails or telephone queries raised as the sixth form will be closed. However, if you need any advice or support there is a wealth of information available on the website about resources and services that may be helpful.

The Sixth Form is closed from Friday 9th February until Monday 19th February. For any urgent safeguarding issues, you are still able to contact safeguarding@longleypark.ac.uk

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 2734855 (24-hour service). If you think a child or young person is in immediate danger, please call the Police on 999 at any time. If you are a student and are worried and feel unsafe then you can get help from Childline, a free, private, confidential service where you can be you. You can chat online or on the phone, 08001111, 24 hours a day.

Important Information



Message from our Safeguarding Lead, Yasmin Celik

I wanted to make you aware that this half-term saw information shared with staff and students in relation to a 'Notification of a Lockdown', Drill in the event of an emergency. We have a duty of care and responsibility to ensure that this information is shared with you also.

Longley Park Sixth Form will be carrying out a drill in the new year. Please note that in the event of a real lockdown, communication to parents/carers will take place as soon as is practicable in accordance with a lockdown procedure.

Tutors will go through the lockdown procedure with students prior to the drill and staff will answer any questions which students may have.

The Sixth Form is committed to always ensuring the safety of staff and students and as such, although we hope never to need to use the lockdown procedure, we feel it important for an annual practice to take place.

To ensure parents/carers are sufficiently informed about such events the following has been put into place. In the event of a **lockdown drill**, parents/carers will receive the following text as soon as the sixth form is put into lockdown:

- LPSF is currently doing a lockdown practice. This is TEST. There is no need to worry or panic.

In the event of a **real lockdown**, parents/carers will be informed via text once the situation has been dealt with or relevant and appropriate safe time during the ongoing situation. All attempts will be made to keep parents/carers fully informed during such an event.

Exam guides for students and centres

Ofqual's guides for students and for centres on exams this year (including A levels, GCSEs, and vocational qualifications) are now live. We gave our feedback on these guides during the process and hope they're helpful in communicating arrangements for this year, which are largely back to normal – but many students and staff may not know what 'normal' looks like.

Our Winter Exams Newsletter is now available to read on our website now.

Results Days

- Tuesday 6th February 2024 – LIBF U1/3 – Part B
- Thursday 21st March 2024 – All BTEC Level 3 Nationals and BTEC Level 2 (not Science)
- Thursday 4th April 2024 – BTEC Level 2 Science

Information about Results and Post Results Services will be available to students nearer the time.



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.

