

# October Parent & Carer Newsletter

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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 – if you haven't already seen our Parent and Carer Handbook, you can find it [here](#). A huge thank you to parents and carers who attended the event and shared such positive feedback about the Sixth Form and the support available for students.

This half-term we welcomed almost 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 to complete homework, assignments, and revision in their study periods. As you will be aware, Ofsted visited us this half-term, and we are looking forward to sharing the report with you when it is published in the next few weeks.

We have already completed our first cycle of enrichment and the next cycle starts next half-term. Do encourage participation in these activities as these help students develop their wider skills and will provide students with additional activities to be involved in during their study periods.

We look forward to students returning from half-term on Monday 4th November at 9am.



## Term highlights

Longley Park Sixth Form is proud to announce that it has been officially assessed and awarded the prestigious Career Mark accreditation. This recognition highlights the sixth forms commitment to providing high-quality career guidance and support to its students.

Career Mark is a national quality standard for career education, information, advice, and guidance (CEIAG), aimed at ensuring that students receive the best possible support to prepare for their future. Longley Park Sixth Form's achievement reflects its dedication to enhancing students' employability skills and helping them navigate their career pathways.

The assessment process involved a comprehensive review of Longley Park's career services, including personalised career guidance, employer engagement initiatives, and opportunities for students to gain practical experience. The feedback from the assessors highlighted the effective strategies employed by Longley Park to integrate career education into the curriculum, as well as the strong partnerships developed with local businesses.

*Enrichment Clubs*



# What's happened this term?



## Business, IT & Law

**Level 2 Business** got to know each other through team building tasks and competing with each other to build the highest tower out of newspapers and cellotape. They then have been introduced to the world of Business Finance completing their first assessments on budgeting, break even analysis and cash flow.

**A level Business** year 1 have been learning about entrepreneurship skills and business ownership types and have recently moved onto market mapping and the 4 P's. The year 2s have been learning about international business strategies and learning more about Porters Generic strategies and international marketing terms such as ethnocentrism and globalisation.

**Level 3 Business** year 1 students are learning about personal and business finance being introduced to personal banking products and the importance of the financial life cycle and sources of business finance whilst learning about the retail sector and considering what business event they will run for the Event Management unit. The year 2s are focusing on learning about the fundamentals of quality management as part of Leadership and Management and the resource implications needed in decision making and investment appraisal techniques for their decision-making unit.

**Financial Studies** students had a visit from Drew, economics lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University where he presented the results of the June financial trading competition and the top 3 performing students based on the most fictional investment growth received Amazon vouchers. The students learnt about which businesses were the top performers and why and how the overall UK and American stock markets performed. The financial studies students recently presented impacts on the sustainability of personal finance from grey culture to multicentric and technology to smaller families.



**Law** Year 1s have been learning about Civil Court Hierarchies & Appeals process whilst Year 2s have been learning about contract law and police powers.

**Level 3 year 1 and year 2 IT** students are busy learning all things Database related from primary key to foreign key and normalisation to relationship databases and are having their first assessments to build on their current learning and receive feedback. Year 2s are also learning about networking and cybersecurity in preparation for there January exams. Some students also attended the talk from Dave Smith whereby he introduced the students to his life as a programmer/coder for Moodle

**Computing Year 1** students have been getting to grips with a programmable robot teaching it new tricks using coding language to use at the upcoming open evening this month. Year 1 students have all applied for and been successful in gaining a 1 day virtual work experience placement with Kanios in November where they get to think like a ethical hacker and learn more about the world of cyber security work.

**Economics B** students are off to flying start on this new to Longley A level. Many students have chosen BTEC Business to complement this qualification and have started to learn about the fundamentals of market forces and pricing strategies.

**Vocational Studies** students are getting used to sixth form life and settling into learning how to work as a team, building their IT skills and doing research for their independent academic project where they produce a short essay about a topic of their choice support by primary and secondary research.

**S** As we start a new academic year, the Science department welcomes new students on level 2, level 3 BTEC and Level 3 A levels with enthusiasm and a shared commitment to further their scientific journeys. This academic year promises to be filled with exciting challenges and opportunities as we further understanding into the realms of **Biology, Chemistry, Physics** and **Psychology**. 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 year 2 assignments. All Applied Science students have **BTEC exams in January/February** so we appreciate your support in helping learners prioritise their studies. We also want to take this opportunity to congratulate those students who left last year. We had our best ever results in the Science faculty with the majority of learners getting high grades. This was down to the to the hard work of all involved and we look forward to realising these successes again.

## Health

**New L2 and L3 Health and Social Care** students have settled in well and are studying hard for their Unit 1 exam in January 2025, Human lifespan development. They have also made a great start to their assignment units.

Our **second year Health and Social Care** students are studying hard towards their anatomy and physiology exam that they will sit in January 2025. 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.

**Early years** students are starting placements and are thoroughly enjoying the mix of placement and classroom based learning. **The T Level students** visited Hull University this half term and were warmly welcomed by Richard Woolley, Head of School Education, and got an introduction to their Education Studies and Teaching Studies courses. The students explored the simulation classroom, nursery, and even got a taste of the Forest School site. A campus tour and a look at the accommodation made it a truly immersive experience!

**T-LEVELS**  
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

## 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.

In **Creative Arts**, students have been experimenting with different styles and techniques 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.



## Creative Arts



## HUMANITIES

In **Humanities**, year 2 students have sat trial exams and have been working on developing their knowledge of key topics. **Criminology** students have been busy preparing for the December controlled assessments, and in History students have been drafting their independent coursework essays. Year 1 students have settled in well and have enjoyed learning about new topics in their chosen subjects. In half term 2 we have a range of trips planned, which students and staff are looking forward to.

# Safeguarding @the sixth form

If you need to speak to somebody from the Safeguarding Team, please contact 0114 2625757, or alternatively email [safeguarding@longleypark.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@longleypark.ac.uk).

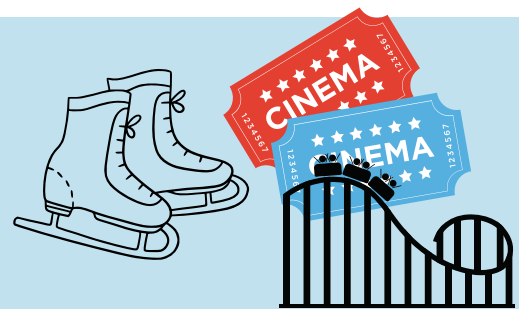
As part of our ongoing support for families, we wanted to introduce you to the newly launched Sheffield Directory where you are able to access a wide range of information, support, advice and guidance. This also includes access to local groups and activities within your local area - [Home Page | Sheffield \(sheffielddirectory.org.uk\)](#) There is a wealth of information available on the website about resources and services that may be helpful until you are able to speak to someone.

## OUT OF HOURS CONTACT

If you have any concerns about the welfare of a child or young person during evenings, weekends, and holidays, 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.

## Attendance Rewards



As the cold weather sets in, we want to take a moment to remind all students of the importance of attending every lesson, every day. Regular attendance is crucial for achieving your best possible grades and is also a key factor in decisions about your progression. To automatically progress, you must have at least 95% attendance.

We will begin assessing attendance from the start of Half Term 2, and this will be used as the basis for all progression decisions. If your attendance was below 95% in Half Term 1, it's essential that you demonstrate sustained improvement in Half Term 2 and beyond.

Exciting rewards for attendance, engagement, and progress have been launched for this academic year. Term 1 offers an ice skating trip, Term 2 includes a cinema visit, and Term 3 features a theme park outing. Eligibility criteria are displayed on posters around the Sixth Form and shared on social media.


## LPSF pantry



### How to Access Support

Support from the LPSF Pantry is available discreetly. If you or someone you know could benefit from this service, please contact a member of our safeguarding team. You can reach out via email at [safeguarding@longleypark.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@longleypark.ac.uk) or text 07721511649 to arrange a collection.

We are here to support you, and we encourage you to take advantage of this resource if needed. Stay safe and take care.



**GCSE November  
Result Day**

Thursday 9th  
January 2025



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

## 2024-2025 November Examinations Newsletter

We encourage all parents, carers, and students to read our latest Exam Newsletter, which contains important information about the upcoming November exams. Inside, you'll find key dates, revision tips, exam regulations, and details on how to best prepare. Staying informed is the first step toward success, and this newsletter is a valuable resource to help students feel confident and prepared as they approach their exams. Don't miss out on the guidance and support it offers!

All up to date information can be found on our website.

**CLICK HERE**



We 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.

# AAC

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](mailto: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 Academy so that you never miss important news.**

