



**Lealands**  
High School  
A Specialist Sports College  
*Aspire Believe Achieve*

**Lealands High School**  
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Headteacher: Mr J Burridge BA (Hons) PGCE, MA,

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

Congratulations on securing a place for your child at Lealands High School. This year we are over-subscribed in Year 7 as a result of the increasing popularity of our school and excellent education we provide. This means we are welcoming students from all over Luton and beyond who have joined us this September.

With our increasing numbers in mind, please be aware that there are no suitable drop-off points outside the school gates. Please take great care if bringing or collecting your child by car and we would suggest that this is done slightly further away from the school gates (for example, Ashwell Road shops) so that students are safe and get a little extra exercise.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the "Lealands Family" if this is the first time you have had a child join us. Lealands is very proud of the excellent relationships that we have with both students and their families. We want this to continue and hope that you have found the transition information and activities helpful.

It is inevitable that there will be many questions and possibly some concerns at this very important time in your child's education. Many of these will be answered in communications to your child via their tutor and subject teachers during the next week. We also have lots of information available on our school website.

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October, you will be invited in to a special Tutor Evening, where you can discuss any issues regarding settling in to secondary school and find out a little more about the year ahead.

In the meantime, if you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact either the school office, your child's tutor, Mr White (Head of Year), Mrs Chin (Pastoral Support Manager) or Mr Hall (Special Educational Needs Coordinator). They will all be pleased to help and, if unavailable, will phone back within 24 hours. Our preferred methods of communication are via telephone, a note in the Learning Diary or pre-arranged face-to-face meetings. Although you can email the school, staff will not provide a personal email response.

### **Learning Diary**

All students will receive a learning diary. Students will be expected to have these on their desks in all lessons and to write all homework into them.

Please do look at your child's diary and sign it each week. Homework may be recorded here as well as on 'Show My Homework' online. The learning diary is also a useful communication tool between home and school to see what work should be completed each week. Diaries will be free of charge, but will be charged at £3 for a replacement if it is damaged or lost. Please note that students should not be doodling or putting graffiti onto planners or they will be asked to replace them. Your child will have a timetable at the front of their leaning diary, which you can use to help them organise themselves and take the right equipment to school each day.

### **Homework**

At Lealands, we believe that regular homework is a valuable aspect of the learning process and contributes to the development of sound study habits. A homework timetable is available on our school website. Homework is recorded by teachers on Show My Homework, a website, which can be

accessed by students and parents from the school website. This website will allow parents and students to keep track of what homework has been set, how much time is expected to be spent on the homework and the deadline for the homework. Students have their own log ins for Show My Homework which will enable them to view their individual homework timetable. If your child does not have a log in, please contact Mrs Orr through the school switchboard.

### **Equipment**

The vast majority of our students are well prepared and equipped for lessons; thank you for your support with this. Can we take this opportunity to refresh you on what a student needs to have with them on all occasions:

- 1) Blue or black pens
- 2) Pencil(s)
- 3) Eraser
- 4) Sharpener
- 5) Ruler
- 7) Pencil case

Students should have an appropriate bag to carry these items and their school books in. Lockers are available in school at a small cost and students will receive information about how to arrange to have one of these if they would like one.

### **Uniform and make-up reminders**

Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents and carers who support school uniform rules consistently and entirely. We really do appreciate your support with this.

Can I please remind parents and carers of some rules relating to uniform:

- Only one small stud per ear is allowed and no other piercings (silver, gold or clear/diamante)
- Hair colour should be natural only and no extremes of style
- No false nails or nail varnish is permitted
- No false eyelashes are permitted

The basic uniform is:

- Black trousers/skirt (should be no more than 10cm above/below knee length)
- Black blazer with school logo
- White shirt
- School tie
- Black shoes (no trainers or plimsolls/canvas shoes or boots and no coloured flashes/stripes/laces/stitching)
- Plain white, black, grey or blue socks (no cartoons/patterns) or plain black tights

Please remember that students must be correctly dressed in school in order to attend lessons.

Further details are on the school website and in the learning diary. Please contact your child's PSM if you have any questions regarding school uniform.

### **Cycling**

Lealands High School recognises the many positive benefits of pupils cycling to and from school. We, therefore, look to encourage this form of travel behaviour in as many ways as possible. Please refer to the [cycling protocols](#) on our website and in learning diaries for full details.

Students bringing bikes to school must have a lock and secure them in the bike shed provided. Bikes should be walked to and from the front gate.

Students must ride to and from the school sensibly. If they do not, their privilege to ride and bring a bike into school may be withdrawn and sanctions applied. Lealands High School takes no responsibility for any bikes that are lost or stolen and so bikes are brought to school of your own risk.

## Assessment

Over the coming years, new GCSEs are being introduced. The first students to do these will be those starting Year 11 this year for maths and English. We expect GCSEs to become increasingly difficult as many will have controlled assessments or coursework abolished and they will have a new grading system based on a 1-9 score, rather than A\*-G.

The school is working very hard to learn all we can and to implement change effectively so that your child is well prepared for these new exams.

We will do our very best to keep you informed about changes and give you the chance to ask any questions you may have or to hear more from us on these matters. These are incredibly important and we understand that you may well be anxious about how these will impact upon your child's exam success in the coming years.

National Curriculum levels were abolished from September 2015. Lealands' assessment system is explained on our website. Students are assessed regularly to check their progress against key performance indicators and rubrics. You will receive regular updates to enable you to check if your child is making good progress. Please contact us if you require further information.

I do hope that this information has been useful to you. I look forward to the start of term and meeting you soon.

We are sure that your son or daughter will settle in quickly and enjoy an excellent education at Lealands High School.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J Burridge  
Headteacher



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