



Lealands
High School
A Specialist Sports College
Aspire Believe Achieve

Lealands High School
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Dear Parent/Carer.

I wanted to write and thank you for your support in enabling a fantastic start to the school year. It has been such a pleasure to have students in school with most of the restrictions we have faced over the past two years removed. We hope that this can continue as we get back to normal.

Students have been getting used to some changes as we now have staggered timings throughout the day for starts, ends, breaks and lunches. This has reduced crowding in the school and supported us to ensure student conduct is of the very highest standard. Students are escorted to and from breaks to ensure that other lessons going on are not disturbed. There is also some student led movement between some lessons within the day. When being led into school students are now required to move silently in single file and I am pleased to say that they have adjusted to this magnificently.

Please can I remind you that students should arrive at school during their 'arrival window'. Some students are arriving far too early and this causes congestion on the path and road as they cannot enter school safely until their arrival window opens. Please can you also be conscious of our local residents and safety of students when dropping off or collecting students from school. We would suggest you park near one of the local shops a short distance from the school.

Part of our rationale for staggered lunches is to enable all students to purchase hot food again. There have been a few teething problems and we are sorry if this has affected your child, but we are working hard to rectify this and from today Year 7 lunchtime will be slightly extended to ensure they'll have enough time to purchase food and eat it without rushing. We are also improving the seating.

I am pleased and proud to report that our students have been exceptional and their conduct and attitudes absolutely fantastic. This is especially true during lateral flow testing which ended today. One Year 7 student tested positive before starting school, but we have been fortunate to have had no other positive test results. School testing has been a mammoth task and I am hugely grateful to Mrs Goslin and the staff who have organised this so well. However, they will be pleased to be able to focus again on their main roles in school. Please do continue testing your child twice weekly and reporting these results. We are no longer required to send bubbles or contacts home to isolate. NHS Track and Trace have taken over responsibility for this.

Our students always look very smart in their school uniforms and this displays our value of excellence. Thank you for your support and cooperation with this. A number of students began the school year without ties. We have checked and our supplier has plenty of stock. These can also be purchased through the school.

I know many of you will have queries and questions at the start of term. We do want to help with these and are always willing to discuss any issue. Unfortunately, our phone system is now quite old

and in need of up-dating with a 'hold' option. If you leave a voice message, it will be listened to on that day and the appropriate member of staff asked to phone you back. Staff will aim to phone back within 24 hours unless it is a more urgent issue. The admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk email is regularly checked throughout the day and you can also use this to request a call back from a member of staff. School staff do not usually email parents directly or reply to emails - they will phone instead. This avoids miscommunication and misunderstanding that can happen in emails and lead to protracted email trails. It is also to support our staff to have an appropriate work/life balance so that they can focus on teaching and learning. However, you can also arrange a meeting with any member of staff by contacting reception or emailing the school if you feel something needs to be discussed in person.

Our year 7s now all have their own Chromebooks and this is a fantastic resource that they have started using in school. We plan to roll this out to other years in the future. As you might expect, there have been a few technical issues and these are being resolved as quickly as possible to ensure this scheme is a success.

Finally, as we get back to 'normal' there will soon be lots of communication about extra-curricular activities and trips. I am particularly excited about the up-coming auditions for our school musical. We are acutely aware, that although most students kept up with work and progressed well during periods of lock-down, some did not and some need extra support and boosting. Plans are in place for this and we will be communicating with individual parents soon. If you are concerned about your child's progress, please contact their Head of Year or Mr Mason (Assistant Head) who will be able to discuss strategies available for support.

I look forward, more than ever, to seeing you in school for an event in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Burridge
Headteacher



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