



Longdendale

H I G H S C H O O L

4th March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

As your child approaches the most important stage in his/her school life so far, we feel that making the right decisions and choices is of vital importance. I am writing to you with details of how the curriculum for your child will change as they progress from year 8 into year 9.

In previous academic years learners in year 8 have selected all of their Key Stage 4 (KS4) options and have then begun their KS4 courses at the beginning of year 9. The curriculum is carefully reviewed each year as we want to ensure that our learners have every opportunity to achieve KS4 outcomes to be proud of whilst also ensuring that our learners study a broad and balanced curriculum which will develop a wide range of skills to enable them to be world class citizens and which supports their future aspirations and pathways.

Every learner will have the opportunity to study a range of accredited subjects appropriate to his/her needs, potential and future aspirations. This includes the core subjects which every learner must study: English language, English literature, mathematics, science, and core PE. The majority of learners must also study a modern foreign language and a humanities subject (history or geography). The statutory requirements of citizenship, RE, PSHE and careers are taught through the form tutor curriculum.

In addition to the core subjects learners will eventually choose two additional subjects they wish to study as option subjects. Each learner will be advised to select courses appropriate to his/her strengths, interests and aspirations, and this will take place in year 9.

As a result this year the options process has been altered and we have decided to use a staged approach to learners selecting their KS4 options. At a future point in year 8 most learners will be asked to choose between history or geography and French or Spanish. Learners will also have the option to begin working towards a dance qualification during their 4 core PE lessons a fortnight. Details about these options will be sent out to you later in the year.

All learners will continue to study art, drama, ICT, music and technology in year 9 allowing them to develop a wide range of skills and a greater understanding of the requirements of each subject area before making their final choices regarding which subjects they wish to continue studying until the end of year 11.

We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you to support your son/ daughter as they continue with their education with us. You will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and achievements with their class teachers at parents evening on Thursday 7th March so please ensure you have made your appointments for this extremely important opportunity via Insight if you have not already done so. In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or require any further information.

Yours faithfully.

Miss S Ayre
Deputy Headteacher

Longdendale High School Spring Street, Hollingworth, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 8LW **Headteacher:** Mrs A. Jones **CEO:** Mr M. Bowler
e: admin@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk **t:** 01457 764006 **f:** 01457 766483 **w:** www.longdendalehighschool.org.uk

