



# Longdendale

H I G H S C H O O L

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are writing to you to share some important information as we come to the close of your child's formal secondary education. The Class of 2020 should have concluded their GCSE exams last week and therefore we recognise that this may well be a challenging time for your child, no doubt with mixed emotions.

We can all agree we certainly did not want to finish like this, but these are different times. Certainly from Longdendale High School's perspective, the change meant that Year 11 have not had the send-off that we would usually expect or want. However, it is still very important to us that the cohort receive the farewell that they deserve, especially after working so hard. With this in mind, we arranged the following:

### **Home-school partnership**

Traditionally Year 11 finishes school on 30<sup>th</sup> June. Since we entered lockdown, every Year 11 has received regular wellbeing checks, the final round of which terminated on 26<sup>th</sup> June. We have enjoyed being able to have that level of contact and to hear about how you have been keeping occupied during this prolonged length of time. Of course, we will still be here to support you should you need it, so just get in touch.

### **Leavers' assembly**

Back in March we put together a Leavers' assembly for those who were in school. To mark last week as the official end to your child's time at Longdendale High School, we have put a link to the further celebration of this milestone on our trust Twitter account for you to view.

### **Leavers' prom**

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, we had no choice but to cancel prom. The government guidelines still do not allow us to hold an event like this and this is unlikely to change in the near future. This is sad news but unfortunately, the only thing we could do. However, when the time is right we hope to plan a celebration event coinciding with the collection of GCSE certificates and we will contact you in the autumn term, once things are back to some kind of normality.

### **Leavers' hoodies**

We were delighted to be able to arrange Leavers' hoodies which were set up for ordering online and should be in the process of being made and delivered to you directly.

### **Results day**

Results day is on August 20<sup>th</sup> this year. We will release more details when we have received further guidelines from the government and the DFE and once we have determined what arrangements will take place to allow learners to collect their results safely.

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





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## September 2020

For September, we have continued to work with the local colleges to ensure your smooth transition to KS5 and have provided telephone consultations for those of you who needed further advice about applying for courses. It has been lovely to see so many colleges providing bridging resources and information about virtual taster days and enrolment. During our welfare calls, we have enjoyed hearing how you are engaging with what you have been sent and we hope that you are ready to achieve your very best from September. A potential advantage of the last few months is that you will have developed great independence skills and personal attributes that will mean you are much better prepared than you perhaps realise at the moment.

## Leavers' Book

We would like to plan a complimentary electronic Year Book to provide a memento of The Class of 2020's time at Longdendale High School. This would contain some messages from your teachers and form tutors along with your school photograph, under which would be a message from you. We also plan to include photographs you may have of trips and enrichment and a montage of you in your hoodies. There will be communication to follow via text message on this – namely how to opt out, how to update your contact details and where to send your appropriate messages and images for inclusion.

Whilst we have really missed our Class of 2020, they have left us with so many memories and a lasting legacy in the history of Longdendale, of which they should rightfully be very proud.

Although we cannot say our formal farewells in person, we want to convey it has been a pleasure to know every one of our Year 11 learners. Working alongside them all and watching them grow in character, resilience and maturity over the last five years has been an absolute privilege and we are so very proud of them. We wish you and your family the best for the future and thank you for your support.

The Staff of Longdendale High School

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