

28 August 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are looking forward to seeing our Year 11 students back in school **at 8.25 on Wednesday 4th September.**

I am writing to you today as your child begins a new year at The Lowry as a Year 11 student. **In just 9 months, 142 days,** your child will begin their GCSE exams. They are about to embark on their final year with us at The Lowry. It is an exciting and vitally important time.

We invite you to join us on Thursday 12th September for our Year 11 parents' Information Evening, where we will tell you **The Lowry Year 11 Offer**, and let you know about the most important things you can do as a parent to support your child to achieve.

Attendance to School

According to the Department for Education, across the country:

The average attendance of those achieving Grade 4's (a pass) is 94.8%.

The average attendance of those achieving Grade 5's (a "good" pass) is 96.3%.

The biggest impact you can have on your child's education is to ensure your child is in school, ready to learn, in front of their teachers. We will do the rest. We are very proud that we have excellent Year 11 teachers – please ensure your child does not miss out on the opportunity to learn. If they are in front of their teachers and engaged, **they will succeed.**

Our data tells us that those students who attend well, with an overall attendance of 96%+, achieve on average 7 grades better across all of their GCSE's in comparison to their peers with poor attendance. In order to remain above 96% attendance, children must have no more than three days absence throughout the year.

If your child's attendance was below 95% in Year 10, I urge you to understand the importance of your child aiming to attend school every day. We will always support them in removing any barriers they may face that prevent them from attending school – please get in touch with us if this is the case.

Well done to those students who have achieved 100% attendance – they are determining their future success.

Period 6

The school day finishes for Year 11 at 3.45. By attending every period 6, your child will complete **an additional 107 hours** of learning in preparation for their exams. This is a compulsory part of their school attendance.

Principal Mrs C Coy

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Form-Time

In Year 11, students complete extra English & Maths revision sessions during form-time. We expect all students to be in their form rooms, equipped and in full uniform, at 8.25. If students are late to school, they will be expected to attend a lunchtime detention. Students are welcome to come into school from 7.30 for breakfast club, where they will be provided with breakfast free of charge.

This is an **additional 71 hours** of learning in preparation for their exams.

Homework Expectations

We subscribe to a number of online learning platforms to support your child to revise at home. We expect our Year 11's to complete their **Sparx Maths, Sparx Science, and Seneca English homework every week.**

All homework will be set on a **Friday**, and due **by 9am on Thursday** morning. If your child does not complete their homework by the deadline, they will be expected to attend a lunchtime support session on either Thursday or Friday, where they complete their homework with the help of a teacher.

Sparx club runs every lunchtime should your child not have access to a device or the internet at home.

All three pieces of homework shouldn't exceed 2 hours of work in total. If your child completes this every week, that is **an additional 284 hours** of independent practice toward their exams.

Saturday Tuition

We are offering students the opportunity of Saturday tuition, completely free of charge. This will initially be on an invite basis for those students we feel would benefit the most. Nearer to the GCSE exams, we will invite all students to attend if they wish. If your child is invited, please encourage them to attend. This is an excellent offer, with the usual rate of private tuition costing between £40-£50 per hours.

PE Lessons

This year, we are asking students to **come to school wearing their PE kit when they have PE lessons.** For Year 11, this is **every Thursday.** Some students may access extra English or Maths intervention at this time for a period of time – we still ask that they come to school in their PE kit in case this should change.

Students must wear their blazers over their PE kit and can bring in their uniform to change into after their lesson if they wish.

Prom & Leavers' Event

To reward our students for their hard work, we plan and host a Leavers' Event and Prom when they have finished their GCSE exams. We are already looking forward to celebrating with them and know they will thoroughly deserve this reward.

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The Lowry Academy

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These reward events are reserved for the students that have consistently engaged with all aspects of our Year 11 offer, and have demonstrated our school values consistently throughout the year. Although we do not make this decision lightly or in haste, we reserve the right to withdraw this invitation if a student is not demonstrating our school values.

We are offering over 450 additional hours of learning. If your child takes full advantage of our offer, they are sure to succeed.

We are excited for the year ahead, and look forward to seeing our Year 11's go from strength to strength.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Aylward

Vice Principal – Quality of Education

Principal Mrs C Coy

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