



9 October 2020

Dear Parent

Academic Year 2020-21: Welcome to Year 10

Firstly, I wanted to express my immense pride for the way that Year 10 students have started the new school year. Having had so much disruption to their schooling over the last academic year, they've started fantastically well and embraced the changes we have had to make in order to keep the school safe for everybody. I would also like to thank you for your understanding of the changes we have had to make to the school day, and for your continued support as parents in keeping our students motivated and focused at the start of the academic year.

Starting Year 10 marks the beginning of GCSE courses for all subjects. We hope that all students will rise to the challenge and create work that they are proud of and that demonstrates how much effort they put in to their studies. We continue to strive to prepare our students to become future leaders and well-rounded young adults. This is more important than ever in these uncertain times. I look forward to sending messages to you that acknowledge the effort of students and the fantastic work they produce.

Students have entered Year 10 in an extremely positive manner. Over 9,500 reward points have been issued to the year group so far, with a large majority being given for outstanding effort in lessons. We will, as ever, continue to observe high standards on uniform, equipment and punctuality to school. The October half-term holiday marks an ideal opportunity for your child to replenish any equipment they may need. Please can I ask you take some time over the half-term holiday to ensure your child has this equipment to support their learning. As a reminder, the basic equipment that all students require for their lessons each day includes: a pencil case, pens (black/blue and red), a fine whiteboard pen, a highlighter pen, a pencil, a 30cm ruler, a scientific calculator, a maths set, colouring pencils, felt tip pens, a glue stick, an eraser and a pencil sharpener. They will also require a reading book.

Class Charts remains an important source of information and enables you to track how your child has done in the school day so if you have any queries regarding this please get in touch. If you do wish to contact the school, your child's Form Tutor should still be the first point of contact for pastoral matters and your child's subject teacher should be contacted for any academic matters. Every faculty also has a Learning Director, whose details are below should you wish to contact them at any point.

Mr C. Gates – Learning Director for English	Mrs H. Davies – Learning Director for the Arts
Mrs N. Gregory – Learning Director for Maths	Mrs T. Lemon – Learning Director for M.F.L.
Mr A. Thomas – Learning Director for Science	Miss K. Siviter – Learning Director for Technology
Mr J. Brown – Learning Director for Humanities	Mrs Furness – Learning Director for P.E.

I am pleased to welcome back Mrs Smith (Learning Behaviour Manager) to the Year 10 pastoral team following her return from maternity leave. I will be working alongside Mrs Smith to ensure that all students are working as expected in school, to enable the whole year group to thrive and enjoy success. In addition, Mr Geary (Assistant Headteacher) and Mrs House (Headteacher) are now part of the dedicated Year 10 support team.

Finally, I'd like to draw your attention to a moment that typifies how brilliant our students are in Year 10. An elderly gentleman had a fall on one of our routes to school, a student saw the accident happen and stayed to support the gentleman until the ambulance arrived. He even ran home for a First Aid Kit to help treat the injuries (whilst wearing a face covering). A truly remarkable young man and one we are very proud to have in our school community.

I will write to you again later this year and share more updates on how the Year group are progressing and I look forward to celebrating the achievements of this highly successful group of students at Lees Brook.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "B. Taylor". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Ben Taylor
Head of Year 10