



Shropshire
Gateway
Educational Trust

Lacon Childe School

...more than just a school

Head of School Mrs. Rachel Croxton-Broome
Consultant Executive Headteacher Mrs. Ruth Allen



15 January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Safeguarding Assemblies

This term our safeguarding education will focus on several of the protected characteristics identified in the Equality Act 2010, which include; disability, gender reassignment, race, and sexual orientation. We have kicked off our spring term focus with an assembly led by Mrs Guise, in which she set out the plans for the term ahead and as well as launching a safeguarding house competition. Students across all year groups have been invited to design a slogan or tagline to support the work we will be doing this term on improving inclusion, equality and diversity in our school. Next week is the start of our first fortnightly focus and will be centered around prejudice and discrimination. This will lead into whole school education on racism and racist language.

Attendance

As you already know, increased attendance for students in schools is crucial as it impacts on both academic performance and personal development. We have had an amazing start to the new calendar year with whole school attendance now above national. Thank you to your continued support in getting the students into school. Increased attendance is fundamental to the following:

- **Knowledge:** Regular attendance ensures that students do not miss valuable instruction, lessons, and discussions, which are essential for understanding and mastering the curriculum.
- **Social Skills:** Regular interaction with peers and teachers helps students develop essential social skills, such as communication, teamwork, and conflict resolution.
- **Time Management:** Students learn to manage their time effectively, balancing schoolwork with extracurricular activities and personal responsibilities.
- **Mental Health:** Being part of a school environment can positively impact mental health by providing social interaction, engagement, and access to support services.
- **Career Readiness:** Students who attend school consistently are better equipped with the skills and knowledge needed for future educational opportunities and career paths.
- **Early Intervention:** Schools can identify and support students at risk of disengagement through consistent attendance monitoring, providing interventions before issues escalate.
- **Classroom Dynamics:** Higher attendance contributes to a more dynamic and interactive classroom environment, benefiting all students through diverse perspectives and collaborative learning.

Reporting Absence

In the event of your child not being able to attend school please leave a message on the answerphone or email attendance@laconchildeschool.co.uk before 8.45am on the morning of the absence. Please report your child's absence in the same way on each day that they absent. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 11

Year 11 will be receiving their mock examination results tomorrow, Thursday 16th January, at our annual 'Mock Conference'. During the conference, our guest speaker will share his experience with our students in order to encourage, motivate, and inspire them to achieve at the highest level. Please discuss your child's mock results with them as they are a powerful indicator of where your child is now, and are integral to their preparation for the final GCSE examinations. Mock results are a snapshot and tell us where your child is now and about their level of examination skill. This information is being used by teachers to replan this term. We are all too aware that, mock examination results can also trigger anxiety in our young people about the months ahead. During the Mock Conference, we will have staff available for students to speak to about their results as well as providing ongoing support throughout this term and into the examination period. If you have any immediate and/or pressing concerns, please contact your child's respective subject teacher or Year Lead.

Reading

It has been great to see students with new reading books for their private reading in English following the Christmas break. Please check your child is always equipped with a reading book and is making the most of opportunities to visit the library and explore new titles. We have just purchased a selection of new quick reads and dyslexia friendly books that Mrs Woodhouse will be promoting on her shelves in our school library. Thank you to those of you who have reminded students to return books to the library, our Year 7s in particular, seem to be establishing good habits with returning and renewing library books. Our other years are a little less reliable so please do have a check and see if any library books have been left at home and forgotten about. With new topics now started in our key stage 3 English curriculum students have been given reading lists linked to homework tasks, so please encourage them to look at one of these titles over the course of the spring term.

Thank you to parents of Year 7 who have been monitoring the completion of the reading logs and keeping up with those reading routines at home. If a reading log has been mislaid please contact your child's form tutor and they will be able to issue another one. The value of continuing to read regularly with your child at home is significant: listening to a young person read and modelling expressive reading yourself will help build fluency and confidence. It's also a great way to have some down time at the end of the day. Year 7 form tutors have been reading the novels 'Coraline' and 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' with their groups once a week. Perhaps watching the film version at home would be a nice weekend activity. Year 8 and 9 are continuing to read a selection of short stories with their form tutors, by well-known authors such as Roald Dahl and Ray Bradbury.

Year 10 and 11 are reading non-fiction material linked to topics in the Religious Studies curriculum during form time, which will support them with building confidence with discussing texts sharing viewpoints, the focus for English Language Paper 2. They should also be continuing to read fiction independently, as this is vital for building vocabulary and their own descriptive writing skills needed for Language Paper 1.

Herefordshire, Ludlow and North Shropshire College

Last Thursday, we hosted Miss Featherstone from the HLNSC who talked about college options at different HLNSC sites and stressed the importance of completing the application process as soon as possible. She shared open days dates with our students and advised where they are able to find useful information and support. Our Year 10 and 11 students were brilliant during the assembly, representing Lacon fantastically - we are very impressed and proud of them all. Attached is a copy of the presentation that was shared with our students during the assembly. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Koziel-Bott for organising this opportunity for our students

Homework

After a well-deserved break for our students, the setting of homework in line with our homework policy and timetable has resumed this week. Please check the 'Assignments that are due' section in Arbor on a daily basis and encourage your child to do the same. All access issues should now be resolved but do please contact your child's year lead if you, or your child experience any further difficulties.

Shropshire Virtual School

The Shropshire Virtual School have some activities coming up in February half term, please see below.

Monday 17th February:

Activity: Arthog Outreach- Outdoor activity

Time: 10:00am-2:00pm

Age: 8-13

An outdoor activity day including orienteering, rock climbing and bush craft activities.

Flyer attached with more information

To reserve a space, please follow the link on the flyer or contact Beth

Francis: beth.francis@shropshire.gov.uk or 01743 250124

Tuesday 18th February

Activity: Forest School

Time:10:00am-1:00pm

Age: 5-8

Pizza making and all the activities such as archery, woodcraft, fire lighting, den building and all the free play activities, please dress for the mess!

To reserve a space, please contact Beth Francis on beth.francis@shropshire.gov.uk or 01743 250124

Wednesday 19th February

Activity: Trash to Treasure

Time:10:00am-12:00pm

Age: 10-16

A creative workshop focusing on recycling old and unused items with Birmingham based illustrator and street artist roots.

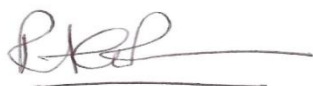
To reserve a space, or for any queries please follow the link on the flyer or contact Beth

Francis: beth.francis@shropshire.gov.uk or 01743 250124

Please note the February half term activities are for looked after children and young people.

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Yours sincerely



Rachel Croxton-Broome
Head of School



Ruth Allen
Consultant Executive Headteacher

Attachments

[Year 10 PSHE Letter](#)

[Free Parenting Groups](#)

[Year 10 and 11 HLNSC Presentation](#)

[Shropshire Family Information Service](#)


[Spring Term Activities 2025](#)

Trips and Shop Payments

The following are available on Arbor to make payment:

Item	Information	Payment Due
Year 7 KS3 Design Technology Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	
Year 7 London Trip		01/02/25
Year 8 Arthog Trip	2 nd Payment	10/01/25
Year 9 French Trip		01/02/25
Year 9 DofE	Deposit	31/01/25
Year 10 Poland Trip	4 th Payment	01/02/25
Year 10 Science Revision Books		
Year 10 GCSE Fine Art Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	
Year 10 GCSE Materials Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	

Fixtures

 <p>LACON CHILDE SCHOOL</p> <p>...more than just a school</p>	Date	Year	Sport	Venue & Start Date	Staff
	Thursday 16th January	KS4 Boys	Football	Away vs QE - 3pm to 5.30pm	GH
	Thursday 16th January	Y8 Girls	Netball	Home vs Bewdley - 3.15 to 4.45pm	ZT
	Wednesday 22nd January	Y8 Girls	Netball	Home vs QE 3.15 to 5pm	ZT
	Wednesday 22nd January	Y9 Girls	Football	Home vs QE 3.15 to 5pm	GH

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The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust