



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



02 October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

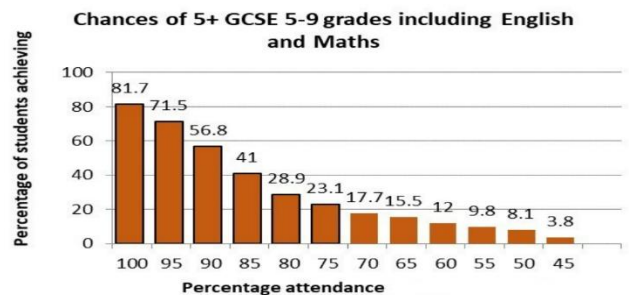
## Attendance Matters – Minutes Matter

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE results. Research found that students who performed better at the end of secondary school missed fewer days than those who didn't perform as well. This was true for us this summer with students with 95+% attendance achieving significantly higher grades than those without.

The data tells us secondary school pupils who didn't achieve grade 9 to 4 in English and maths missed 10 more days on average over the key stage than those who achieved grade 9 to 5 in both English and Maths.

## What are the risks of missing a day of school?

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. For example, a child in Year 10 who is absent for three days over a half term could miss 15 lessons in total. The higher a student's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments.



## Taster Day and Open Evening

On Monday we held our Year 6 Taster Day when over 130 students from a wide variety of primary schools sampled what Lacon Childe is like first hand, ably supported by our Year 8 young leaders. This was followed later by our Year 6 Open Evening, and it was great to meet so many potential Lacon students and their families. There was a real buzz of excitement around the school. We received lots of positive feedback, and if you were one of our visitors, thank you so much for coming.

A huge thank you to all of our existing students who returned to school in the evening and either welcomed our visitors, helped out as tour guides, or volunteered in the different subject areas. We were extremely proud of our students, and they were amazing ambassadors for our school. A special thank you to our senior prefects Harry Hall and Theony Packard for hosting the evening and to our new Year 7 students Nate Rogers, Rory Evans, Georgia Turner and Sophia Smith-Hughes who spoke so eloquently about their first four weeks at Lacon Childe.

Our students are truly wonderful, and we couldn't have done it without them.

## Spanish Club

Spanish club made its debut this week to the rhythm of Waka Waka and Asereje. We learnt some Latino moves and shared a passion for dance. Next week the club meets in the food technology room to discover some traditional Hispanic tastes (vegetarian options will be provided). Newcomers are welcome, please encourage your child to join in the fun!



### **Year 7 Welcome Evening**

Last week we hosted our Welcome Evening for Year 7 parents/carers. Mr Adams hosted the evening and form tutors were on hand to answer questions. If you were unable to attend the meeting, please see below link to the presentation, if you have any further queries, please contact [steven.adams@laconchilideschool.co.uk](mailto:steven.adams@laconchilideschool.co.uk)

### **Careers Day**

Careers education is an important element of our personal development curriculum and as such this year we are looking to provide our students with as many opportunities as possible to meet with companies, businesses and post-16 providers. On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October, we will be hosting a Careers Day at Lacon. This is a chance for your children to meet with providers and start to understand the different options and pathways available to them after Year 11. As a parent myself, we recognise that it is important that you too have the opportunity to meet and discuss the various options with providers so that you can help to support and guide your child. From 3:15pm until 5.00pm, you are invited to join us in the school hall to meet the various providers.

Please find below a list of post-16 providers in our area and their open days:

- Bewdley Sixth Form - Tuesday 1st October <https://www.bewdley.worcs.sch.uk/2024/09/19/bewdley-sixth-form-open-evening-3/>
- Heart of Worcestershire College - Thursday 9th October , Saturday 9th November & 29th January 2025 <https://www.howcollege.ac.uk/about/open-events/>
- King Edwards College, Stourbridge - Thursday 17th October & Saturday 19th October <https://www.kedst.ac.uk/applicants/visit-us/open-events/>
- Worcester Sixth Form College - Wednesday 23rd October & Thursday 7th November <https://www.wsfc.ac.uk/open-events/>
- Ludlow and Hereford Colleges - Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2025 <https://hlncs.ac.uk/news-events/open-events/>
- Kidderminster College - Monday 7th October <https://www.kidderminster.ac.uk/open-days-events/>

### **Homework**

To ensure that our students are supported, a staffed homework club is available on a Tuesday evening after school in the centre. This is open to all students and provides a calm environment in which to complete homework, allowing access to books, computers and printers. L@fter transport is available to book if your child would like to stay for the club and you are rurally isolated.

### **Bike Show**

Thank you to all those who attended and supported our annual bike show. The show raised an amazing £2629.36! We have donated 10% to the Midlands Air Ambulance. We would like to say a huge thank you to the volunteers involved and a special thank you to Sarah Westmacott who was integral to the organisation and success of this year's event.

## Castles Visits – Year 7

Last week Year 7 visited Goodrich Castle in Herefordshire to enrich their studies of History, 7 Clee and 7 Mortimer went on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September with 7 Stretton and Wrekin going the following day. The focus of the trip was to use the castle as an example of physical evidence and use the evidence on site to decide if the castle's main purpose was for show down (defence) or to show off. The castle is one of the best-preserved Medieval castles in England and was developed by the Normans to help defend the border with Wales. Year 7 students enjoyed climbing the steep stone staircase to take in the view at the top of the keep, they walked the moat, and studied key features such as the Great Hall and Gatehouse. The students particularly enjoyed some time spent in the dungeon and finding the old murder holes. The weather was very kind to us and the rain held off to allow us to study the castle without getting drenched, we even had blue skies for a time, as you can see from the photo. A great time was had by all, and it was an informative and enjoyable trip. Well done Year 7!



## Vapes

This is a reminder to all parents/carers that any vapes/e-cigarettes or indeed cigarettes are a banned item on our school site, and any student found in possession of such an item will face a serious sanction. We will continue to educate our students about the dangers of vaping and how to stay safe and we would be grateful if parents/carers do the same. If you haven't seen this Panorama documentary, it lasts only 28 minutes, and can be viewed via BBC iPlayer here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001pp19/panorama-teenage-vaping-whats-the-harm>

## Reminders

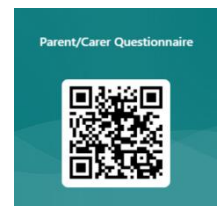
### Student access to Arbor

A reminder that the student portal for Arbor is now open and available for your child to log in to. All students in Years 8-11 have been shown how to do this and have received an email to their school email account explaining this process in case they have forgotten. The following link (included in their email) will take students directly to the correct site, this should be stored in their bookmarks for future use. <https://the-lacon-childe-school.uk.arbor.sc/>

Once students have successfully logged in and set their own password, they will be able to see their attendance, timetable, and assignments (homework) information. They will no longer need to ask you about what homework they have. The link below (also included in their email) provides further advice on using the student portal. <https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/360006651877-The-Student-Portal-Quick-tips-for-students>

### Stakeholder Voice

Thank you to those parents/carers who have already completed our questionnaire using this QR code. The link will be active for a further 2 weeks. Please give us your feedback.



### Letters and Information for Parents/Carers

Please find below links to the Paris, Arthog, and London trips that are now available to sign up for on Arbor.

[Year 7 London trip](#)

[Year 8 Arthog trip](#)

[Year 9 Paris trip](#)

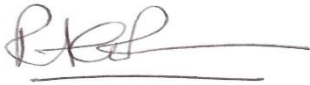
[School support course](#)

[Health for teens](#)

[Year 7 welcome presentation](#)

Thank you again for all of your support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me on [rachel.croxtombroome@laonchilideschool.co.uk](mailto:rachel.croxtombroome@laonchilideschool.co.uk).

Yours sincerely



Rachel Croxton-Broome  
Head Of School



Ruth Allen  
Consultant Executive Headteacher

**Dates to remember**

Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	National Poetry Day
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Year 11 Imam Assembly
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Yr 6 Open Morning
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Careers Fair
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Yr 11 Triple Science Trip - Bishops Wood
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	7M Church Visit
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	7W & 7S Church Visit
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Yr 11 BTEC PE Coursework - all week
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	End of term
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October to Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Half Term

**Results**

- U12 District netball – Lacon 3<sup>rd</sup> (narrowly missed out on 2<sup>nd</sup> by goal difference. Won 4, Drew 1, lost 1 game) Coach’s MVP – Grace Brick
- U13 boys football President Trophy game @ Telfor Priory 4-0 Loss
- U14 boys football v Oldbury Wells 4-0 Loss. Coach’s MVP- Harry Griffiths
- U13 netball v Oldbury Wells 3-1 Win, Coach’s MVP Amy Lambert,
- U14 netball v Oldbury Wells 11-8 Loss, Coach’s MVP- Isy Edwards, Players’ Player- Chloe Kinnersley

**Forthcoming Fixtures**

	Date	Year	Sport	Venue & Start Date	Staff
	Tuesday 8th October	U14	Boys Football	Owestry Depart 1.30pm, return 6.00pm	AU
Wednesday 9th October	U15	Boys Rugby	CSS	SA	

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[www.lacon-childe.org.uk](http://www.lacon-childe.org.uk)

The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust

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