



Shropshire
Gateway
Educational Trust

Lacon Childe School

...more than just a school

Headteacher – Stuart Weston
Deputy Headteacher – Rachel Croxton-Broome



17 September 2025 (Week A)

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the end of our first full week back I am very impressed with all the students and the way that they have returned to school. We are continuing to focus on our expectations during this term and have asked staff to focus on three areas. To have a quick start to make sure that we maximise the learning opportunities for our students. To insist that our students are not talking when the teacher is talking or other students are contributing the lesson and finally, asking our students to work in silence when they are completing their own work during the lesson. All of these have been chosen to make sure that all students get the best out of the lessons at the school maximising their learning time.

I had the pleasure of attending the Cleobury Mortimer Charter Service at St Mary's Church on Sunday. This was to celebrate the awarding of the market charter for the town, some 799 years ago, plans are already in progress for the 800-year celebration next year. Four of our Year 11 students, Molly Hickman, Rufus Sutton, Poppy Wenlock & Ben Nicholson, spoke at the service to talk about the town and our school and their hopes for the future. They talked with confidence and were all excellent ambassadors for the school, well done all of you.

More congratulations must also go to Leo Potter in Year 10, at the weekend, Leo won a bronze medal in both the singles and doubles England under 15 badminton tournaments. Well done, Leo.

Year 11 RAP

Year 11 students have begun their 10-week plan into their mock examinations, which start on Monday 24 November. Last Friday, we held the first of our 'Strategies to Success' assemblies where we outlined the importance of hard work, attendance and attitude to learning, as well as college entry requirements.

On Monday we will be launching our intervention timetable where targeted Year 11 students are expected to attend a one-hour intervention session between 3.20pm and 4.20pm Tuesday - Thursday for core subjects and a 30min intervention session between 1.40pm and 2.10pm Monday – Thursday for option subjects.

These intervention sessions are different to lessons as they are an opportunity for students to work in smaller groups focusing on particular misconceptions or areas of need that have been identified by their teachers. They will always have an exam focus, have a clear objective and are tailored to the subjects that your child needs most support in. You will be contacted separately by email if your child is expected to attend. Please see our Autumn term timetable below:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime 1.40-2.10pm	Option B	Option A	Option D	Option C	N/A
After school 3.15-4.15pm	N/A	English	Maths	Science	PE/Sports Science

If your child is not able to attend an intervention session for any reason, then please do inform us at admin@laconchilddeschool.co.uk.

Attendance

We have been very pleased with the attendance at the start of term, however the drop in attendance in secondary schools has been well publicised over the past few years. What matters most, is your child's attendance and we are determined to ensure that all of our students have the best opportunity to learn and develop. Students with broken attendance (a day off every week or fortnight, on random days) means that they will miss five hours of new learning each time and will struggle to understand the work they do the following week because lessons are taught in sequences which rely on prior knowledge.

We have highlighted the significant correlation between absence and exam results on previous occasions. Put simply, students who miss school regularly, reduce their lifetime learning potential because they achieve worse exam results than their peers, and develop poor habits to take into the workplace where high levels of absence, poor punctuality, or an indifferent attitude to responsibility can result in dismissal.

Please can I ask that if your child is absent from school regularly (students should have full attendance most weeks) you seek to address this and ask us for support if you are struggling with your child. We want to work alongside you to support your child, and we can only do this if you speak to us. As part of our drive to support families and further improve our safeguarding practices, we have a family liaison officer, Mrs Stokes. Mrs Stokes knows our students well and is a trained safeguarding lead. Mrs Stokes will often make home visits to students who are not in school if any of the following apply: -we have not seen the student in school for two consecutive days; - we are unable to contact parents/carers after two days; - we have no information as to the whereabouts of the student; - there is involvement from Children's Services with the family.

Please be welcoming to Mrs Stokes should she have to visit your child when they are absent. She is here to help and make your child's return to school seamless. Please share openly any concerns or difficulties with her and she will ensure she communicates that information with the relevant staff.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr Wood on kristien.wood@laconchilddeschool.co.uk.

Careers Events Update

As always, the beginning of the academic year is packed with exciting Careers events at Lacon. We've already kicked things off with some fantastic opportunities for our students.

Last Thursday we were delighted to welcome Teresa Fisher from Young Enterprise, who launched the Company Programme with our Year 10 students. (Further details available in the attached PDF. Yesterday, Teresa and her team, delivered Launchpad, an inspiring event for Year 8 students. This programme introduces students to the world of work and gives them the chance to collaborate with business volunteers, helping them explore their strengths and develop essential workplace skills.

Tomorrow, Young Enterprise will return to work with our Year 10 students for a full-day Employability Masterclass. This session will allow students to engage with local employers and employees, gaining valuable insights into the skills and qualities needed to succeed in the workplace.

We are also pleased to welcome back Anita from The Seeds of Change, who continues to provide one-to-one careers guidance for our Year 10 and Year 11 students.

If you'd like to learn more about Young Enterprise and their inspiring programmes, please visit www.young-enterprise.org.uk



For any questions regarding careers provision at Lacon, feel free to contact Miss Koziel at aleksandra.koziel@laconchilideschool.co.uk

Year 10 GCSE Information Evening

Our Year 10 GCSE Information evening is being held in school on Thursday 25 September 2025. Please see attached letter from Ms Johnston.

Flu Vaccinations

The online flu vaccination form has closed. We have sent out paper copies home today with students that have not yet completed the flu vaccination form. Please complete the form and return to the office by Friday 19 September.

Lockers

The school have lockers to hire through a company called Secure Locker Rental. Please see attached the poster on how to order one.

Attachments

[Year 10 GCSE Information letter](#)

[Company Programme 2025-2026](#)

[Secure Lockers](#)

Regal theatre – [1](#) & [2](#)

[Year 7 Tales for Transition](#)

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Weston
Headteacher

Dates to remember:

Thursday 18 September

Monday 22 September:

Thursday 25 September

Thursday 25 September

Friday 24 October:

Monday 3 November:

Employability Masterclass – Year 10 only

Flu Vaccinations – all years

GCSE evening – Year 10 only

Tales for Transition workshop – Year 7

Last day of term

Return to school

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The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust