



15 September 2023

Dear parents and carers

## End of week 2: announcing our improved extracurricular offer

We are excited to announce the launch of our Extracurricular Programme for 2023-24. It is called ExploreXtra. One aspect of the parent survey you asked us to look at and improve was what happens beyond lessons. Over the last few months, we have been working on this and we will continue to extend it over time – it is not all done yet. ExploreXtra is designed to provide our students with a wide range of enriching experiences beyond the regular school curriculum.



**Overview:** ExploreXtra offers a diverse selection of activities and clubs aimed at enhancing your child's personal growth and interests. There is a wide range of activities for a wide range of interests.

**How to Sign Up:** Students will need to use Satchel One. Detailed information about each club, the timetable and the sign-up form can be found on Satchel One under the "ExploreXtra programme" set by Miss Tatton, and on the school website. Please note that some sessions are only available for certain year groups.

Some sessions have limited spaces available. We encourage you and your child to review the available clubs and sign up promptly to secure a spot in their preferred activities. Please understand that while we will do our best to accommodate as many students

as possible, certain clubs have a maximum capacity. Miss Tatton will email your child with their confirmed choice.

For this half term, *registration opens on Monday 18th September, with a deadline of Friday 22nd September and the activities will start from week beginning 25th September.* If you have any questions about the programme please contact Miss Tatton via [tattonj@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:tattonj@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk). If you need assistance with the sign-up process on Satchel One please contact the main office [enquiries@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk) or telephone school.

**Homework and Study Support:** our homework timetable for Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 begins on *Monday 18th September.* We are waiting another couple of weeks for Year 7. This year we are also launching Study Support Sessions after school for students in Years 7, 8 and 9, in which they can attend a homework club to support them completing what has been set.

The Study Support Session can be accessed via self-referral by the student but may also be directed by teachers when a student misses a homework deadline. Teacher-directed referrals will be communicated via the Satchel One app, so you will find it helpful to have access to this app.

**Open Evening (early closure warning):** we will be holding our annual Open Evening for parents and children currently in Year 6 on *Monday 25th September.* Please note that in order to prepare for this, school will close at 12.15 pm that day.

**Whole School photographs:** take place on *Monday 18th September.* These are an important part of our safeguarding procedures as well as a chance for you to have a nice photographic record of your child's time at secondary school. Students are reminded that they must be in full school uniform. As always, this means no jewellery or makeup.

**Kieran Larkin**  
Headteacher

**CARING, LEARNING AND SUCCEEDING**