

23rd October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we reach the end of the first half term of the academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the outstanding achievements, partnerships, and moments of pride that have already shaped our journey together. Autumn is often a time of settling, growth and renewal, and our learners have embraced this term with remarkable determination, demonstrating our core values of Aspiration, Respect, Resilience and Kindness.

A particular highlight has been our involvement in International Stammering Awareness Day on Wednesday 22nd October. We are incredibly proud of Laila and a group of our learners who have worked in collaboration with The Consortium Academy Trust, NHS Humber, and learners from across Hull and the East Riding to co-create an educational package titled 'Just Listen'. This resource, now available nationally, is a powerful example of learner voice driving change and raising awareness. Their dedication and courage represent the very best of Holderness Academy.

We were also delighted that our Holderness Academy Active Travel Ambassadors were nominated as finalists in the Regional Secondary Modeshift Awards. Learners represented the Academy superbly at the Regional School of the Year celebration, where they were spotlighted for their commitment to promoting safe and sustainable travel. The event was a wonderful opportunity to connect with other schools across the region, and we extend our congratulations to Withernsea High School for their success. Our ambassadors demonstrated Aspiration, Resilience and Kindness throughout, and we are extremely proud of their achievements and continued dedication to encouraging active travel within our community.

We are delighted to announce that our first ever 'Holderness Academy's Got Talent' will be taking place soon, with tickets going on sale shortly. It is wonderful to see the stage once again coming to life as a vibrant and central part of academy life. The excitement and creativity already emerging from rehearsals reflect the confidence, resilience and community spirit of our learners.

We are also proud to continue strengthening relationships with our feeder primary schools. This term, we welcomed learners from Keyingham Primary, who used our Food Technology classrooms to enhance their practical learning experiences. Creating these opportunities for younger learners helps build aspiration and excitement for their educational futures as well as producing tasty treats.

Last weekend several of our learners recently took a Social Science KS4 trip to Poland, which provided a powerful and enriching experience. During their visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau, they showed exceptional maturity, deep respect and thoughtful reflection, embodying our values throughout. A highlight of the trip was exploring the UNESCO-listed Wieliczka Salt Mine, where learners were fascinated by the intricate underground chambers and impressive engineering. An evening of bowling offered a welcome opportunity to relax and enjoy time together, and throughout the trip our learners were exemplary ambassadors for Holderness Academy.

A group of Year Nine Science students were fortunate to attend the Humber STEM Event 2025, where learners took part in a range of engaging workshops led by employers and providers including HETA, BP, KCOM and the University of Hull. Throughout the day, learners participated in hands-on activities and team challenges that not only showcased the exciting possibilities within STEM industries but also helped them to develop essential workplace

skills. This experience has broadened their understanding of future pathways and inspired many to consider how their upcoming work experience placements and GCSE choices can support their aspirations in science, technology, engineering and beyond.

In sport over the past fortnight, our Year 11 boys demonstrated real resilience in the National Cup against a strong St Mary's side, while our Year 7 boys' rugby team embraced their first ever competitive fixture with enthusiasm in a spirited performance against Liberty Academy. The Year 8 rugby team secured a confident win away at Winifred Holtby, showcasing excellent attacking play, and our Year 7 footballers showed real promise in a closely contested National Cup tie against Beverley Longcroft. We were also proud to host a fantastic primary cross-country event here at Holderness, supported superbly by our Junior Sports Leaders, and at the East Riding Cross Country Championships held at Cottingham High School, all 43 of our competing runners showed exceptional determination, contributing to a strong representation for the Academy.

As we approach the half-term break and the Halloween period, we encourage all our learners to enjoy their time with family and friends while remaining safe, making responsible choices and looking after one another.

We are also inviting parents and carers to engage with our ongoing commitment to safeguarding excellence by completing the National College Safeguarding Training made available through the following link: [National College Safeguarding Training](#). The platform offers a wide range of short online courses, webinars, and guides on topics such as online safety, mental health, study habits, and supporting learning at home. These resources are developed by education experts and can be accessed at any time, making them a convenient way to stay informed about the issues that matter most to our learners. Your partnership plays a vital role in ensuring our academy remains a safe, informed and responsible community for all learners.

Some key dates detailed below:

Key Dates	
Academy closed to all learners	Friday 24th October
October Half Term	Monday 27 th October - Friday 31 st October
Academy reopens to all learners	Monday 3 rd November
Holderness Has Talent	Wednesday 12 th November
Year 9 Options Evening	Thursday 20 th November
Year 11 Parents Evening	Thursday 11 th December
Christmas Dinner Day	Thursday 18 th December
Christmas Holidays	Monday 22 nd December - Friday 2 nd January

Thank you for everything you do as part of our wider school community. We wish you a restful and safe half-term break.

Yours faithfully,



Mr N Holder
Headteacher