

Dear Parent/Carer

As I write this, we are still unsure as to the likely date when we will be able to open more widely for students. The Government has stated its ambition for 8 March to be that date and we will be ready when that formal announcement comes. In the meantime, we will continue to provide online learning for all of our students whilst also keeping in touch and checking in on their wellbeing. Your support with this is greatly appreciated and I know that it can be very difficult to motivate youngsters to do their work, especially when you are yourself trying to work from home at the same time - I can testify to that on a Monday, when I am at home with my two children! As I have said many times before, you can only do your best and your best really is good enough, under the current circumstances.

Lateral Flow Testing

We have now carried out a total of 447 tests, all of which have yielded negative results and I have been delighted with the mature approach of our students to this new regime. Following further government guidance, the process will change slightly after half term and I will write to you again in due course with an update.

'Express Yourself' Enrichment Day- Friday 12 February

We will end this week with our 'Express Yourself' Enrichment Day. We hope that this proves popular and that the students find some challenges and activities that they enjoy and maybe even develop a new hobby or pastime on the back of it. We have never done this before so I would value your feedback.

Further to our correspondence last Friday, we are really looking forward to the Enrichment Day on Friday and seeing all the wonderful learning and personal development that will take place away from the computer screen by giving our learners the opportunity to express themselves. Throughout the day, students can send pictures of their experiences to us by emailing them to competitions@holderness.academy; each picture will be rewarded with Holderness Learner Aspirational stamps.

I would like to take the opportunity to reiterate that all of the activity options provided by our teaching staff for the enrichment day should be conducted in a covid-secure manner and in line with national guidelines.

On Friday, the students currently attending school will be taking part in a range of enrichment activities and will be given an itinerary for Friday in school this week. Please note that students are asked to come in non-uniform as some of the activities will be physical activities such as table tennis and gardening. All information will be outlined in your child's itinerary.

Explorer - Scholar - Leader - Collaborator

They will also be taking part in a sponsored walk. Students have been inspired by Captain Sir Tom Moore and his efforts to raise money for our NHS and, therefore, have decided to walk a combined 100km to raise £100 for the Royal British Legion. Please visit the link below to support our students in their efforts.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/holdernessacademy100kmwalksircaptaintommoore

Sixth Form students will also be participating in their 'Enrichment Day' on Friday. Although work will be set as normal, there will be no face-to-face teaching/live teaching and no assessment deadlines set for that day. Students will have an opportunity to participate in similar enrichments and well-being activities.

Students can select from the enrichment activities, complete additional research into Post-18 options or work on the work being set by KS5 teachers during Friday. Sixth Form Tutors will be disseminating the material for students to access on Friday.

In the meantime, thank you for your continued support and I hope you and your family have a safe and restful half term break.

Take care

Yours faithfully,

Scott Wilson Headteacher