

06 January 2021



Holderness Academy
& Sixth Form College

Dear Parent/Carer

It was great to see so many of our students attending live lessons during the course of today. It is clear that students are eager to learn and have really embraced our blended learning provision. Our staff will be rewarding students with stamps electronically. Staff have been asked to record where students are not engaging with learning so that our staff can contact you to offer support. If you are aware of any barriers that are preventing your child from accessing remote learning, please contact us and let us try and address them via remotelarning@holderness.academy. This situation will last for at least six weeks and so it is crucial that we get every student working on line every day. We are always trying to develop our blended learning provision and last night, I found out that you can access Google Classroom via a games console. Please find a 'How to' guide attached.

We have sent information to Year 11 and 13 students and parents about the issue of exams which we now know will not run in the normal way this summer and it has just been announced that the alternative will be a similar process to last year. However, OFQUAL (The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) will now lead on a two-week consultation period to iron out details of the contingency plans. It is still essential that students complete their courses of study and to always give of their best. This is not just important for their outcomes at the end of this year but for their next stage in their learning. Lessons will continue for them and your support to keep them motivated is really appreciated. We will of course, keep you updated.

Finally, our filtering partner (Smoothwall) have seen an uptake in children across the country using Omegle; a live chat website which pairs strangers, encouraging children to meet new friends. It requires no login, you can simply just start chatting. Not only does it provide the perfect playground for cyberbullying, it has also been found to feature pornographic and inappropriate content. Please find attached some important safety information and advice about the website and should you have any concerns, please speak to your child's pastoral manager or get in touch via welfare@holderness.academy. Please visit our school website for further online safety and safeguarding information [here](#).

I know that the ongoing situation is causing many families great difficulty and hardship and, on behalf of all of the staff at our school, I truly hope that you and your family are well and managing through the latest stage of this crisis.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Wilson'.

Mr S Wilson
Headteacher

Explorer • Scholar • Leader • Collaborator

