

18 January 2021



**Holderness Academy**  
& Sixth Form College

Dear Parent/Carer,

On Tuesday 5 January, we set forth on our commitment to offer high quality remote provision for all students. This involved students and staff following their normal timetable through a mixture of live teaching, pre-recorded and other activities using our online platform, Google Classroom. After nine days of this, the feedback from parents and students has been overwhelmingly positive. This is based upon comments during calls from our pastoral team as well as messages sent into school. We are always looking for ways to improve our provision still further and our staff are conscious to deliver a blended provision. A blend of live teaching, pre-recorded and task-based activities will hopefully, continue to maintain engagement enabling students to make good progress.

In recent days, we have ramped up our preparations for introducing Lateral Flow Testing into school. Our staff volunteers have completed their training and our Main Hall has now been converted into a pop-up testing facility. We will begin testing on Thursday, offering these tests initially to school staff and the children of key workers who are currently attending school. These will be purely on a voluntary basis and parents have been invited to offer consent for their child to be tested. I will update you with more information in the coming weeks.

There has been a lot of controversy in recent days about food parcels for students entitled to Free School Meals. I am pleased that all our eligible families have been receiving vouchers, rather than prepared food packs, allowing them to make their own food choices. The Government has now confirmed that they will be introducing a national voucher scheme which we will now switch to. This is a different provider but the transition should be a smooth one and we have been informed that vouchers should be with families by the end of the week.

We have also forwarded information to the government for mobile phone data increases and we await their response.

We all know how difficult this latest period of lockdown is for families and I would like to remind you of the further support available from external agencies should it be required. The information can be found [here](#).

Finally, I am forever grateful to parents/carers who find the time to write to us with messages of support. Rest assured, we will continue to strive to do the very best for your child/children.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Wilson', written in a cursive style.

Scott Wilson  
Headteacher

Explorer • Scholar • Leader • Collaborator

