

13 July 2020



Holderness Academy
& Sixth Form College

Dear Parent/Carer.

In any year, there is always change as we adapt to the external environment and seek to drive our school forward. However, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, there are still many decisions to be made before our return in September.

In this letter, I will set out the changes and adjustments that we have already made for the new school year. In August, I will write to you again, explaining the necessary changes that we will need to make to the school in order to make it as safe as possible for full reopening to students. I expect that letter will reach you on or around 14 August.

Before that, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and to thank the students for their incredible maturity, responsibility and enthusiasm throughout this unprecedented time.

Year 7 and 8 Tutor Group meetings

As you are aware, we have welcomed back Year 10 and 12 students for some face to face sessions to supplement their remote education as per government guidance. It has also been feasible to offer Year 9 students with a catch up session this week. To ensure we see all students before the summer break, we are pleased to offer Year 7 and 8 students the opportunity to participate in a tutor group virtual meeting this **Thursday 16 July**. The meetings will be led by Mrs Day, Mrs Edmondson, Mr Beecroft, Mr Tupai and Mr Harris. Students have been sent an invitation to attend via their school email address. Please see below some important information regarding safeguarding protocols for these meetings:

- Meetings will be recorded for Safeguarding purposes
- Students are advised to choose a plain background if possible to maintain their privacy
- Students will require a device that has sound and a camera to join the meeting
- Students will receive an invite to the meeting via their Holderness Academy email account

Summer Learning Program

It is important that our students have a break this summer, however, we do not want them to forget the knowledge they have acquired during lock down. With this in mind, teachers will be contacting students this week to outline the Summer Learning Program for their subject. Students will receive the information either via email or on Google Classroom. To simplify the process, and to make it easier for your child to manage their workload, the following platforms will be used:

- Maths - Maths watch
- Creative Arts (Art, Design technology, Music, Drama, Food Technology, Photography and Health and Social care) will be set via Google Classroom or Google drive as it has been during lock down.
- Business Studies and ICT will be via Google classroom
- All other subjects will be set via an online platform called Seneca

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The work has been designed to help the students reflect on their learning and to identify gaps in understanding that can be addressed by their teachers in September.

If your child doesn't have a Seneca log in, they can register free using their school email via this link. <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

Their subject teachers using Seneca will email students a unique code which your child enters on the site to join the class. There they will find a range of tasks set by their teacher based on their prior learning. If your child already has a Seneca login they will just need to use the class code sent to them by their teacher so they can join the class and complete the work.

Summer Reading Challenge

Holderness Academy invites students to take part in our Summer Reading Challenge. After viewing the challenge slides, complete your reading log to receive a bronze, silver or gold certificate. Prizes to be won for our top Summer readers when we return in September. Further details and slides will be made available within the Summer Learning Program section on our [website](#)

Students can join the East Riding Library online: <https://www.eastridinglibraries.co.uk/memberships/>
An order and collect service is available now.

Further Support

Should parents wish to access support services during the summer break, please use the numbers below:

- East Riding EHASH (Early Help and Safeguarding Hub) 01482 395500
- EHASH Hull 01482 448879
- Parents can also self-refer to YFS Counselling by email, direct to yfs@eastriding.gov.uk

Due to the summer break the welfare@holderness.academy email account will not be in operation from Monday 20 July. However, resources and information are available on our [website](#)

Parent Communication

Please find attached information on Key Dates for the year ahead. Our calendar of events will also be available via our website shortly. However, due to the current circumstances these may be subject to change.

Cashless system

Due to Covid-19, over the summer break we will be taking steps to ensure that, from September 2020, we are a totally cashless academy. This means that from September, students will no longer be able load cash onto the machines in school or make cash or cheque payments at Student Reception; instead, all payments will need to be made, by parents, online via our School Gateway App. Set-up instructions and information on how to download the App will be sent to all parents via email in due course. However, ahead of this, we need to ensure that the email address and contact mobile no. we hold for you is accurate. If you would like to change your registered email address, or check the information we hold for you, please send an email (from your preferred email account) to data@holderness.academy and include:

- Your mobile phone number
- Your name
- Your child's/children's full name/s and date/s of birth

The School Gateway is simple, safe and secure to use. You can make payments using a debit or credit card – or use superfast 'Bank Transfer'. You can check balances and pay for dinners, trips and other items at any time. Furthermore, cashless payments in schools reduce the need for students to carry money during school hours, which in turn ensures money is not lost!

Return to school

When Students return to school in September, we will have an extended phased return. This will allow us to safely implement the safety measures in place as well as to fully support all students. The return to school will look like this:

Wednesday 9 September - Year 7 and Year 12 students only in school
Thursday 10 September - All Students in school

Please note that the Government has confirmed that attendance to school will be compulsory from the dates shown above.

School Uniform

We have made some revisions to our school uniform policy in response to the Covid-19 outbreak at this time when welcoming back students in Year 10. We have reviewed this as part of our wider risk assessment for September and I can confirm that all students will be expected to wear the normal school uniform in full from the date of their return in September. More information on our school uniform can be found [here](#).

A Level and GCSE Results Days

We are hopeful that we can welcome students on site from 9am for Results Days but we are awaiting government guidance to confirm this. A Level results day will take place on August 13. GCSE results day will take place on August 20.

To limit the number of students on site at a time, we will allocate students a slot in which they can come in to collect their results. This will be followed by enrolment into our Sixth Form College. There will also be plenty of staff on hand to provide further advice and guidance to students.

We will write to you directly with more details of how this will work once we have received the government guidance.

Behaviour Policy

A number of changes have been made to the school's behaviour policy in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Reflection - The Academy will no longer have Isolation; this has been replaced with Reflection. Students will be asked to work for a period of time in Reflection in order to reflect on the unwanted behaviour that they have demonstrated.

Late to Lesson - If a student is late to lesson on two occasions in the same week they will receive an after school detention.

Classroom Behaviour Stages - The Academy is adopting a **Warn-Move-Remove** staged warning approach when dealing with disruption within the classroom, therefore removing one behaviour warning.

Five and Seven: Accumulation of Warnings - If a student receives 5 behaviour warnings in a week they will receive an after school detention; last year this number was 6. If a student receives 7 warnings in a week the student will be placed in Reflection; last year this number was 8. These changes will be evident in the student planner.

The rationale for these changes is to raise standards and to allow students the right to an uninterrupted learning experience.

As the school year draws to a close, may I take this opportunity to thank you for all of the support that you have given to myself and my staff throughout this most unfortunate time. I know that many of you will have suffered great difficulties and losses in the past four months and I can only hope that the work we have done to support your children has helped in some way.

I very much look forward to September, to welcoming back our students and young people and continuing to support our families in the best possible way.

Take care and have an enjoyable summer.

Yours sincerely,

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

Mr S Wilson
Headteacher