



Message from Mr Maltby

18th December 2020

Good afternoon,

I want to begin my final email of the term by congratulating all our prize winners this week; we are so proud of you all. I do want to highlight two students from last year, Dylan Palmer, who won our prestigious Dr Letman Award, and Rebecca Earley, for being our Student of the Year. I also want to congratulate Jack and Briony for winning our new Kindness Awards - please see photos on our school website.

It was great to see so many students wearing Christmas jumpers yesterday (we raised over £300 for the Families in Need (FIND) foodbank) and to watch them enjoying Holbrook's very own version of 'Do They Know It's Christmas?'. An important thank you to the brilliant Mr Sansom for organising this.

The end of term concluded with the significant government announcement of a staggered start to the Spring term and I have decided to bullet point Holbrook Academy's response to this latest communication:

- From 4-8th January, the school will only be open for Year 11 students alongside those students who will have been contacted by the school to confirm that we are expecting them to be on the school site before the start of term. If you are a critical / key worker and you have not, at this stage, been able to notify the school that you would want your son / daughter to attend school, please contact us as soon as possible using the email - parents@holbrookacademy.org
- From 4th January, Year 11 will have important mock exams in the Red zone and those students who will also be on site will be directed to their appropriate zone for that day. All students who are attending school should continue to come in school uniform and wear a face mask around the site, unless they are exempt. I also want to encourage Year 11 students to continue to revise over the holidays for their important mock exams.
- The school is requesting that all students who will be on site for the first week of term, bring a packed lunch. For families who are entitled to a free school meal, vouchers will be sent ahead of the start of term. The school intends to return to hot meals again from the 11th January.
- All other students will access work remotely throughout the week commencing 4th January and will then return to school on 11th January. Students will be asked to follow their normal timetable and each lesson will consist of 15 minutes live teaching, 15 minutes personalised support followed by 30 minutes independent work. Full details about how to access online learning alongside how we intend to ensure important safeguarding measures are in place, are included in the important attachment with my email.
- The school has strong contingency plans in place. A number of households will have been contacted today to ensure that a laptop is delivered home on Monday 4th January or to provide additional support with Wifi. If you do not receive a phone call and require IT support, please contact the school using the email parents@holbrookacademy.org



Please also contact the school if you require paper resources instead of online learning and they will also be provided. There is an expectation that all Year 7 to 10 students are engaging in learning using their normal timetable throughout this first week of term.

- Teachers will be providing feedback to promote progress throughout this week.
- As far as we are advised, bus services will be running as normal for the week of 4th to 11th January.
- The school will provide additional information regarding on site testing for Covid-19 at the start of term; once national operational details have been provided. The school will be encouraging testing of both students and staff but any testing will be voluntary and no student will be tested without clear parental consent.

I also want to return to the important message in yesterday's communication around when to communicate with the school over the coming days. To reiterate, if your child develops symptoms within 48 hours of being in school ie until 3.45pm on Saturday 19th December, you **must** contact the school by emailing health.advice@holbrookacademy.org

From Sunday, 20th December onwards, the school should not be contacted. Please follow contact tracing instructions provided by [NHS Test and Trace](#). The school will be available to support the NHS beyond this date.

I do understand that there is a lot of information to process and please contact the school on the above email address if you have any questions. We are here to support and to work together to manage this situation whilst minimising any impact on student learning.

I want to thank everyone at Holbrook Academy for their teamwork and commitment; it has been extraordinary.

And, finally, to wish you all a safe and peaceful Christmas break

Kind regards,

Tom Maltby
Headteacher