



## Message from Mr Maltby

28<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Good afternoon,

I want to begin my communication this week by thanking everyone who responded to my request last week for feedback on Holbrook's remote learning provision. We had 149 immediate responses, which is great, and it's important that this feedback is now shared.

When asked how would you rate Holbrook's remote learning provision 16% responded Excellent, 52% responded Good, 23% responded Satisfactory and 9% responded Poor.

When asked whether you thought our remote learning provision had improved since the last national school lock-down (omitting parents whose children were not at the Academy during the last school lock down) 80% believed it had, 13% were unsure and 7% thought it had not improved.

I want to thank everyone who took the time to provide this important feedback. It was fantastic to read so many positive comments regarding our remote learning provision and it is important that the leadership team acknowledge and respond to concerns or further areas for development. I will ensure an action plan is compiled based upon all of this feedback to inform our adaptation of our provision over the coming weeks; this comes in the context of the most recent government announcement that schools will not reopen until 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at the earliest.

I would also like to draw your attention to a recent review of remote education by Ofsted (please see link below). I think this is a really helpful contribution to the current discussions around live learning alongside what's working well in remote education.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/whats-working-well-in-remote-education/whats-working-well-in-remote-education>

As a Deputy Headteacher, I completed training to become an Ofsted inspector and as a Headteacher I continue to value Ofsted's important role in raising standards in education. I have asked Mr Anstee-Parry to lead on a further parent survey using Ofsted questions as it is essential that we continue to listen to your feedback to enable us to develop and improve as an Academy.

I have also invested in new technology to monitor students' attitude to school. I want student voice to continue to be an important feature of our school development; I am looking forward to students presenting remotely to our governors next week as part of our Academy's Annual General Meeting.

Meanwhile, the school continues to contact students and their families daily. Next week our focus will be on Year 9 families following our options day and parents consultation afternoon. I look forward to Year 11 parents speaking with subject teachers next week; I have received very positive feedback about how the use of technology has been utilised to enhance communication following on from these events during this past week.

I am also planning a remote "World of Work Day" for Year 10 and 11 students and if you work for an organisation which might like to support by talking to our students about your area of employment, do please contact me - I think it is essential, at this current time, that we continue to inspire our students regarding how they might apply their skills and knowledge in future education and employment.

As we come to the end of what has been a difficult and painful week for both our community and nation, I want to re-iterate the importance I place on student well-being. As such I have recently registered Holbrook Academy to become a member of the 'Well Schools' movement and I am



investing in further resources to enhance our well-being provision during enrichment time; using the Mindfulness in Schools Project 'b Curriculum' to support this. The school continues to offer personalised support where needed and if you need additional support at this time please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

As we continue to move forward together I want to reaffirm my commitment to providing high quality remote learning alongside supporting the well-being of all young people within our school community.

Tom Maltby  
Headteacher