



Message from Mr Maltby

5th March 2021

Good afternoon,

My communication today is in two parts. Following my weekly update there also follows a message from Louise Cullen, our Chair of Governors.

I want to begin my message by thanking Miss Mahoney and Mrs Beazley for their incredible work in preparing for students to return to school next week, together with the support of the Admin team in collating the consent responses from parents/carers. You will have received a letter confirming the date and time of when we expect your child next week and we very much look forward to welcoming them back to Holbrook Academy. Students will be receiving a copy of the attached leaflet when they return to school.

Secondly, I do want to update you on how the school is using additional catch-up money at this time. I am delighted to inform you that we have been accessing additional support for our students from the National Tutoring Project. This intervention is set alongside the literacy and numeracy support we continue to provide within our own Student Success Centre; which has continued to support students remotely throughout the lockdown period. I am also introducing Accelerated Reader to the lower school as I believe this is a really effective way of improving literacy and promoting reading. Further finance has contributed to our attendance provision; I am incredibly proud that overall attendance for Autumn Term 2020 was greater than Autumn Term 2019, despite the challenges that were present.

It is important that we are both informing and consulting in regards to how this additional money is being used; alongside being clear about the impact it is having. As our Academy re-opens to all students again, I am keen to respond to any specific concerns you might have about the impact lockdown might have had on your child's academic progress. Please can you provide any feedback using the email catchup@holbrookacademy.org; and this will then help to guide me in leading further intervention and support. I will also be providing further information on summer school support over the coming weeks.

As we move forward I am determined to ensure that all our students have every opportunity to fulfil their full potential.

Have a good weekend.

Tom Maltby
Headteacher

Message from Chair of Governors:-

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we prepare for the reopening of school, I am writing on behalf of the Governing Body of Holbrook Academy, to thank you for your support over the last lockdown. We wanted to acknowledge the important role of your support of the education of your children through the last few difficult months.

We know that these times have been very tough for many families and that it has been really hard supporting young people through these long, lonely months without their friends, their teachers and support staff, the routines of classroom learning, the fun of team sports, the buzz of breaktimes and real-life chatter.



Whatever support you have been able to give to your children during this time, to enable them to engage with remote learning and to keep up their spirits, it will be of such a great benefit when they return to school. We know for many of you this has been whilst juggling your own work, family commitments and other demands.

We wanted to also take this opportunity to thank our students for their hard work during the lockdown and for continuing to try their best as often as possible. Hopefully, they will be excited to return to school and to be with their classmates once again, but we will continue to work with Mr Maltby and the whole staff team to ensure support for their wellbeing and mental health is not forgotten as we adapt back into everyday school life.

With best wishes

Louise Cullen
Chair of Governors