



## Message from Mr Maltby for Year 11 Parents/Carers

9<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Good morning,

I am writing in response to a number of enquiries about our provision for Year 11 leading up to 25<sup>th</sup> June and I thought it would be helpful providing some additional information regarding my rationale.

Firstly, DfE guidance is clear that all schools have to continue to register student attendance up to the final Friday in June. It goes on to add:

*You should make appropriate judgements on the activities for {your} own pupils. This might not mean full-time provision and could include visits to education providers, independent study or remote provision combined with attendance in person...We strongly encourage you to maximise opportunities that meet the progression needs of your students during this period.*

In response to this guidance, Holbrook Academy has put together a blended approach that includes attendance in person alongside a remote provision; including work set from other education providers. It is a well-considered provision, which I believe, matches the progression needs of our students at this time.

Over the half-term, Amanda Spielman, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools, issued a statement that included the following points:

*The Department for Education has set clear expectations for schools to encourage year 11 and 13 pupils to continue their education during the last half of the summer term, even if the work they do doesn't contribute towards their final grades. This makes sense as many pupils have struggled to learn remotely, and so haven't got as far as they might otherwise have done. This leaves them less well prepared for post-16 or post-18 education, so it is concerning that some pupils could be allowed to finish the term early.*

At Holbrook Academy we continue to encourage our Year 11 students to engage in our provision, which includes remote learning and some attendance on site. We are making some final adaptations to this provision including making our World of Work days next week a remote experience rather than an additional need for students to come onto school site. This means that Year 11 students' final day on site is in three days' time; on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June when we have arranged for a brilliant motivational speaker to talk to our students about self-belief and keeping safe (including touching on key safeguarding topics such as County Lines).

We have also had additional conversations with some families about keeping students on site up to 25<sup>th</sup> June and if you would like to consider this option for your son / daughter please contact me directly for this to be arranged.

Today, students are having a remote assembly in which they can reflect, for the final time, with their form tutor on their time at Holbrook; we have chosen to use this time as it is in their scheduled Enrichment lesson so their form tutor can be present. I am also very much looking forward to speaking to both yourself and students in a more formal gathering when we present Record of Achievements in the Autumn term. I am also delighted that there is such a positive response to our outdoor prom on 30<sup>th</sup> June - something which I am sure is going to be a fun and an important way of giving Year 11 the joyful celebration they so rightly deserve.

I do hope this further communication is helpful and I would like to thank you for both your feedback and support.

Tom Maltby  
Headteacher