



## Message from Mr Maltby

11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Good afternoon,

We are now coming to the end of our first full week of the new academic year. My prime focus this week has been on establishing routines. All our young people need both routines and boundaries in their lives; and if, and when, those important boundaries are broken a clear and assured response is required.

It is great to see our students familiarising themselves with our new zone system and the hygiene procedures required on a regular basis. It is also fantastic to walk around the school and to see engaged students and inspiring teachers back in our school building again. Teaching and learning is at the core of everything we do at Holbrook and I am intending on wearing out the soles of my shoes this term as I walk around our school site!

I was also very proud of how our school responded to our fire drill this week; this is important as we continue to embed new safety procedures. As I walked around the outside of the school site during the drill, with everyone out of the building, I was so impressed with the silence that enveloped our school. Our Year 7 students, in particular, have done so well adapting to their new school site and procedures and it is just lovely to see how happy they are.

There is still much more to be done. We have had delays with a significant order of picnic tables which was made during the Summer, we have a further new marquee to be delivered to protect our students from the inevitable wet weather to come and we are now in the final stages of responding to the external IT problems which have delayed the start of our hot food ordering process; I will update further on this next week but please continue to ensure your child has a packed lunch as we ensure that free school meal vouchers are released today.

I also want to thank all those parents who have chosen to use our “park and ride” system of dropping children off at The Compasses car park in the morning. I am looking at possible locations for a similar walking bus system to be put in place at the end of the day. In the meantime I do encourage you to collect your child away from the immediate vicinity of the school and to respect the private land areas around our school. I am keen for our school to be a good neighbour in our wonderful village and your support with this request is truly appreciated.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and I also hope that both staff and students are able to enjoy some well-deserved rest time as we reach the end of our first week back.

Kind regards,

Tom Maltby  
Headteacher