



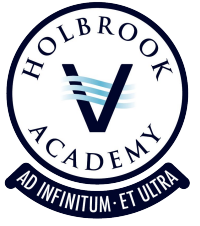
Transition Evening

2nd July 2026



The Leadership Team

September 2026



Mrs Elliott
Headteacher



Mr Anstee-Parry
Deputy Head



Mrs Darby
*Assistant
Headteacher /
SENCo*



Mr Newstead
*Assistant
Headteacher*



Mr Sansom
*Assistant
Headteacher*





Mrs Elliott - Headteacher





Mr Anstee-Parry - Deputy Headteacher



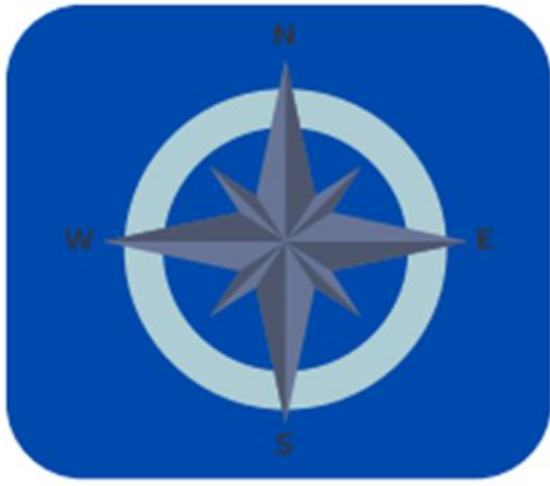
The Holbrook Way



Our History:



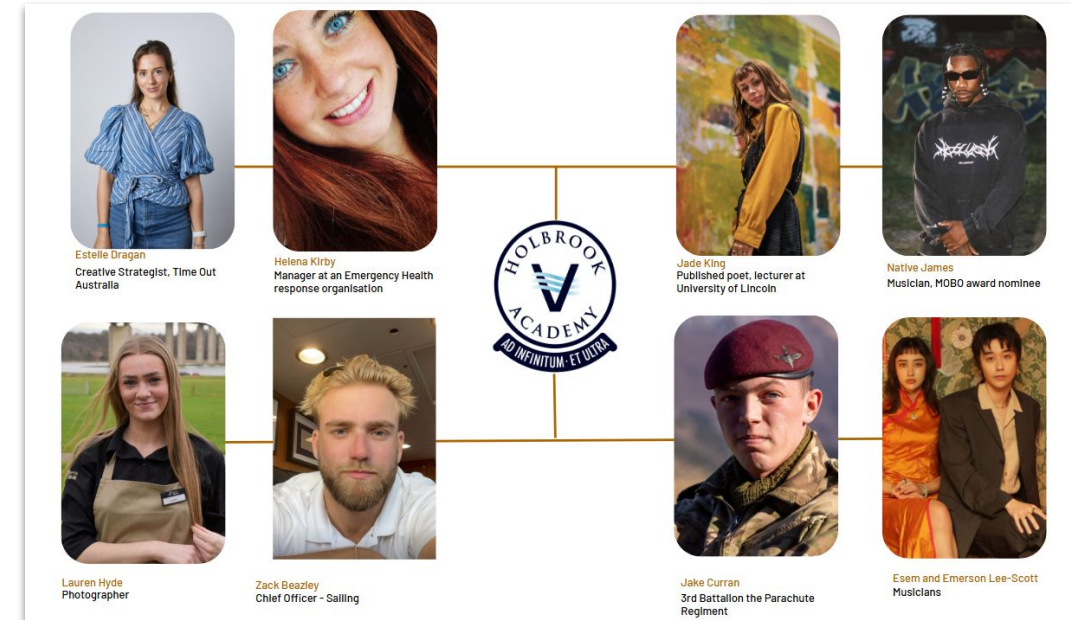
- Nearly 100 Years of Education
- Expansion in the 1930s: The “Top School” building was added, allowing more students and forming Holbrook Area School, with both schools unified under one headteacher
- 1954 Split and evolution: Holbrook Area School divided, forming the Primary School and Holbrook Secondary Modern
- Holbrook High School in the 1970s with comprehensive education.
- Holbrook Academy in 2013, enhancing autonomy



The Holbrook Way represents our commitment to fostering a supportive, respectful, and ambitious community. It is based on the characteristics of:

1. Tolerance
2. Confidence
3. Kindness
4. Resilience
5. Determination
6. Respect

What is 'The Holbrook way'?



1

Gold

Can be applied for and awarded at the end of Year 9. Applications from students in other year groups also considered.

2

Silver

Can be applied for and awarded at the end of Year 8. Applications from students in other year groups also considered.

3

Bronze

Can be applied for and awarded at the end of Year 7. Applications from students in other year groups also considered.



The Holbrook Awards



An integral part of our awards system...

Eligibility Criteria for the 'Holbrook Way Award':

To be considered for this award, students must meet the following criteria:

- **Attendance:** Maintain an absence rate less than 4% (authorised absence), unless valid medical reasons prevent this
- **Academic Performance:** Achieve a strong rate of progress in all subjects
- **Behavioural Standards:** Have fewer than 10 negative behaviour points in a term
- **School Service:** Show a record of active service within the school community
- **Community Involvement:** Provide evidence of meaningful contributions to the local community

Note: The most important factor in a successful 'Holbrook Way Award' application is the student's contribution to their community and the consistent application of the 'Holbrook Habits'





Student Leadership - Buddy and Gus



**Mr Sansom - Assistant Headteacher - DSL,
Behaviour, Attendance, Rewards**



Pastoral Leadership

Inclusion - Safeguarding - Behaviour - Welfare



Kathryn Darby

*Assistant Headteacher:
Inclusion & SENCo*



David Sansom

*Assistant Headteacher:
DSL, Attendance,
Behaviour, Rewards*

Pastoral Team



Mr Le Marrec
*Lower School Lead
/ ADSL*



Mrs Chapman
*Upper School Lead
/ ADSL*



Miss Crabtree
*Pastoral Officer /
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead*



Ms Lucas
*Pastoral Officer
(ADSL)*

Ms Tasker
*Pastoral Officer
(ADSL)*

Mrs Lamb
*Pastoral Officer
(ADSL)*



Ms Keinzley
*Intervention Lead
(ADSL)*



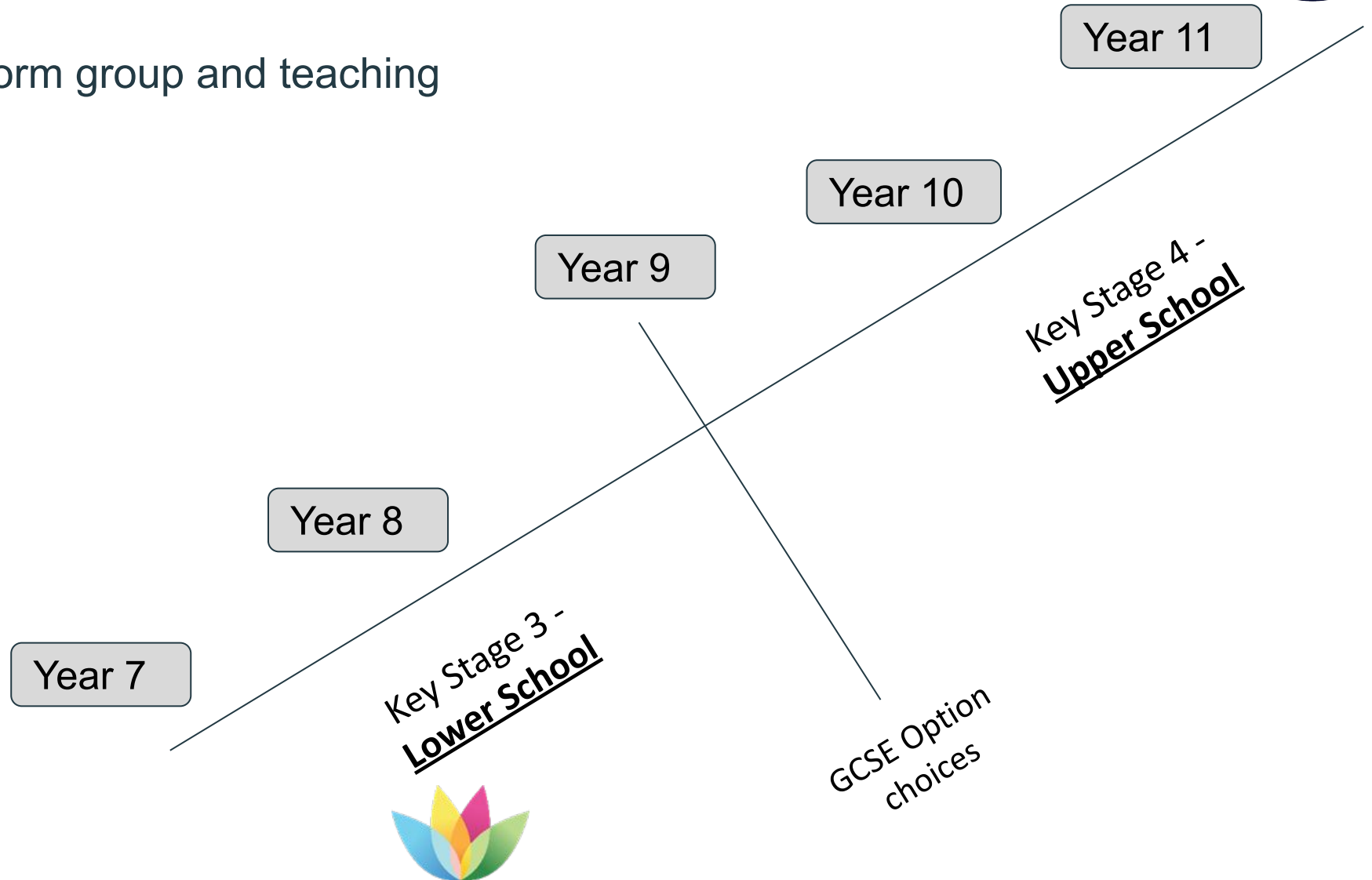
Ms Harris
*SEND Support
Officer*



Form Groups and Classes



- Two groupings - form group and teaching group



Uniform

- Navy Jumper with Holbrook Academy logo
- White Shirt with collar and top button
- Holbrook Academy striped tie
- Black school trousers / Black culottes / Black tailored shorts
- Plain black leather/leather-look shoes.
- Dark socks – black, grey, navy
- Dark, plain belt (Optional)



Jewellery Permitted:
Watch
One stud per earlobe
Single discrete nose stud



Make Up / Nails

- Discrete make up
- Clear nail varnish only
- No nail varnish/coating to be worn in Food lessons
- No long, stick on or acrylic nails
- No false eyelashes

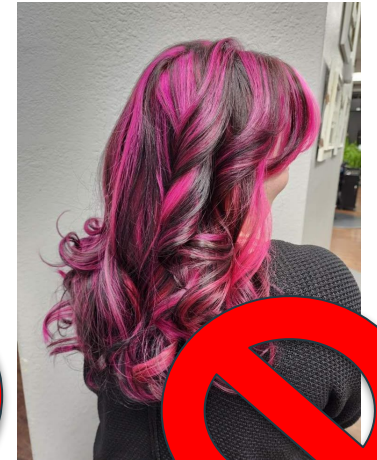
Hair

- Natural hair colours only
- No shaved hair patterns, extreme styles
- No unnatural, vivid shades ie blue, green, pink, purple etc

Other Rules:

- No hoodies or hooded jumpers to be worn between 8.40am and 3.15pm. If seen, these will be confiscated, a detention issued, and may be collected at the end of the day from the office.
- It is recommended that students wear a coat in colder weather but this must be removed upon entering the classroom.

General Uniform Rules



PE Kit



Navy / Sky blue rugby shirt (outdoor lessons)

Polo shirt (indoor lessons)

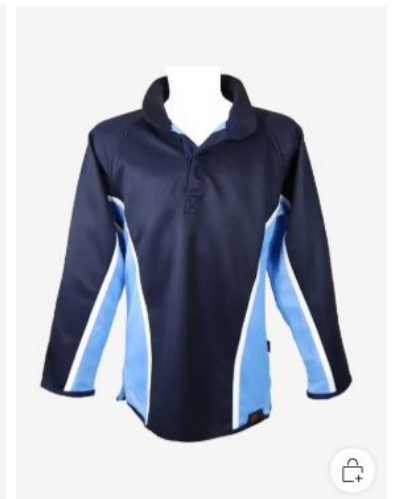
Navy blue shorts (all lessons)

Navy / Sky blue football socks (all lessons)

Trainers

Football boots / Outdoor trainers

Blue or Black tracksuit style trousers



Optional

Towel

Shin pads and Gum shield (advisable for certain activities)

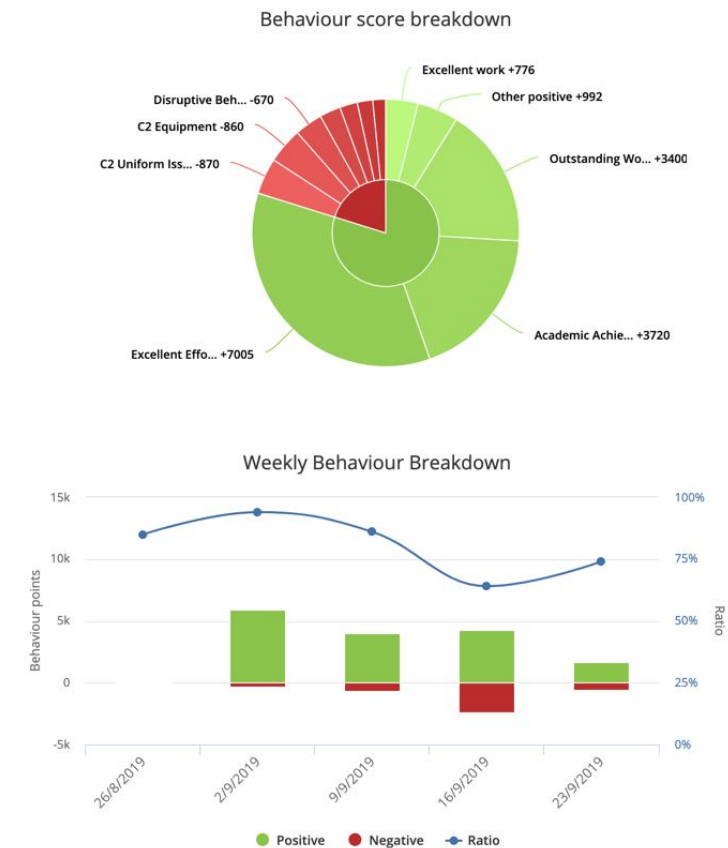


Behaviour

- Tracked via Classcharts: the good, the bad, the information sharing
- R1 – R3 = Recognition – come with plus points
- C1 – C3 = Consequence – come with negative points
- Points mean prizes in 'Rewards Store'
- Negatives receive sanctions and withdrawal from reward trips



Positive Points – Negative Points =
Spendable Points



Rewards....

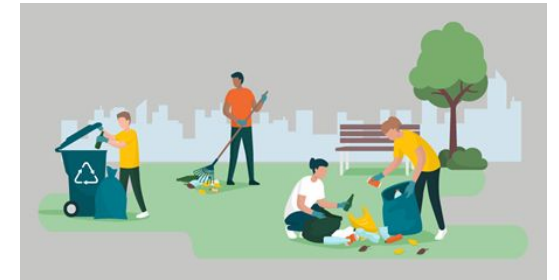


- **Queue Jump Ticket** – Enter the dinner hall ahead of your year group.
 - **Bus Jump Ticket** – You and a friend jump ahead of the normal bus queue to get the best seats on the bus.
 - **Dress Down Day Ticket** – Arrange a day where you and your friends dress down out of uniform.
 - **Half-Term Movie Afternoon** – On scheduled dates, bring beanbags, pillows, popcorn, and sweets to watch the planned movie.
-



DIFFERENT METHODS OF EARNING POSITIVE POINTS

- Completed Tasks +1
- Active Classroom Contributions +1
- Completed Home Learning +1
- Extra-Curricular Engagement +1
- Maintaining the Academy +2
- Representing Holbrook Academy +8
- Acts of Kindness +8
- Holbrook Way & Ad Infinitum Entries +3



If you have pastoral concerns...



- Speak to/email the **Form Tutor**
- If the issue is not resolved or continues please contact the **Pastoral Team** who will be able to offer additional support.
- If the concern is still not resolved the next port of call is the **Lower and Upper School Leads**

Safeguarding concerns need to be directed to the Mr Sansom - Designated Safeguarding Lead, and the safeguarding team:

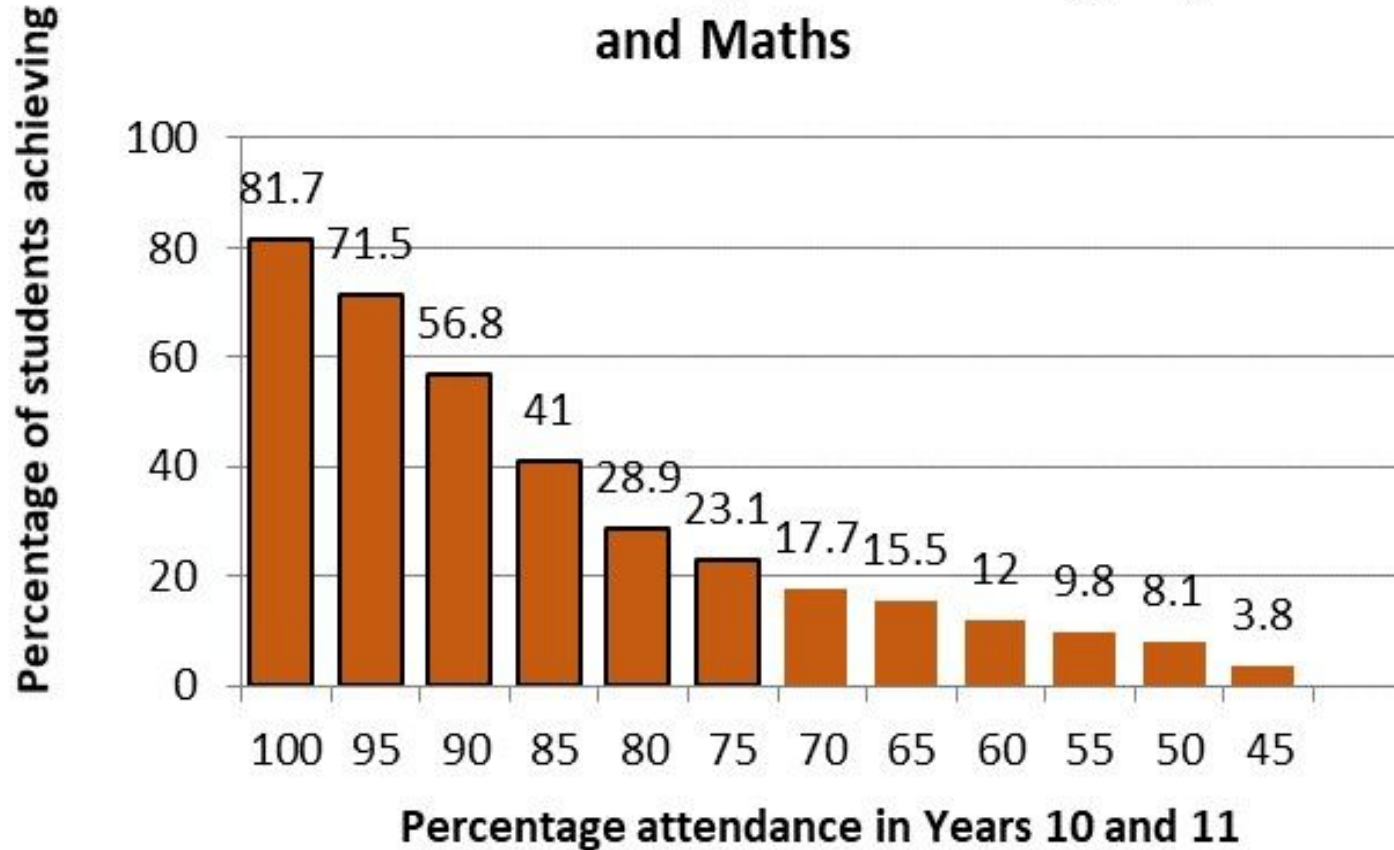
safeguarding@holbrookacademy.org



The Impact of poor attendance...



Chances of 5+ GCSE 5-9 grades including English and Maths



- Fewer friendships
- Lower confidence
- Lower attainment
- Long term impact on career options and earnings

NB: We will work with you to increase attendance



Attendance, some stats to think about...

- If you only attend 90% of the time, you are half as likely to get to 5s in English and Maths GCSE, compared to students who have 95% attendance.
- Year 11s who attend nearly everyday are 3x more likely to get 5s and above.

A long-term large-scale study of year 11 leavers found:

- Persistent Absent students earned on average £10,000 less a year
- Severely Absent students earned on average £20,000 less a year
- Students who are severely absent (below 50% attendance) are 50% more likely to need to claim benefits to support themselves.



Attendance over One School Year



- 98% attendance = less than 4 days absent
- 95% attendance = less than 10 days absent
- 90% attendance = 4 weeks absent
- 85% attendance = 5 ½ weeks absent
- 80% attendance = 7 ½ weeks absent



Attendance vs. Performance

Statistically if you have **17 days of absence** in one academic year it has a direct link to academic performance, reducing GCSE potential by ONE whole grade.



Student absent at registration



Sign in on arrival at Academy

Will be registered as follows:

L – signed in before 9.00am

U – signed in after 9.30am

Leaving School during Academy Day

Absence form/written confirmation to be received in advance

Parent/carer to sign student out of Academy on departure

Unauthorised holiday

Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued

Student absent for reasons other than illness.

Absence form must be completed prior to absence or paperwork to confirm reason for absence must be provided.

A medical card must be completed by the medical practitioner for each absence

Authorised absence registered as follows:

M – medical appointment

C – authorised circumstances

H – authorised holiday

Unauthorised absence will be registered as follows:

U - Late after register has closed

O – unauthorised

G – unauthorised holiday

Student absent through illness

Parent/carer to phone absence line 01473 328317 on each day of absence

If this information is not received the Academy will contact the parent/carer by text or phone.

If no response, the Academy will telephone the other contacts in order of priority as submitted by the parent/carer.

Internet Safety



WhatsApp



- Have **open and frank conversations** with your children
- Be **aware of their online activity**
- Have a '***device down time***' rule – establish this before problems arise
- Social media ban: Expected spring 2027 - backed by 9 in 10 parents

The Impact of Social Media

The Impact of Social Media on Children's Mental Health: A Systematic Scoping Review (Liu et al., 2024):

Details that frequent use is strongly tied to lower self-esteem, sleep disturbances, and depressive symptoms. Crucially for parents, the review highlights that because children have still-maturing self-regulatory abilities, they are uniquely vulnerable to the immersive, habit-forming design features of modern platforms.

A systematic review: the influence of social media on depression, anxiety and psychological distress in adolescents (Keles et al., 2019): Highlights similar concerns to the above text, but additionally the problematic online behaviours, particularly online multitasking (constantly juggling multiple app accounts) and negative social comparison (constantly measuring their real life against someone else's highlight reel).

Actionable Takeaways for the Household :

Quality Over Quantity: Monitor the style of use. Active communication, creating content, or joining healthy interest groups are mentally protective. Passive scrolling and silent comparison are where the SEMH risks live.

Protect Sleep Environments: Because a child's brain is still developing self-control, structural boundaries—like keeping smartphones out of bedrooms entirely at night—are vital for keeping anxiety levels low.

Look at the Whole Picture: If a child seems "addicted," check in on their broader ecosystem. Compulsive scrolling is frequently a coping mechanism for real-world loneliness, academic stress, or boredom.





Mrs Darby - Assistant Headteacher / SENCo





Every Child Achieving and Thriving at Holbrook Academy

Leaders use the 'graduated approach' (a continuous cycle of 'assess, plan, do, review') which helps to ensure that every child receives an appropriate level of support, which meets the needs of the individual.



Ordinarily Available Provision

All children receiving quality first teaching, accessing the form time programme, enjoying extracurricular clubs, sports, trips, and thriving at Holbrook Academy.

FORM TIME
THE HOLBROOK WAY
FUND RAISING
TRIPS
REWARDS

METACOGNITION
LIBRARY
LIFE SKILLS
PRODUCTIONS
CAREERS

CLUBS
SPORT TEAMS
LITERACY
ORACY
TRANSITION

THE INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM



Targeted Support

Some children will need support by their classroom teacher to support them in lessons with an adaptive curriculum, some may need pastoral support to help them with difficulties.

THE PASTORAL TEAM
LAPTOP
SEND ISP

ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS
HANDWRITING SUPPORT
MEDICAL PASS

YOUNG CARERS
CREAM PAPER
SCHOOL NURSE



Targeted Plus Support

A few children will need Targeted Plus support, at Holbrook Academy we can offer a range of support directed by our Intervention Lead.

THE HUB - THE THRIVE CENTRE - STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE
'THE THREE STRANDS OF INCLUSION'
MHST ELSA 4YP ELC EAL
DYSLEXIA/ DYSCALCULIA SCREENING



Specialist Support

Very few children will need specialist support.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY
SPECIALIST EDUCATION SERVICE

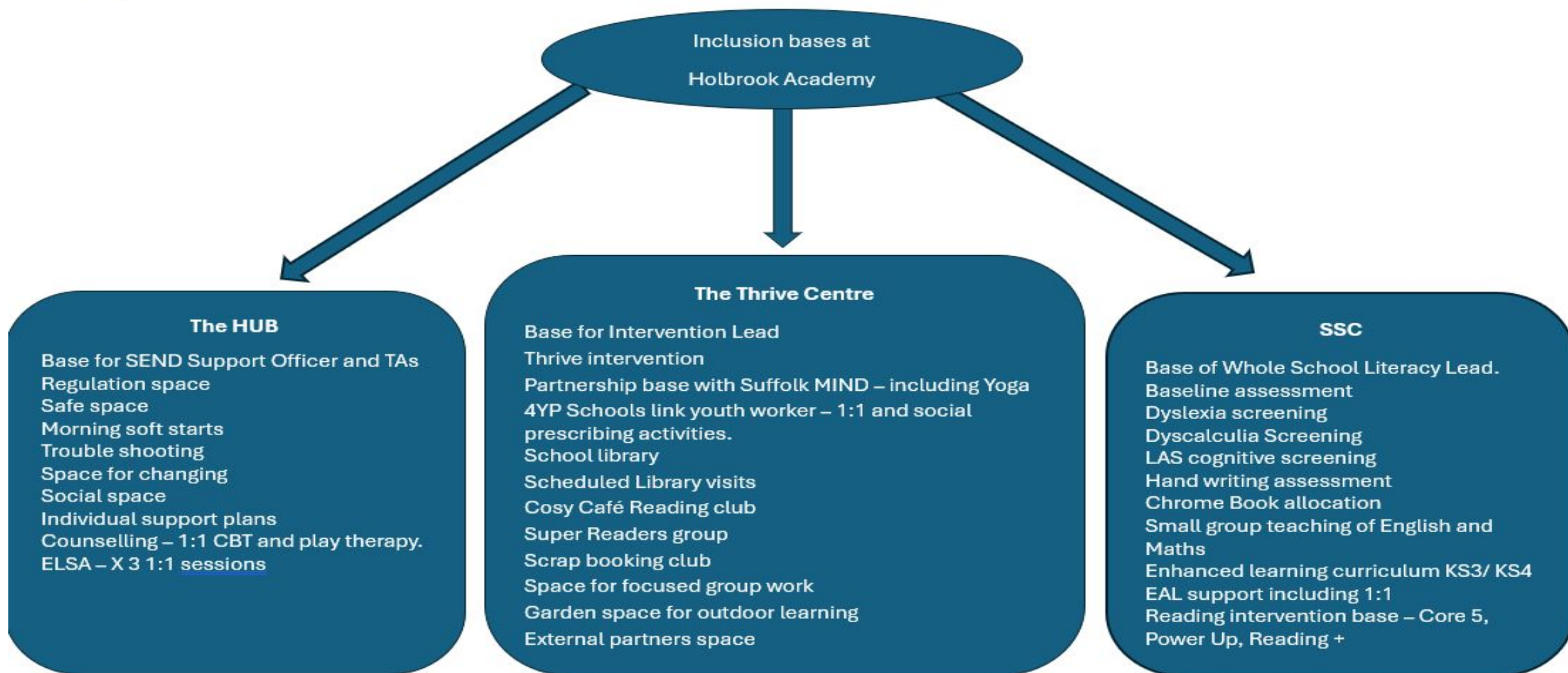
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



Every Child Achieving and Thriving at Holbrook Academy

Holbrook Academy offers a model of three bespoke inclusion bases across the school to meet the varied needs of our children.



‘My child has a special educational need

-They need something different from or additional to the Universal Offer’

We **should** know this from the information shared by primary school.

Every child with a special educational need will have their information shared with all staff to help them access the classroom and for the teacher to adapt their lessons.

Building relationships takes time... some of our teachers, teach more than 300 children per week.



What should I do if I have concerns about my child?



You can contact me directly:

kathryn.darby@holbrookacademy.org

Or contact Zoe Harris - SEND Support Officer

zoe.harris@holbrookacademy.org





Mr Newstead - Assistant Headteacher - Progress and Outcomes

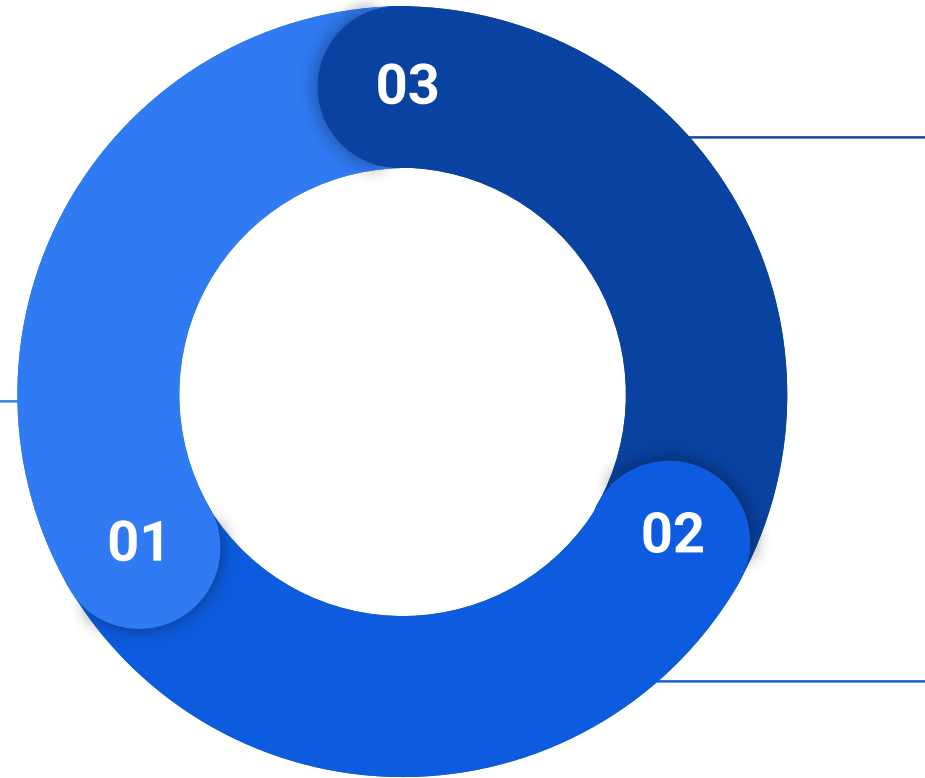


Year 7 also have a 'Settling in' progress evening, with just their form tutor!

Report 1

This will include:

- Your first snapshot of your child's data for each subject
- Details of your child's attendance to date
- Targets from your child's teachers
- Grading of your child's progress, behaviour, and attitude to learning.



Report 2

This will include:

- An updated snapshot of your child's data for each subject, and a comparison with the previous report.
- Everything else listed in Report 1

The Progress Evening

A conversation with each of your child's teachers, either online or in person.



New Grading Schemes

Grade 9 is reserved for the top 3-4% students in the country.

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE									
9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U
			4 = C and above and above			■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above. ■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as achieve an A and above. ■ The bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of grade G.			
A*		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE									

Making sense of your child's report



Holbrook Academy Year 8 Spring Report 2025

Name:

Form: 8FBR

Subject	Teacher	Minimum Expected Grade (end of year)	Current Grade	Progress	Behaviour	Attitude to Learning
English	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	1	Expected	Outstanding	Outstanding
Maths	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	3	1	Expected	Good	Outstanding
Science	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	3	2	Expected	Good	Good
Geography	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	2	Expected	Good	Outstanding
History	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	2	Expected	Outstanding	Good
French	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	3	Above Expected	Outstanding	Outstanding
ICT	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	3	3	Expected	Outstanding	Good
Art	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	3	Above Expected	Inconsistent	Good
Technology	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	3	1	Below Expected	Good	Good
Drama	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	2	Expected	Outstanding	N/A
Music	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	1	Expected	Good	N/A
RE	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	1	Below Expected	Good	Inconsistent
Core PE	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	1	Below Expected	Outstanding	N/A

Attendance: 95.9%

Authorised Sessions: 7

Unauthorised Sessions: 0

Your child's report features:

Their Minimum Expected Grade (MEG) for this year

Their current grade at this point

Their teacher's assessment of their progress, behaviour, and attitude to learning



Holbrook Academy
Year 8 Spring Report 2025

Name:

Form: 8FBR

An attendance snapshot

	Teacher	Minimum Expected Grade (end of year)	Current Grade	Progress	Behaviour	Attitude to Learning
	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	1	Expected	Outstanding	Outstanding
	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	3	1	Expected	Good	Outstanding
	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	3	2	Expected	Good	Good
	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	2	Expected	Good	Outstanding
	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	2	Expected	Outstanding	Good
	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	3	Above Expected	Outstanding	Outstanding
	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	3	3	Expected	Outstanding	Good
Art	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	3	Above Expected	Inconsistent	Good
Technology	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	3	1	Below Expected	Good	Good
Drama	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	2	Expected	Outstanding	N/A
Music	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	1	Expected	Good	N/A
RE	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	1	Below Expected	Good	Inconsistent
Core PE	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	2	1	Below Expected	Outstanding	N/A

Attendance: 95.9%

Authorised Sessions: 7

Unauthorised Sessions: 0

Continuous Improvement

Your child's academic success is assured through:

- An extensive quality assurance programme.
- Effective teaching and learning, focused on feedback.
- Progress Meetings with Heads of department every half term.
- Meetings with the senior team and school leads every week.
- Subject Report Cards

... and knowing the students that we care for!

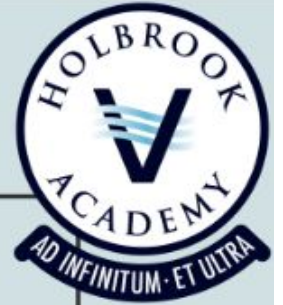


A typical Holbrook lesson starts like this:



Title: Hammerhead Farm

This class is: English
My name is: Mr Newstead



Today's Learning Objective:

To read an unusual piece of writing, and have a go at producing something of our own.

Task Linking Previous Learning:

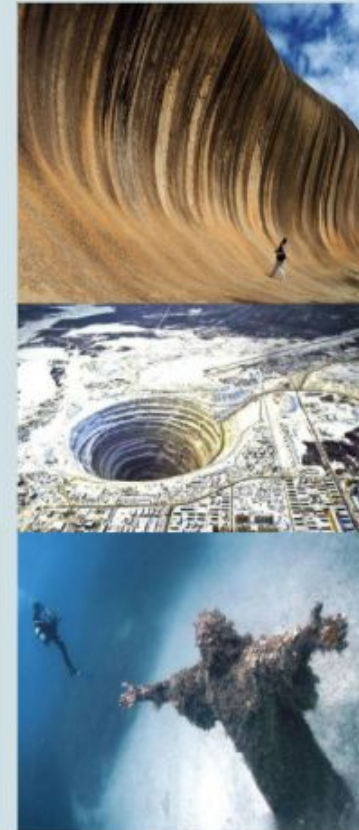
- Where is the strangest place you have ever been?
- Describe this place to your partner.



Challenge:

- Can you use explain how we use language to describe?

Support:



Aspire • Engage • Achieve

And finishes like this:

This is us. Is this you? <table border="0"><tr><td>Punctual</td><td>Prepared</td><td>Polite</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Presentable</td><td>Positive</td><td>Productive</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Punctual	Prepared	Polite				Presentable	Positive	Productive				End of lesson routines: 1. Tidy resources. 2. Tidy room. 3. Be silent and stand behind your chair. 4. Wait to be dismissed. 5. Have you earned your Habit Point today?
Punctual	Prepared	Polite											
													
Presentable	Positive	Productive											
													
	Today's final review: • Identify one device that you have used in your own writing: 'I used _____ when I wrote _____ because I wanted to make the reader _____',												



What should I do if I have concerns about my child's progress?

You can contact me directly:

kerrick.newstead@holbrookacademy.org





Mr Anstee-Parry - Deputy Headteacher



Times of Day / Lesson Arrangements

Time:	Activity:
8.40 – 9.10	Registration / Form time / Assembly
9.10 – 10.45	Lesson 1
10.45 – 11.10	Break
11.10 – 12.45	Lesson 2
12.45 – 1.40	Lunch
1.40 – 3.15	Period 3



Equipment



During the holidays you need to make sure you are ready for school.

You must have:

- The correct uniform
- PE Kit
- A strong bag or rucksack
- A calculator
- An A4 spiral bound sketch pad for Art (*available to purchase from School Gateway*)
- A pencil case containing:
 - A pen you can write neatly with (biro or cartridge)
 - A spare pen and spare cartridge
 - 2 pencils and a pencil sharpener
 - A ruler, a compass and protractor
 - Some colouring pencils
 - A rubber (also an eraser pen is useful for ink pens)
 - You may bring Tippex paper but **NOT bottles of Tippex**



Money

- You will not need money to buy lunch or snacks as we have a cashless catering system. You may, of course, bring a packed lunch if you prefer.
- Do not bring too much money to school in case it gets lost - students are responsible for looking after their own money

On the first days students will be given their timetable.



No mobile phones or tablets to be used from arrival on site until 3.15pm – this includes earphones / AirPods / Smart Watches

Electronics





First Day at Holbrook Academy

Thursday 3rd September 2026

NB: Bring all they need for any type of lesson

Packs received - please process them!

Other info:

Form groups and phone calls next week - finalised by end of term

School Gateway app will be available from 1st September

