

16th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back, everyone. We have made an excellent start to the term, with behaviour and respect across the academy remaining consistently strong. This demonstrates our collective commitment to the core values of Respect and Kindness, which has been particularly noteworthy as we began the year in cold weather and managed a few unavoidable disruptions.

We began the term with great aspiration and momentum in Year 11. Over 50 of our learners attended the **Steps to Success workshops** at the University of Hull, led by a range of experts from across The Consortium Academy Trust. These sessions provided high-quality guidance and motivation as students prepare for their forthcoming assessments. We were also delighted to welcome Adam Corbally, former contestant on *The Apprentice*, who delivered a powerful and inspiring talk to our Year 11 students as they prepare for their centre-assessed exams in February. His message of perseverance and self-belief strongly reinforced our value of Resilience.

Enrichment opportunities beyond the classroom continue to flourish. Our Year 9 geography trip to The Deep was a great success this week and, looking ahead, next week our learners will be visiting a mosque in Bradford as part of our commitment to exploring different cultures and faiths. This experience supports students in developing understanding, tolerance and Respect for others, which sits at the heart of our values-led approach.

In **Performing Arts**, we have seen a further rise in participation, with increasing numbers of students attending singing, performing arts and band extra-curricular clubs. Work is already underway to enter *Battle of the Bands*, and our performers are gaining a significant following on Instagram — a wonderful example of students demonstrating Aspiration, confidence and creativity. Please follow us on Instagram so you can celebrate, alongside us, all the wonderful things taking place every day at Holderness Academy.

We are also proud to announce the relaunch of our **LGBTQ+ club**, which provides a safe, supportive space for students to connect, express themselves and celebrate diversity. Alongside this, we remain firmly committed to retaining our Rainbow Flag status, of which we are very proud. This reflects our ongoing commitment to inclusion and equality, ensuring that every member of our community feels valued, respected and able to be themselves — a clear demonstration of our values of Kindness and Respect.

This term also marks the start of Year Four of our commitment to **Active Travel**. We are pleased to welcome our new student ambassadors as we say farewell to the Year 11 ambassadors who made such a positive and lasting impact. We have already begun work on our new action plan and were delighted to be

presented with Excellent status in recognition of our significant modal shift towards active travel to school. We look forward to seeing this campaign continue to grow, encouraging all our learners to travel actively where possible and helping to reduce the number of cars on site.

Congratulations to all our students involved in recent **sporting fixtures**. Our Year 7, 8, 9 and 11 boys' football teams have all qualified for the East Riding 7-a-side finals later this month, and the Year 7 boys' team also represented the school superbly at the East Riding 5-a-side finals before Christmas. We were particularly pleased to host a mass participation football fixture for Year 7 boys at Beverley Longcroft, ensuring every student attending football club had the opportunity to represent the academy. Well done to the Year 7 girls' football team for their enthusiastic performance at the East Riding 5-a-side finals, and to all Year 7 girls who competed in the netball fixture at Beverley Longcroft, where every participant played with great commitment. Commiserations to the Year 10 boys' rugby team, who narrowly lost 16–10 in the Yorkshire Cup, showing excellent resilience, and a fantastic effort from all Year 7 and 8 students who represented the school so well at the indoor athletics event also at Beverley Longcroft.

Finally, we are delighted to see students earning significant numbers of **reward points** for positive behaviour, effort and engagement in school life. Over 650,000 reward points have already been awarded this year, reflecting the outstanding attitude to learning demonstrated by our learners as they consistently uphold our Aspiration, Respect, Resilience and Kindness (ARRK) values. Reward points are also earned through our Active Travel initiative, recognising students who choose to walk, cycle or travel sustainably to school. We strongly encourage students to convert their points into rewards of their choice from the eRewards Shop using the following link - [Holderness Academy - Rewards Order Form](#). *Please note that this link can only be accessed using their Holderness Microsoft account.*

Key Dates	
Year 8 Parents' Evening	Thursday 22 nd January
February Half Term	Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February
Academy reopens to all learners	Monday 23 rd February
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Thursday 5 th March
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Thursday 12 th March
Year 11 Steps to Success Evening	Thursday 26 th March
Easter Holidays	Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to another successful term working together to ensure every student is supported to be their very best.

Yours faithfully,



Mr N Holder
Headteacher