

19th September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope my letter finds you and your family well and that you had a good summer.

As we have now had our first full week back at the academy, I wanted to write to keep you updated with some of the news from over the summer and plans for this term too.

Firstly, it was wonderful to see so many students again last week, and I have enjoyed delivering an assembly to each year group. In this assembly I shared with the students my hopes for them this year and together with the Head of Year teams we reiterated our high expectations and why it is important that we all work together to ensure we maintain the highest standards possible. Hollingworth is a world class academy, and this is something we should all be very proud of. With this in mind, I would like to thank you all for your support in ensuring your child/ren returned to the academy in the correct uniform and with all the necessary equipment. They all look amazing.

As part of the assemblies, we also mentioned the importance of having outstanding attendance. Every child should aim for 100% attendance, and only in exceptional circumstances should time in the academy be missed. Research shows that, poor attendance severely disadvantages a student from achieving well. It states "Being in school improves health, wellbeing, and socialisation throughout the life course. The greatest benefits come from children and young people attending school regularly." I am urging all parents and carers to support us more than ever this year in ensuring your child/ren's attendance is as high as it can be.

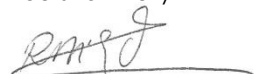
With attendance in mind, I wanted to update you on Hollingworth's exam performance this summer. I will cover more details of this in the parent bulletin towards the end of this term; however overall, we are very pleased with this year's GCSE results. Once again, Hollingworth has performed strongly and, as such, is ranked number one in Rochdale in a number of key performance indicators. I would like to thank all the hard-working students and staff and, of course, the support of the parents/carers in ensuring Hollingworth continues to be a high performing academy.

Hopefully by now you should have had some communication from your child's form tutor. As you are aware, we have introduced a new management information system (MIS) from the beginning of September and the early signs are positive. Please bear with us as we become more familiar with its functions and how our new system works. I am positive that the new system will improve how we can communicate and enable you and us to better support students, especially in relation to attendance and behaviour for learning. If you haven't already done so, the new MIS which is called Arbor, has a parent app – click on link for details of how to do this <https://tinyurl.com/y645t9uw>.

This year we are hoping to offer students more opportunities to participate in a variety of trips, visits and activities which will enrich their learning, both in school and by providing extra-curricular experiences. Obviously, these will be dependent on students displaying high standards of attitude and behaviour, but I am sure they will rise to the challenge. The details of the after-school activities and interventions can be found on the academy website and will be continually added to during the course of the academic year.

Finally, just to reiterate the importance of positive communication between home and the academy which supports the learning of our students. Please can I ask that if any parent/carer has a genuine problem or issue, to contact the academy directly to allow us the opportunity to satisfactorily resolve it with you.

Yours faithfully



Mr R McGinty
Headteacher

"EVERYONE EXCELS EVERYDAY"



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