

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



Q – What happens if I arrive without equipment, or without the correct uniform?

A – Sanction for these infringements will be set following the schools' policies. Sixth Form aims to support students for the world of work and developing independence.

Q – What happens if I am late to school?

A – Bad traffic is not an excuse, as this is expected in the surrounding area. If late to school beyond 9am, please sign in at the Hub and provide the relevant evidence. Without evidence, sanctions for lateness/punctuality will be set. School starts at 8:30am in form.

Q – Do I need to wear a lanyard?

A – Yes, at all times and clearly visible (as part of the uniform policy). If these are lost, replacements can be purchased on PlusPay.

Q – Can I expect homework?

A – Yes. Up to seven hours, per week, per subject. This is relative to the number of subjects studied and hours of independent study time. Should homework not be completed, you will receive a sanction in accordance to the school's homework policy.

Q – How do I access ClassCharts?

A – ClassCharts can be accessed through the mobile app store, or on any web browser. Parent and student codes will be issued upon your arrival.

Q – Who needs access to ClassCharts?

A – Both students and parents have their own ClassCharts accounts.

Q – Why do I need ClassCharts?

A – Holcombe use ClassCharts for attendance, homework, parental notifications and behaviour. Without access to ClassCharts you will not be able to obtain vital information and communication from the Sixth Form.

Q – I struggling with the transition to A-Levels from GCSE, what should I do?

A – We appreciate there is a 'step-up' from GCSE to A-Level and therefore we provide bridging work for each subject to help prepare for some for the basics. Staff will also support you with additional lessons with other classes (where possible). We also provide mentoring support where our more senior students will be available to help. Either way, please speak to someone and we will always assist you.

Q – What food facilities are available?

A – There are two locations on site where food can be purchased. Within the Sixth Form Hub there is a small selection of hot food and drinks. Within the main school canteen there is a wider variety of hot and cold food on an ever-changing menu. This can be purchased via PlusPay (using your ID Card) in the canteen and also using contactless payment in the Sixth Form Hub.

Q – What support system is there for me? Where can I go when I need to speak to someone or are worried about anything?

A – Holcombe have a comprehensive support system which stems from class teachers to the Sixth Form team. We also have a student services team who are available throughout the school day to assist with any worries and concerns you have. Our SEN team go above and beyond to support meeting the needs of all students at Holcombe. Finally, we have a strong safeguarding team which work tirelessly to ensure the school remains fun, safe and inclusive for everyone. Every student also has a form tutor we encourage you to communicate any concerns with, where possible.

If you concerns are academically related, we would always encourage you to speak to teachers first, and also the Sixth Form team's door is always open.

Q – What careers advice is available at Holcombe?

A – At least one careers sessions is made available for each student

Q – If I need sanitary products where can I get them from?

A – Please speak to Miss Bloomfield, Mrs Arnold and Mrs Manning who will be happy to provide these for you

Q – What after school clubs, sessions and study spaces?

A – Each term a school club timetable is distributed to all students. The Sixth Form Hive can be used after school and the Hub can be used before school for revision/studying.

Q – What do I do if I have free periods at end/start of the day?

A – You will be allocated a location for every study period.

Q – Can I speak to teachers for support?

A – Yes. You may need to arrange time to see teachers, should they be teaching throughout the day. But, all staff will be more than happy to help you as much as they can.

Q – Can I leave site at any point during the school day?

A – Unless you have prior agreement from the Sixth Form staff, no. The only other time you are permitted to leave school site is during lunchtime. If you do not arrive back in time for scheduled lessons/study period, this will impact your attendance and sanctions will be set, including the removal of this privilege.

Please do not hesitate to ask any member of staff for support/guidance whilst at Holcombe. We work tirelessly to ensure your transition to Sixth Form is as seamless as possible. Please use the support made available to all.