

23rd June 2020

Dear Student, Parent, Carer,

We hope you all remain safe and well.

I want to begin by thanking you for your continued patience in these uncertain times as we in the Sixth Form Team continue to work behind the scenes to prepare for the end of this term and beyond.

I am writing to you to communicate our plans for the following:

- Term 6 Subject Bridge work
- Year 11 into 12 induction plans and Summer Bridge Work
- Additional support materials available for students to access
- Results day

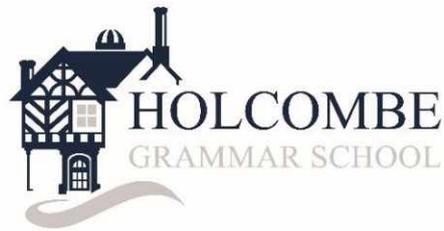
You will all have hopefully received a letter confirming both your place at Holcombe Grammar School, subject to meeting the necessary entry requirements, as well as your subject choices. If you have not, please get in touch with us so we can urgently discuss this with you.

Hopefully, you will also have taken advantage of following our **Term 6 subject bridge work** for Year 11 students heading into Year 12 which was published in the Coronavirus Update section on the home page of our School website during Term 5. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this work with us then please contact us at school.

Unfortunately the ongoing situation with regards to schools remaining closed to all but our current Year 10 and 12 students' means that we will not be able to run our traditional **Induction Days** as planned for the end of June and beginning of July. Instead we intend to offer remote lessons which students will be able to access from the week beginning the **6th July** onwards. Heads of Departments across all subject areas are busy working on lesson presentations with accompanying voiceovers and/or notes for completion by 3rd July. Myself and my Sixth Form Team will also be putting together a welcome presentation, featuring a message from our Principal, Mr. Preston as well as highlighting our expectations and the support you can expect to receive on your journey through Years 12 and 13.

Of course, this can never fully replicate the advantages of being delivered as a fully live lesson and I am sure some students will still have questions they would like answering. As a result, Miss Penna (our 6th Form Administrator) will remain available for you to contact with any questions. These will then be passed on to the appropriate Head of Department who will be able to respond.

At the same time Heads of Department will also be publishing **Summer Bridge work** in the same area of the website for students to complete over the summer break in readiness for them commencing their A-Level studies in September 2020. This will also be available from **6th July**



In addition to all the above I have also produced further support materials for students to aid them in their preparation for Sixth Form life at Holcombe. These take the form of a document entitled, **'The A-Level Mindset'** which aims to address many of the anxieties faced by students embarking on A-Level study, and provide helpful tips on time management, organisation, work completion and revision. I have also produced a **student handbook** which covers a whole host of important information and Frequently Asked Questions that students will find useful as they prepare for Sixth Form life. Lastly, for any students looking to join us from outside of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust, I have put together a slide presentation taking students through the **thinking tools** we employ here at Holcombe, along with practical examples to hopefully ease student transition at the start of September.

Finally with regards to Results Days. We are currently awaiting further guidance from government on the issuing of results and what we may be able to do, but please be assured that we have a range of draft plans in place to provide students with their results and to support them all in making arrangements for the next stage of their academic careers. We will contact you later this term with further guidance on this.

Yours faithfully

Mr. A. Anderson (Head of Sixth Form / Assistant Head of School)