



September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to Year 9

As a new academic year starts, I wish to thank you for your support and help in ensuring our Year 9 students have made a smooth and very encouraging start to the school year. The attitude and application of our students bodes well for the year ahead and they deserve commendation for their positive start. Several students have received certificates as way of a thank you and we will actively continue to look for any opportunities to continue to reward deserving students throughout the school year.

It seems likely that, especially as we move into autumn and winter, we will encounter situations and circumstances which are new to all of us. I am confident that, by working together, we can ensure that the students continue to experience a productive and enjoyable Year 9 and that we will be able to overcome any barriers that emerge. Over the next week will be asking the students to focus on the following:

- providing excellent role models and ambassadors both in school and on the journey to and from school by exhibiting respectful and mannered on public transport whilst following social distancing expectations
- to respect all members of our school community by following social distancing expectations at all times
- ensuring they are fully equipped, organised and ready to engage enthusiastically in all learning opportunities
- creating opportunities for teachers and staff to reward positive behaviour, to congratulate students and give them the 'well done' we all enjoy

These expectations have been discussed and reinforced during Form Time and it would be very much appreciated if you could support the students at home as they strive to meet these challenges.

Our Year 9 students will be fully supported by our strong Pastoral Team as they move throughout the academic year. I know many of the students from previous years and am very much looking forward to working with them closely, and getting to know them better, throughout the year and as they move towards their Option Choices and GCSE studies. We will encourage them to be open and confident in approaching our team should they need support of any nature and I thank you in advance of your support at home. Should there be any matters you wish to discuss, please do feel free to contact myself via the Holcombe Office at office@holcombegrammar.org.uk.

Kind regards,

David Hayes
Head of Year 9, Head of History, Head of Politics, SENCO