



Howden
School



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Dear Parents and Carers

On Wednesday we had both Lizann Lowson and Mark Brown in school. Lizann visits schools every couple of weeks so it is always good to see her and update her on what is happening at Howden. Mark Brown (Executive Director of Education, previously Headteacher of Winifred Holtby) came soon after and we spent a great deal of time talking about our school priorities. Much of the discussion centred around the curriculum and assessment plus how our colleagues from the central team can support us.

We went out at break time, including going into both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 canteens then in various areas of the school. After break we visited a number of lessons plus reflections and withdrawal. He had visited the school a number of years ago so was very interested to see how the school has progressed. We talked about the huge potential of the school and what was needed for us to realise it. I know that our central services team can make a significant contribution to the school so it is excellent news to know we will be supported over the coming months. We will all gain the benefit of their expertise, especially your child.

Next week we will be carrying out uniform and equipment checks not only during ACE period but at random times during the school day. This will include movement time and students arriving at and leaving lessons. I expect students to be in normal school uniform and for those few exceptions which occasionally happens (where there are mitigating circumstances) we have an internal process to deal with that scenario. Almost all students are wearing our uniform so thank you for your support in this. Again, if every single one of us enforces this it makes all the difference: "Working together...." Can I please remind parents that hoodies are not part of our school uniform. I have attached a copy of the uniform policy to this week's newsletter.

The Year 11 English and maths Success Event at Hull University was exactly that; a great success. It is a new initiative discussed by headteachers last term and I have explained it in previous emails. It was pleasing to get such positive feedback - the second one is on Monday – so I envisage more of them in the future. What was different about this event was our students mingling and working with students from other TCAT schools.

Yours faithfully

Mr Jim Nixon
Headteacher

Future events:

- 22 January - Year 11 Success Event
- 23 January - Prison me No Way (Year 9)
- 24 January - LGB Meeting
- 6 and 7 February - Shrek the Musical performance