



Howden
School



THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST

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13 September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another excellent week at school where there has been a palpable working environment and an enjoyable social time. We have had a number of guests in, all of whom have commented very positively. One noticeable improvement has been the natural level of courteous responses between students and staff which I have to say is very pleasing. There is a real positivity and excitement about this academic year and quite rightly so. Our Year 7 students are doing exceptionally well and out of interest, we have shown far fewer year 7 students to their classroom than in previous years. They are engaging with staff and giving their all in lessons.

Our fire drill on Wednesday went very well, it was the fastest time we have completed the process. The end time is when all the registers have been checked and everyone is present. Students came out of lessons calmly, followed instructions and lined up in silence so that the registers could be taken. When dismissed they all went back calmly and with purpose. Such drills often reflect a school's standards, and I was very pleased with what I witnessed. Having said that, previous fire drills have been good as well, but we just want each one to be even better than the last one. As you would expect, we carry out an evaluation after each drill.

Our GCSE evening for year 11 yesterday evening was nothing short of phenomenal. The hall was packed with extra seating having been put out and a number of parents and students having to sit and stand down the side. Some students came along on their own and a few in their sports kit after training. The sessions went down really well; English, maths, revision and Log On Move On (LOMO is a programme related to careers). At the end, all the parents then went into the hall where college providers were in attendance to give advice and guidance. Students were given packs of information and in conversation with a number of them, both last night and this morning, all said it was very useful. This shows that we have an incredible level of support from you as parents, as we do from our students, so a huge thank you for being there. We are expecting great things from this year group, and every other year group in the school. It may be of interest that it was the best attended year 11 GCSE evening I have experienced in all my time as Headteacher and, indeed, as a teacher. You will know that is over a lot of years and a number of schools.

We are in the process of evaluating our Self-Study (Homework) and will communicate this to you in the very near future. Some homework is currently set on Seneca and our Year 7 students have a lesson next week during science on how to use the platform, any issues accessing Seneca will be resolved next week and we have informed students not to worry if they are unable to access it now. In the meantime, we have included a help guide to Seneca which I hope you will find useful.

Congratulations to girls' year 8 football team, who won 8-2. Last year's sports teams were very successful so an excellent start to the new season and here's hoping for further success.

This week's attendance winners are:

Monday	Year 7	96.75%
Tuesday	Year 7	99.59%
Wednesday	Year 7	99.19%

Thursday	Year 11	97.27%
Friday	Year 11	96.88%

Yours faithfully



Mr Jim Nixon
Headteacher

Future events:

W/C 16 October ART tests start for years 7, 8 and 9
3 October – Open evening 5 – 7pm
7 October – The first SEN parents evening
16 October – Restart a heart (Y8) and Careers Fayre
17 October – Y7 Tutor evening