



Howden
School



THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST

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13 December 2024

Dear parents and carers,

I am really pleased that our students have responded so positively to our new approach to punctuality. Just before the bell, the corridors and outdoor areas are very quiet as students get ready for the lesson. This not only makes a big difference to the quality of education they receive, it also teaches them a very important life skill. It is another good example of how far we have travelled as a school.

Our attendance is top in the trust again which is good news as was the attendance of year 11 students on Thursday (99.2%). It was the same day as Parents' Evening which shows the commitment that you have for your child's education. It was a very productive and positive evening, and extremely busy one too. I enjoyed hearing all the conversations that were focused on progress, one main theme being revision and its importance. We want all our students to do well in all their subjects so revision and studying needs to become a habit, and one that remains a habit even during holidays. Many thanks to all the year 11 parents who attended, it was a very successful and busy evening. We are evaluating the process based on feedback from yourselves, staff and students.

A real highlight of this term for me personally was attending the ERP Christmas party yesterday lunchtime. There was a lot of laughter and enjoyment and so much food for everyone to enjoy. Jokes were being told, crackers pulled and photos taken as we sat round the table chatting. What I loved was the smiles on the faces and the sheer excitement of Christmas. The staff put a huge amount of effort into organising the event including all the food and decorations. It was quite a privilege to sit and chat with them and hear about how they were looking forward to Christmas.

Next week we will be doing various Christmas events during social time whilst maintaining our standards and work ethic in lessons, right up until the last day. Amongst in school events this week there has been "cards for the community" and "appreciation tree" where students write notes thanking important people in their lives. I read some of them and they were incredible. Please see attached letter giving more detail of events leading up to the last day of term, just a reminder we finish at 3pm as usual.

Can I bring to your attention that the turning circle at the front of school gets extremely busy, due to the lack of parking space. For the safety and welfare of students and staff in the mornings, please drop your child off and leave immediately. In the afternoons we would appreciate you not arriving to pick up your child before 2.50pm. I am in discussions with the Trust regarding formally changing our procedures and will let you know in due course what they are.

Just a reminder we may carry out home visits on students even if a parent or carer has contacted the school. This is for Safeguarding reasons.

Attendance this week

Monday	Year 10	95.11%
Tuesday	Year 11	96.09%%
Wednesday	Year 8	96.3%
Thursday	Year 11	99.2%
Friday	Year 8	95.6%

I hope you have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mr Jim Nixon
Headteacher

Future events:

- Friday 20 December – Break up for Christmas
- Monday 6 January – School opens for staff and students