



Howden
School



THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST

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03 October 2025

Dear parents and carers,

The term seems to be going fast as we move into week 6 of the autumn term. This week, and last, there have been a number of lesson drop ins taking place. This is where senior and middle leaders go into lessons for a brief period, often around 10 minutes, to check on the quality of education that is taking place in the classroom. As part of our quality assurance process, we also look at students' exercise books and speak to them face to face to find out about how they learn and their progress. It is a real pleasure to go into lessons and be greeted so positively by staff and students. It is one of the best things you do as a school leader. What we have seen so far has been positive though we are always looking to improve.

It was good to have Sarah Warnes in school Wednesday for a catch up and a brief walk around school. She is a real asset as Chair of Governors and gives an extraordinary amount of time to what is a voluntary role. We were mainly looking at the site improvements that have been done, such as the Key Stage 4 canteen, and the positive impact it has had for everyone.

The "Year 7 Meet the Team" event was a great success so my thanks to all who attended, it was great to hear so many positive comments about the school and especially our student helpers. It is not that long ago when the evening was just 5 minutes with the tutor whereas now, it involves so much more both in relation to academic and pastoral care. It also gives parents a more rounded view of their child's first few weeks at Howden, all of which should help to build strong foundations for the future. Again, it was great to see a busy hall containing lots of supportive parents and carers.

Friday was our annual Active Travel Day for Year 7. Despite the wet weather, students enjoyed some fantastic sessions across the day including well-being walks, immersive cycle training, puncture repair workshops, road safety presentations and an introduction to the Active Travel Ambassador programme. A handful of students also successfully completed their Bikeability Level 3 Course as part of the day too, so a special congratulations to them.

It has been a very special week for our school charity, A Shining Light. This year they embarked on their '21 for 21' challenge, an attempt to organise 21 different events to raise £21,000 in 2025. We are delighted to announce that this week that target has been reached, thanks to the amazing efforts of Rose, Sophia, and Lois. The girls organised an amazing bingo event as part of their Lifestyle project and donated a fantastic £479.10 to tip this year's fundraising to a total of £21,141. We are incredibly proud that it has been the efforts of our amazing students that has helped to reach that goal.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your support in maintaining our uniform standards. Unfortunately, we have had a few instances of students not adhering to policy, especially around jewellery. Due to this we have reluctantly made the decision to confiscate any items outside of policy, that will need to be collected at the end of the school day from reception.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Attendance this week

Monday	Year 8	96%
Tuesday	Year 7	96.6%
Wednesday	Year 8	96.8%
Thursday	Year 8	98%
Friday	Year 11	97.7%

Yours faithfully



Mr Jim Nixon
Headteacher

Future Events

Wednesday 8 October – Careers Fayre

Thursday 9 October – Open Evening