



24th June 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

End of Term 6 Information

Timetable Rollover

From Monday 4th July, we will start our new timetable. This means students will move into their next academic year, for example Year 7 become Year 8 and so on. By rolling the timetable in July, it allows invaluable curriculum time in what could be potentially new groups with different teachers, allowing time for routines to be established, meaning there is a smooth start to Term 1 in September. Students spend the last three weeks of term meaningfully engaged in their new classes, with current Year 9 students moving into Year 10, starting new subjects for the first time as their option choices begin. As a consequence, attendance is exceptionally important for covering new and GCSE content. We expect all students to attend school everyday until the end of term.

New Timings of the School Day from September

To coincide with the timetable rollover, as previously communicated, there will be an increase of 5 minutes in the school day. This time will be dedicated curriculum time and will mean our Period 2 lesson will increase to 60 minutes. The new school day timings are as follows:

Students arrive by: 8:40am

	Start Time	Finish Time
Period 1	8:45am	9:40am
Period 2	9:40am	10:40am
BREAK	10:40am	11:00am
Period 3	11:00am	11:55am
Period 4	11:55am	12:50pm
LUNCH	12:50pm	1:25pm
Period 5	1:25pm	2:20pm
Period 6	2:20pm	3:15pm
OSL (Year 11)	3:15pm	4:00pm

Staffing for September

I am pleased to confirm that the school is once again fully staffed for the curriculum from September.

I am also pleased to share with you the appointment of two Deputy Headteachers to the Holmesdale Leadership Team. Mr Lee Downey and Mrs Carina Richardson, who are currently Assistant Headteachers at the school, have recently been promoted to support myself in leading the school in the next phase of the journey of improvement.

In addition, we have appointed an Assistant Headteacher who will be responsible for SEN across the school. Mrs Juanita Bibe will be taking over from Mrs Kathleen Campbell, our current SENCO, who, after 15 years of service to the school, will be moving on to a new challenge. I would like to thank Mrs Campbell for her commitment and hard work over this time in supporting the SEN students and their families.

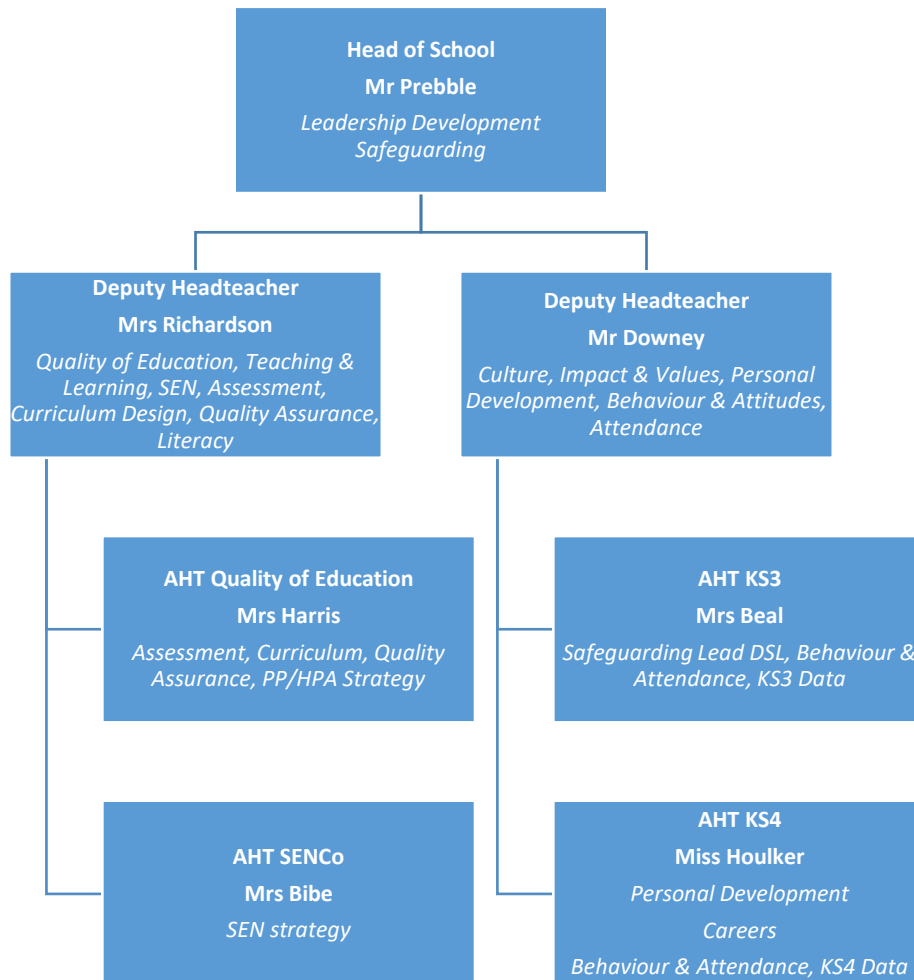
I would also like to welcome back, after maternity leave, Mrs Emma Beal. Mrs Beal will be taking responsibility as our Lead DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) from 1st July. We will be saying goodbye and thank you to Mrs Alison Williams for all of her hard work in keeping our children safe and working with us over the last year.

Due to the increasing popularity and growth of the school, we have appointed the following new teachers and support staff for September

- Mrs Frances Aboderin – Teacher of Science/Science KS3 assessment
- Miss Emily Coombs – Teacher of Mathematics/Head of Numeracy
- Mr Richard Lyons - Head of Geography 1st September
- Miss Imogen Clark – HLTA (Higher Level Teaching Assistant)

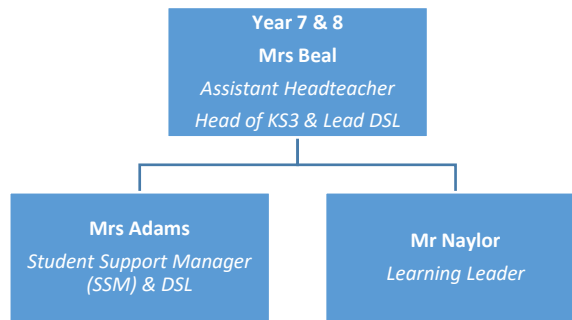
The following structures will help explain the organisation and names of staff who will be supporting your child in the forthcoming year:

Strategic Leadership Team – September 2022

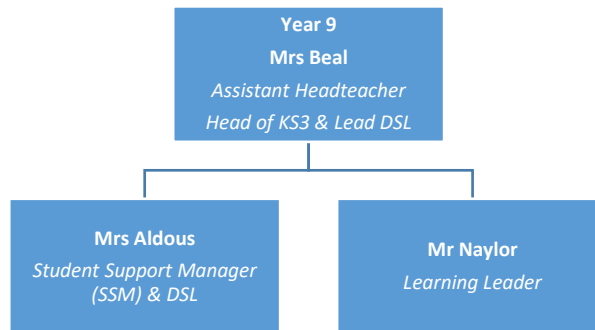


Year Group Staff Support Teams

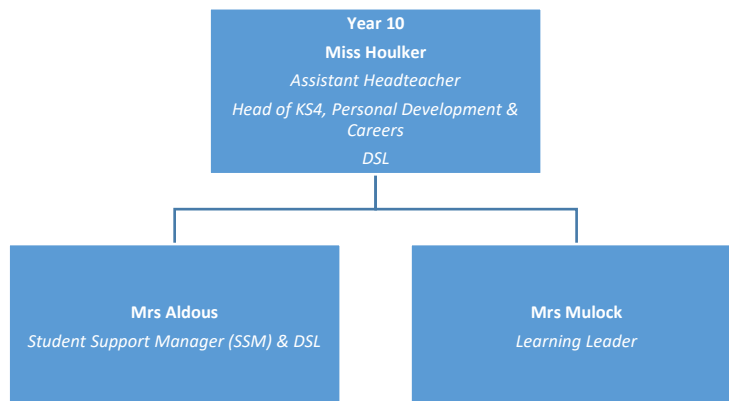
Student Support Structure for Year 7 & 8



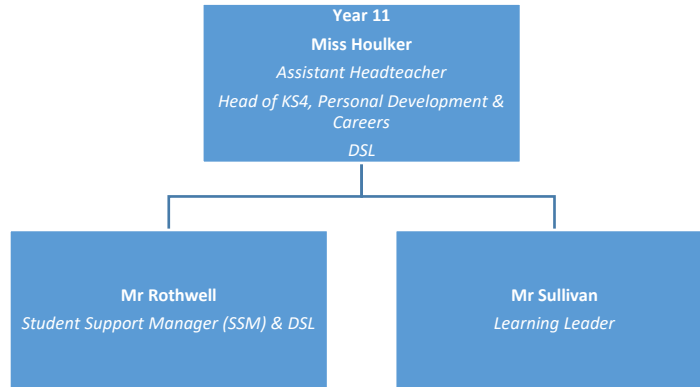
Student Support Structure for Year 9



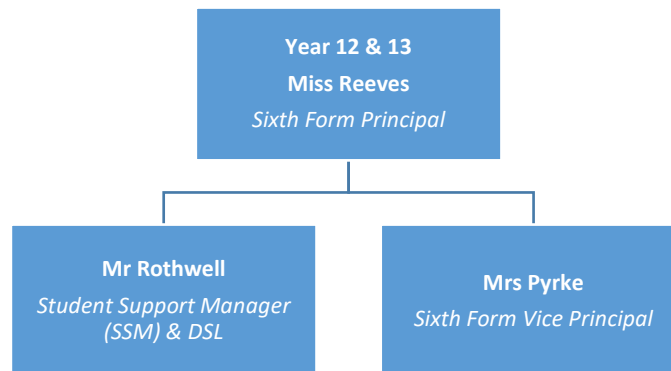
Student Support Structure for Year 10



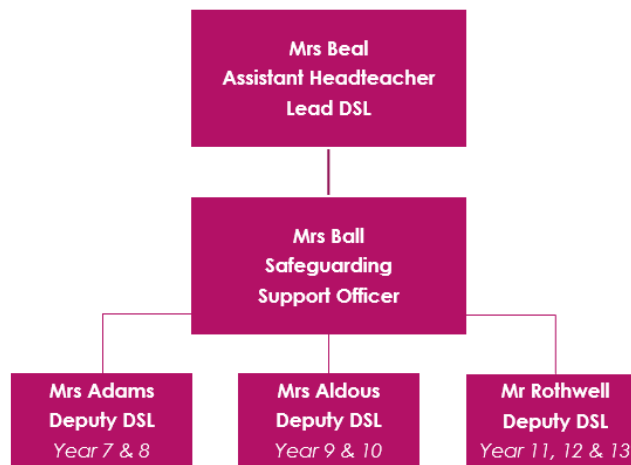
Student Support Structure for Year 11



Student Support Structure for Year 12 & 13 (Sixth Form)



Safeguarding Structure





Attendance

The target attendance figure for all students is a minimum of 96% attendance. 96-100% is the 'Excellent Attendance' group.

At 96% attendance – 73% of students achieve five good grades at GCSE (9-4) including English and Maths, however even at 96% attendance a student would have missed 45 hours of learning through the school year.

19 days off per school year means that a pupil has approximately 90% attendance. At 90% attendance your child will have missed 97 lessons in one year! If this trend continued throughout the 5 years a child is at secondary school, this would equate to half a year of missed school time in total.

The research shows that for every 17 days missed from school a child is likely to drop one GCSE grade in EVERY subject. Only 35% of those with attendance between 80-90% will achieve five good grades (9-4) at GCSE including English and Maths.

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason, for safeguarding reasons, it imperative that you call the absence line on 01634 240416 on each day of absence and state your child's name, year group and reason for absence.

We will mark absence due to illness as authorised unless the school has a genuine concern about the authenticity of the illness.

If the authenticity of the illness is in doubt, the school may ask the student's parent/carer to provide medical evidence, such as a doctor's note, prescription, appointment card or other appropriate form of evidence. We will not ask for medical evidence unnecessarily.

Amphitheatre

The Holmesdale School are pleased to announce that planning permission has been granted for an Amphitheatre. Building work is due to begin in October. This has been made possible by the kind donation from the William and Edith Oldham Charitable Trust.

Working With Us

We aspire to be the best school we can be. As such, we create as many opportunities for self-review as possible. One of these opportunities for parents to work with us is our Parent Forum. If any parent is interested in joining the forum, please contact Miss Houlker: sonia.houlker@holmesdale.kent.sch.uk

If there are concerns that you wish to raise with the school, we urge you to contact us directly to discuss and resolve your concern. A link to our Complaints Procedure is shown below.

http://www.holmesdale.kent.sch.uk/download/get/complaints_policy_may_2021/43

Diary Dates for Term 6

Mon 27 th June – Fri 1 st July	Year 12 Work Experience/Shadowing
Tuesday 28 th June	Year 10 In-school Employer Event
	Year 11 Prom
Thursday 30 th June	Year 10 Science Trip – Thorpe Park
Friday 1 st July	Staff Development Day – No students in school



Monday 4th July
Thurs 7th & Fri 8th July
11th – 13th July
Wednesday 13th July

Friday 15th July
Monday 18th July
Thursday 21st July

Thursday 18th August
Thursday 25th August

2022-23 Academic Year

Thursday 1st September
Friday 2nd September
Monday 5th September

Timetable Rollover
Year 6 Inductions Days
Bridging Week for new Sixth Form students
Year 7 Science Reward Trip
Year 9 & 10 Vaccinations
Sports Day
Showcase Evening
Last Day of Term – finish at 12.50pm

Year 13 Results Day
Year 11 Results Day

Staff Development Day – Students not in school
Years 7, 11 and 12 return to school
Years 8, 9, 10 and 13 return to school

Yours faithfully

Mr G Prebble
Head of School