

5 December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

### Principal Update

I am delighted to write to you all following a wonderful first full term back at South Axholme. It has been a pleasure for me personally getting to know our students, parents, and the wider local community, and I am grateful for all feedback as we continue to strengthen in our pursuit of excellence for everyone involved in our brilliant school.

This term has been filled with an impressive array of academic and extracurricular successes, showcasing the dedication, talent, and enthusiasm of our students. Their achievements are a testament to their hard work and the positive culture we continue to build. Please do look out for our upcoming end-of-term newsletter, where we will be showcasing many of these fantastic accomplishments in more detail.

As we progress into the remainder of the academic year, I encourage you to stay closely involved in your child's learning journey. Your ongoing support is instrumental to their development, and we greatly appreciate the partnership that underpins each student's growth and success.

### Important Dates

Below is a reminder of some important calendar dates for the remainder of this half-term:

Monday 8 December	Christmas Dinner Week for students (Year 7 - Monday 8, Year 8 and 9 - Tuesday 9 and Year 10 and 11 Wednesday 10 December)
Wednesday 10 December	Performing Arts Festive Showcase - 6.00pm
Thursday 11 December	Christmas Jumper Day and Senior Citizens Christmas Party
Tuesday 16 December	Christmas Carol Concert for Year 7 at the Wesley Methodist Church – period 3 and 4
Wednesday 17 December	Community Carol Concert at the Wesley Methodist Church - 6.00pm advertise
Friday 19 December	Final day of term – finish at 3.10pm

### Christmas Jumper Day - Thursday 11 December 2025

For the first time, and in response to requests from our school community, we will be participating in National Christmas Jumper Day. Students may wear any jumper of their choice (no hoodie please) and are asked to donate £1 - to be brought into school and given to your child's form tutor to take part. All donations will be given to charities selected by our Student Council. Your child can also bring

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a gift into school in addition to, or instead of £1. Please see the attached information about what would be suitable.

All other uniform requirements remain unchanged; trousers, shoes, and other standard items must still be worn, and jewellery or additional accessories are not permitted in line with our policy.

### **Community Carol Service - Wednesday 17 December 2025**

Our annual community carol service will take place on Wednesday 17 December 2025 for parents / carers and friends of the academy. This will be held at the Wesley Memorial Church, Epworth and the service will begin at 6.00pm. Rev Caulk will also be in attendance and will take part in the service.

The evening is always an enjoyable one and everyone is invited to join us for a selection of Christmas songs and readings. Please contact the academy if you would like tickets or complete the MS Form [Click Here to Book Tickets](#). Tickets are free of charge. To comply with Health & Safety regulations, you must have a ticket if you wish to attend, and tickets will be distributed on a first come first served basis. There will be a retiring collection for the church.

Further dates of importance for the rest of the academic year can be found on the academy website [HERE](#).

As we approach the end of the year, we say a heartfelt goodbye to several valued colleagues, and we are delighted to welcome new members to our team in the New Year.

### **Farewells**

- **Mrs Kennedy – Subject Leader for English**  
Mrs Kennedy is retiring after many years of dedicated service to the academy. Her experience and guidance have supported thousands of students through their English studies, leaving a lasting impact on our community. She will be dearly missed, and we wish her every happiness in her retirement.
- **Miss Bainbridge – Trips, Visits and Personal Development Coordinator**  
Miss Bainbridge leaves us to pursue a new role after contributing significantly to the enrichment of our students for over several years. Her work in Personal Development has contributed to this being a key strength of the academy, enriching the lives of students. We thank her for her dedication and wish her every success in her new position.
- **Mr Whitehead – Teacher of Science**  
Mr Whitehead has also left the academy after a short period with us, and we extend our best wishes to him for his future endeavours.

### **Welcomes**

- **Miss Coffield – Subject Leader for English**  
Joining us from another local secondary school, Miss Coffield brings a wealth of experience in leading English and will be a tremendous asset to our academy.
- **Miss Power – Teacher of English**  
Miss Power joins us to cover for Mrs Neal during her maternity leave, and we look forward to her contribution to the English department.

- **Mrs Bainbridge – Assistant Teacher (Cover Coordinator)**  
Mrs Bainbridge will support as a member of cover staff across an array of lessons in her new role.
- **Miss Chatwin – Administrative Assistant**  
Miss Chatwin takes on the role of Administrative Assistant, and she will receive a warm welcome as she joins our office staff.

We also look forward to welcoming Mrs Cygan back to the Science department following her maternity leave in the Spring term.

I wish everyone a relaxing and safe Christmas break. If you need to contact us during this period, please email [admin@southaxholme-iet.co.uk](mailto:admin@southaxholme-iet.co.uk), which will be checked periodically over the festive period. For any safeguarding queries, you can contact the North Lincolnshire Children's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) on 01724 296500 or the Adult Support Team on 01724 297000 during office hours. Outside of office hours, an out-of-hours answerphone is available for the children's team at 01724 296555, and the police non-emergency number is 101.

I would like to finish by thanking all parents and students for their tremendous support during this busy time of year. Your efforts are truly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Hamilton', written over a horizontal line.

Mrs S Hamilton  
Principal