



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
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*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

12th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing this letter as we are about to enter our 10th school week of lock down. We are on the brink of commencing face to face learning with Year 10 students and at the start of a slow return to normality. We have planned carefully for their return and are really looking forward to seeing our students back in school, all students will have one session in school per week. Parents and students should, by now, have received a personalised letter providing details about which day they will attend and the room they are expected to be in.

We know, from our discussions with the students in school, that they miss many things but mostly they miss the multiple interactions they usually experience on a daily basis. We also know that returning to school, after a protracted period of isolation, may induce some anxiety. Relationships with friends and teachers will be restarting, the thought of this may bring feelings of uncertainty. We would therefore like to share this short video with you. It offers some practical suggestions for teachers and parents of how to deal with potential anxieties resulting from the lockdown and any return to school.

<https://nipinthebud.org/tips-for-parents-and-teachers/>

When Year 10 students return we are also providing opportunities for them to meet with and talk to pastoral staff, this will take place alongside the taught sessions on offer. Students need to be able to articulate their thoughts and feelings, many may prefer to do this with their families, others may wish to talk matters through in school. We believe such discussion is vitally important at this time. We anticipate that there will be some students who cannot return at present and ask that parents notify us about this in advance by contacting Mrs Hannam:

shannam@imberhorne.co.uk.

For those students not in school, students in Year 7, 8 and 9, we will continue to work remotely. From Monday 15th June we will be initiating a programme of 1 to 1 conversations between school staff and students. We hope to have an individual conversation with every student in KS3 over a three-week period.

Looking further ahead, Year 12 students will return to school from Monday 22nd June. They will all have a double lesson, per fortnight, in each of their subjects, in accordance with the guidance schools and college have been given. A more detailed letter will be shared with Year 12 parents in addition to this one.



Imberhorne Lane
East Grinstead
West Sussex
RH19 1QY

Tel: 01342 323562

E-Mail: info@imberhorne.co.uk

www.imberhorne.co.uk



Finally, we are also developing plans for students in Year 9. From Monday 29th June we will be introducing bridging tasks, helping them step into studies for their Key Stage 4 courses. This means that their Year 9 timetable will stop and they will commence their Key Stage 4 timetable. Students will be expected to complete work for GCSE English, Maths and Science along with their optional subjects. This work will be available in google classroom, students will be notified about this. We hope this provides a positive focus for the last few weeks of the year.

Whilst we naturally worry about the impact of this period on our students I am frequently reassured by the conversations I have with the students who are in school, their humour and natural curiosity about the world around us are some of the things we miss the most. They are resilient individuals and, with the right sort of support and encouragement, will bounce back, I have no doubt.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown

Headteacher