



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

# IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

**Compassion**  
**Achievement**  
**Respect**  
**Endeavour**

*The cornerstones of our  
learning community*

Ref: RLA/TMN

September 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

We are over four weeks in to term, and I am very pleased to have this opportunity to write to you. This is an important year in the students' personal, social and academic development. They will be considering which route to follow in working towards their GCSEs and make important decisions in this respect in the Spring Term.

I expect the year group to take their position as the senior students at Key Stage 3 very seriously, setting a good example to the younger students in all aspects of their behaviour. As well as being able to opt for a more personalised curriculum, which starts with the transfer to Imberhorne Lane at the start of July 2019, students will also be able to look forward to the choice of joining in 'Challenge 2019' or 'Breakthrough'. Details of both of these events will be discussed at our Parent's Essential Information Evening on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October.

I am sure you are aware that good attendance is important at school. It is no surprise that all the research shows that students who have more than 10 days off school in a year (50 lessons) struggle to reach their potential. Time off school not only affects their learning but knocks their confidence and makes them more anxious about returning to school. It is important to note that we do not authorise holidays taken during term time unless there is a significant exceptional circumstance. In order to reduce disruption to your child's learning, we would ask that, where possible, medical appointments are made during the school holidays. We appreciate this is not always feasible so would ask that term time appointments are made either early in the morning, so that your child is in school by the beginning of lesson 1 which starts at 8.55am, or after 2.30pm. This will reduce disruption and ensure your child attends as many lessons as possible throughout the year.

I would like to thank you for the standard of uniform worn by the students on their return to school. The year group is looking very smart and I appreciate the effort made by you to ensure this.

I will be continuing to encourage students to participate in voluntary work this year, along with other criteria that we will recognise at our end of Year 9 celebration event. I will be speaking to the students about this in more detail in the coming weeks.

I look forward to meeting you at various events, particularly our upcoming Parent's Essential Information Evening.

If you have any problems or queries please do not hesitate to contact your son or daughter's form tutor, or myself.

Yours faithfully

Mr Rob Langstone

Head of Year 9

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