



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

7th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Covid Testing

I am pleased to say that our on-site Covid testing ran very efficiently on Tuesday and Wednesday, a small number of positive cases were detected along with some positive cases detected through home testing either just before or after our school testing. This shows that such systems, although laborious and time-consuming, do make a difference.

As of Thursday, we have 14 Key Stage 3 students isolating, 23 Key Stage 4 students isolating and 13 Sixth Form students isolating. We will clearly continue to track these patterns over the coming weeks. I am pleased to say this infection rate is lower than what we experienced in November as we returned from the half term break.

LFD Test Kits

We really appreciate the support we are getting from families, I know households are undertaking regular LFD testing at home and making sure we know of any positive cases promptly. We are awaiting further deliveries of LFD test kits and hope to be able to distribute these soon. We have a surplus of mass testing kits which would suit families undertaking several LFD tests a week. If any parents or carers would like to have a mass testing kit (containing enough solution for 25 tests in a fortnight) please contact our reception and we can arrange for these to be collected.

Revised Isolation Period

I would also like to advise you that we have received further clarification from the DfE regarding isolation periods. As you are aware this has been reduced from the mandatory 10 days to 7 days providing that an individual has two clear LFD tests on day 6 and 24 hours later on day 7. Once clear individuals may return to school on day 7 (previously we were advised a return would be on day 8).

Key Dates

We are hopeful that school life will remain uninterrupted this term and that we can continue to run activities as planned. At present our key dates for this term are as follows:

- Week beginning Monday 17th January – Year 13 Mock Exam Week
- Thursday 20th January – Year 9 Virtual Consultation Evening (2.30pm finish)
- Friday 21st January – Non-Uniform Day (RSPCA)
- Tuesday 25th January – Year 9 Options Virtual Q & A sessions (with senior staff)
- Thursday 27th January – Year 11 Virtual Consultation Evening (2.30pm finish)
- Monday 31st January – **Inset Day** (students do not attend school)
- Week beginning Tuesday 1st February – Year 12 Assessment Week
- Week beginning Tuesday 1st February – follow up Sixth Form interviews for some Year 11 students
- Thursday 17th February – Year 11 Essential End of Year and Exam Information
- Friday 18th February - Sixth Form offer letters for Year 11 students
- Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February – Half Term

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Despite the challenges we face and the rather grim news stories that have been circulating, school remains an optimistic place to be. I know I have said this before but the reason I repeat these messages is that I regularly hear and see such positive things in and around the school. Today I asked a student how her studies were going, she turned to me and said, they are going brilliantly, I love the subjects I am studying. With a huge beaming smile she walked on. In the midst of all that is happening students are carving out their futures day by day and relishing the experience. There is an energy and vitality around school life that is enriching and invigorating. We simply need to give our young people the space and time required to grow and flourish.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
Headteacher