



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

18th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We have experienced mixed emotions this week with the announcement made on Monday regarding ongoing restrictions being retained for a further period of time. Whilst we accept that the national picture suggests caution and the need to minimise risk we also recognise that certain planned activities cannot now go ahead as expected and that brings great disappointment.

Year 13 & Year 11 Proms

Key amongst these are our much-anticipated school proms, due to take place over the coming weeks for students in Year 13 and Year 11. We are busily looking at whether alternative arrangements may be put in place. We are aware that some schools are considering running events in late July or early September. Late July still carries a high degree of caution and is likely to be restricted in a way that would significantly reduce free movement in venues. This would dramatically alter the nature of a school prom. Events in September raise other concerns, a number of students will have left the school by this stage and may feel disinclined to return for such an event.

A school prom often feels like a rite of passage, marking the end of a very important stage in the life of our students. I am sure they will feel the potential loss of such an event very keenly.

Year 6 Transition Day

These changes also impact on our younger students. Our planned transition day for students starting at Imberhorne in September cannot go ahead at present. We hope to re-schedule this in the last week of term but need to manage students carefully to minimise any potential risk that could arise from them coming together at Imberhorne. The usual anxieties about transitioning into secondary school will be amplified by this uncertainty.

We had hoped that this constant flux with the need to plan and re-plan, almost on a weekly basis, was behind us. We will continue to do the best we can for everyone.

Strategic Planning for September

We have five school weeks until the end of term. Staff and students are beginning to increasingly look towards next academic year. Now that our teacher assessed grades have been set and sent to the exam boards we are engaging with strategic planning across the school. All our teams are reviewing what has been achieved, amidst the turmoil of all we have dealt with this year. There have been many great successes, we must now determine what to bring forward, what to adapt and what we need to focus on from September. Key in this will be how we support students who have not always managed to engage during lockdown and need to revisit and relearn aspects of their curriculum.

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School Governors

Our school governors have been a constant source of support throughout the year, undertaking their challenging work in even more challenging conditions. They have the discretion to support school initiatives/projects directly through the allocation of funds they oversee. One of these sources of funding is called Imber200. A small lottery that parents may choose to join. For a monthly payment, participants have the chance of being 'drawn' as a winning number (with cash prizes). The additional money gathers in a fund to support the school. Information about this is on the school website - <http://www.imberhorne.co.uk/content/school-fund>.

In addition to this the governors also encourage parents to support the school through a venture called easyfundraising (<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>). A scheme that provides a financial contribution to the school for items you may well ordinarily choose to purchase online.

I am very grateful for their commitment to the school and the great work they do in shaping our strategies and our planning for the future.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
Headteacher