



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

19th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I am pleased to say that we have now completed three lateral flow tests with students in school. After their last test, students were given a home testing kit, this contains enough equipment for students to test themselves at home, twice a week until the Easter Holidays. We appreciate that undertaking self-administered lateral flow tests at home is not a straight forward exercise, so thank you in advance for your support with this.

If your son or daughter tests positive using one of these kits they must self-isolate with immediate effect, as should all members of the household. You are then advised to book a standard PCR test for them at a local test centre. If this is also positive your son or daughter, and household members, should continue to isolate for the required 10-day period. We ask that you keep us informed of any positive test results since, depending on timings, this may trigger our own contact tracing. Such tracing will continue into the Easter break, guidance suggests that contact with someone who has tested positive within a 48-hour window should trigger 10-days of self-isolation.

Term ends on Thursday 1st April, we normally have an early finish at the end of term. This year we will have a full day of teaching with school finishing at 3.00pm. The summer term commences on Monday 19th April.

We have been very impressed with attendance on our return to school, in the first two full days with all year groups in school (Thursday 11th and Friday 12th March), we had 96% and 95% attendance respectively. These are impressive figures, considering the circumstances, and seem to mirror the national picture which suggests that the return to school has been very well supported by parents and students. We have also been pleased to see how responsible students have been with mask wearing, hand-sanitising and maintaining social distancing, they have, almost seamlessly, quickly adapted back into school life.

We anticipate running after school clubs and peripatetic music lessons after Easter, further details will be shared about these activities. Our student council continued to meet throughout lockdown and are meeting again in school, virtually, to ensure the separation of year groups. They provide us with valuable feedback and often have an interesting perspective on different aspects of school life, information about Student Voice in the school can be accessed by following the link below.

<http://www.imberhorne.co.uk/content/connect-imberhorne>



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As I walk around the site and look in on lessons, I see students and staff who are pleased to be back to what feels like a bit of normality. We will monitor the progress students make over the coming weeks, I am mindful of the debates about 'lost learning', but am confident that the vast majority of students will quickly catch up and adjust to the demands of lessons. There will inevitably be a few that need more bespoke support, this is likely to stretch over a period of time. To best support students we need to identify where any shortfalls exist, assessments over the coming weeks will help with this. I have great belief in the ability of young people to adapt and adjust, they are impressively resilient.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
Headteacher