



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

21st January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Mask Wearing

You will be aware that government guidance on mask wearing changed very suddenly, mid-week. As from Thursday of this week, students were no longer required to wear masks in lessons. They must however continue to wear masks in communal areas such as corridors, the canteen and on buses. This will change from next Thursday 27th January when students will no longer be required to wear masks in school. As infection rates fall we are pleased to make these changes, wearing masks in the classroom for lessons can be a real challenge and hinders good communication. All credit to our students who followed the guidance brilliantly fully accepting the changes they needed to make and complying with our requests.

School Trips & Activities

We hope to run as many activities, events and trips as we can this year, our intention is to return to normal as quickly as possible. We value these wider opportunities and believe they help develop the social and cultural capital of our students, building their confidence and broadening their experience. We have already launched some of our major trips taking place in the summer. In the last couple of weeks, we have been notified by one of our trip organisers that the direction of travel is that most foreign school trip destinations will require all travellers to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Any students who are not fully vaccinated will be required to prove that appropriate testing has taken place prior to departure, this will have to be the responsibility of parents and carers.

Afghan Students

We welcomed Afghan refugees into school this week for a preliminary visit and some initial testing. They are understandably a little overwhelmed by all the changes they have experienced but very excited at the prospect of starting school. It will, I am sure, bring some sense of normality to their lives. In our short meetings and discussions, the students seem delightful. I shared a brief video message this week asking our students to provide a warm welcome to the Afghan students and to be supportive when they can. Seven students start lessons on Monday, five in Key Stage 3 and two in Year 10. I have had many kind offers of help, once we get a clearer picture about levels of need, we may make requests. At present between the school and West Sussex County Council, we have been able to supply everything the students need.

Key Dates

Next week we have another slightly shortened day on Thursday 27th January to accommodate the Year 11 Consultation Evening, with school finishing at 2.30pm.

A reminder that our next INSET Day is on Monday 31st January. Students do not attend school on this date.

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Flu Vaccinations

Alongside the COVID-19 vaccinations offered to students we have also been able to offer flu vaccinations. If you have already completed a form and your child missed it in school, you will have received a separate email with clinic booking instructions and do not need to complete another form.

However, if your child did not receive the flu vaccination, and you would like them to be vaccinated, it's not too late. Please ensure that you complete an online consent form, if you have not already done so. The online consent form will re-open at 11am on 21st January.

<p>How do I consent / refuse to my child having these vaccinations?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Visit the following web address: www.susseximmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu2. Enter and confirm your preferred email address – <i>you will receive a confirmation email following submission of the consent form.</i>3. Enter the school code: SX126088A Imberhorne Lower School Students SX126088 Imberhorne Upper School Students4. Complete and submit the consent form, indicating your choice of consent - <i>Please ensure you provide the child's registered address and GP.</i>
<p>How do I book an appointment for my child to be vaccinated?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Click the link in automated email you will receive on submission of your completed consent form(s) to book an appointment at one of our Community Catch up Clinics, for your child to receive the vaccination(s) – <i>You will require your booking reference number which can be found in the email.</i>2. Arrange for an adult to accompany your child to their clinic appointment.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
Headteacher