



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

The cornerstones of our learning community

25th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Strategic Planning for Next Academic Year

The school community is increasingly engaged with strategic planning for next academic year. Some of this planning links to practical matters instigated or changed in the last two years in response to managing the school against the spread of infection.

Quite rightly our overarching strategic plans link to the most significant themes – **student wellbeing, closing educational gaps, supporting the personal development of students (in light of significantly reduced social opportunities) and literacy**. A key element we looked at was how to further build the capacity of students as learners. Their educational experience in the last two years has been much changed. We believe that every student needs to consider how to become a more effective learner, this means the school needs to purposefully focus on developing this awareness in students and provide the skills and attributes they need to succeed.

We plan to retain some of the practical changes we have made this year. Whilst we hope that life has returned to normal by September, we cannot rule out occasional blips on this journey or instances when we have to return to more cautious behaviours. We have therefore decided that for next academic year we will retain the following:

- **Virtual consultation evenings**
- **A mixture of face to face and virtual briefing evenings (providing limited bookable spaces in school)**
- **Some zoning of the school, for form time and social time, along with the retention of separate food outlets**
- **The use of lanyards and ID cards**

Whilst I accept we will not please everyone with some of our decisions there has been a great deal of success around these areas of practice. Further reflection on how well things work as we move forward seems wise.

Year 6 Transition

Part of our preparation for the new academic year also involves managing transition for Year 6 students. Since they are unable to visit the school we are being creative with how we share information and build our relationship with the students and their families. Much of this will take place through video resources and virtual meetings that we hope to provide.



ssat the schools, students and teachers network



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School Uniform Shop

Many families are visiting the school to try on uniform, and prepare for September. There have been challenges for our suppliers this year, many factors, including the blockage in the Suez Canal (we are told), have created a shortfall in material. To ensure that we can supply uniform to everyone we ask that for this year, in particular, **all orders are with us by Friday 16th July. The final date we would like uniform collected (or returned) by is Friday 13th August.** Information about the dates when the school shop is available can be accessed on our website <https://uniform.imberhorne.co.uk/>

Our Students

I watched our Year 10 students today as they lined up for their first formal exam this year. They quietly queued and then entered the venue with slight, nervous smiles. It reminded me that school can quickly feel normal again but also that our students continue to face challenges and just get on with things. Their tremendous resilience and maturity can be striking at times. In a moment you see these young adults appear to transform before your eyes as they stride towards their futures. Many times I feel inspired by those around me; school is often a wonderful place to be.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
Headteacher