



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

# IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

**Compassion**  
**Achievement**  
**Respect**  
**Endeavour**

*The cornerstones of our  
learning community*

25<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

I am writing to share information that has been sent to all Year 13 students. I would like to start by saying a big thank you for all your support over the last few years, we have developed close working relationships with families and are saddened to see our links with you end so dramatically. It also, of course, seems very unfair on the students to end their time at the school in this way. They are missing out on some key events which they have looked forward to and that mark a key transition point in their lives.

As you know the future is very uncertain at the moment and we cannot predict when these current restrictions will be eased and what will be permissible during any period of change, when restrictions are lifted. We feel very strongly that we should provide students with an opportunity to celebrate the end of their schooling together and will work hard to organise something for them, at a time that we hope works best. We welcome your thoughts and ideas about what this might be and when it would be best to hold such an event.

I thought you might find it useful to see the information sent by Mr Crees to all students this week. His message is below:

*Just thought I would update you about the latest information released on 20<sup>th</sup> March regarding your grades this summer.*

*We have not yet received specific detail about what exam boards expect us to do but in essence you will be awarded grades for the qualifications you are currently entered for based on a blend of school forecast grades, your KS2/GCSE grades and Sixth Form performance data. They are planning to issue the final grades at the end of July with an appeals process and the option of sitting the real exams later in the year if you are unhappy with the grade given to you.*

*This does of course raise a number of questions, most of which are answered at the site here*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020>



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### **So, what should you be doing?**

1. *Staying safe and well and staying in if at all possible and looking after friends and family*
2. *Your courses were approaching the end of taught content when we had to close. Coursework/NEA needs to be your priority as this gives evidence for forecast grades we will need to submit. In non-coursework subjects you need to cover the remaining content by doing the work set by your teachers. This will give you the best chance of preparing for an exam in the autumn (if the worst happens and your grade given is below what you want or need) This will also give you a sense of closure by finishing off courses that you have given such a lot of effort and energy to. It will also make sure for some of you that you are in the strongest possible position to start university courses having covered all of the curriculum in all of your subjects.*
3. *Please **do not** email your teachers directly to start conversations regarding your forecast grades at this stage. It is not helpful to them at this stage, a number are on the front line in school caring for the children of key workers and others are working remotely with families to care for and all of their students to support with their work too. I know this is an unsettling time for everyone and you want answers but at this stage things are not confirmed and we simply do not know for sure*
4. *Remember that Sixth Form exam data has been on the increase for the last 3 years and last summer was the best ever (top 4 in West Sussex for both attainment and progress) so we have positive evidence behind us to be as positive and optimistic as is possible with your forecast grades*
5. *Feel free to have email conversations with teachers regarding the set work/other things to be doing. Try to treat this as an opportunity rather than a problem*

I would like to wish you all the very best from the school, we hope you stay safe and well in the coming period. We continue to extend our help and support to all families and look forward to a time when normality returns.

Your faithfully

Mr M Brown, Headteacher