



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

11th September

Dear Parents and Carers

We are almost at the end of our first full week of the new academic year and are delighted with the return of our students. They have overwhelmingly risen to the challenge of our new arrangements, showing great character and good humour in the way they are conducting themselves. We are pleased to see such positivity from them all.

I have asked staff to monitor their step counts as they escort students in and out of the buildings every lesson, it is quite possible we will have a very fit but rather tired school population by half term! We believe this approach is working well, corridors are very quiet and calm as classes move around the site.

I would like to take this opportunity to flag up some changes to our school calendar. We had, provisionally, scheduled a number of briefing evenings for different years groups as well as some early parents' consultation sessions (to meet class teachers). I am afraid to say at present such events cannot go ahead. I am mindful that one infection in a school community may cause havoc. Public Health England will advise me directly on a course of action we would have to take if we experience infections. This would quite likely lead to the quarantining of students and possibly staff too. That must be avoided at all costs. We have therefore made the decision that for now our parental briefings will be virtual. We are working hard on an appropriate format to make sure you can access good video communications from us.

We will shortly share key dates with you, please continue to monitor dates on our website and messages on social media in case of changes or updates. We have two significant fixed dates coming up shortly. The first is the date of our open evening scheduled for Thursday 24th September. Open evening will be a virtual event this year, we realise that we cannot safely accommodate hundreds of visitors to our site so intend to provide video footage and other resources as an alternative. As part of our evening we are providing video appointments to parents, to facilitate this we will finish slightly earlier on this date, at 2.30pm. Open evening is followed by our second inset day of the year on Friday 25th September. Students do not attend school on this date.

For the same reason we are limiting visitors to the school and can only receive visitors by appointment. I ask that any visitors entering the buildings wears a mask in our communal spaces.



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Arrangements for PE are going well but we have spotted a few interesting interpretations of our school PE kit. From Monday 14th September we will be much firmer about what constitutes appropriate PE outfits. Our guidance is as follows:

- Students can wear navy or black leggings under school PE shorts, they cannot wear leggings on their own
- All students must wear their outdoor PE tops – rugby shirt for boys, training top for girls, they may wear their white polo shirt underneath or just their white polo shirt. We will not accept other sports tops
- Students may, in addition to the above, wear navy or black jogging trousers (loose fitting), again we will not accept other colours

The above guidance is to ensure we can quickly and easily identify Imberhorne students.

Finally, I would like to introduce some new staff to the school, they have all started this September:

- Mrs Froger is our new Leader of Learning for Technology
- Three new staff have joined the Science department, Dr Bentley, Mr Mackenzie and Mr Sharpe
- Ms Harris has joined the English department
- Ms Browning has joined the Maths department
- Miss Swain has joined the PE department

I am delighted to welcome them all to Imberhorne school and am confident they will add greatly to what we do as a school.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support, attendance over the first full week has been extremely good. Your encouragement and belief in the school are obviously significant factors in this. I am also very grateful to the staff for the enormous efforts they are making to ensure our new 'zones' are working well. Many staff are having to teach in different rooms every lesson and must carry resources and equipment across the school site whilst also managing their classes in and out of buildings. It is very demanding and leaves staff feeling really tired at the end of the day. Their commitment and determination to do the best for our students is a credit to the profession.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown

Headteacher