



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

The cornerstones of our learning community

18th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Today is the final day of term, we are pleased to have reached this end point with so little disruption to learning. We have felt challenged in all sorts of ways in the period since September, particularly over the last few weeks against a backdrop of rising infection rates in the locality. We have tried to balance the delivery of a rounded education with the need to keep everyone, students, staff and families safe. We hope we have managed this appropriately.

You may be aware of the government announcement, made Thursday afternoon, about changes to the start of the Spring Term. On Wednesday we received notification about an intensive testing programme that schools are expected to establish in January to help identify positive cases of Covid- 19 in our community. To facilitate this, the announcement on Thursday informed us that there will be a delay to the start of the Spring Term for most students. What we understand, at this stage, is that students in Year 11 and Year 13 will return to school on Monday 4th January. All other year groups will start online learning from this date with a view to returning to school on Monday 11th January. We are awaiting further details, but wanted to give you as much notice as possible about this proposed change. If families are classified as 'key workers', generally this means working in medical or social care, and require a school place for your son or daughter in the first week of January, please contact Mrs Timson (KS3) htimson@imberhome.co.uk and Mr D Jones (KS4) djones@imberhome.co.uk.

Please continue to keep us informed of any matters we should know about over the Christmas period. If your son or daughter tests positive, either at the start or end of the holiday period, this may have an impact on the school and we will need to be informed. In some instances, we may have to subsequently contact other students and families. I am providing a simple table below to clarify our expectations.

Date my son/daughter first had symptoms and/or took a test (that was later returned as positive)	Should I notify the school
Saturday 19 th December	Yes – because when we count back 48 hrs it is term time
Sunday 20 th December	
Monday 21 st December	No
Within 10 days of the start of lessons (4 th or 11 th January)	Yes – students may not be able to return to school

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If you need to contact the school because of a positive case of Covid-19, as outlined above, please use the following contacts:

- KS3 – Mrs Timson htimson@imberhorne.co.uk / Mr Brown mbrown@imberhorne.co.uk
- KS4 – Mr Jones djones@imberhorne.co.uk /Mr Brown
- KS5 – Mr Crees gcrees@imberhorne.co.uk /Mr Brown

On Friday 18th December, students in Years 9 and 10 will have online lessons periods 1 & 2. These are likely to be set in Google Classroom by their teachers.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a happy and safe Christmas period. It will of course feel very different to celebrations in previous years. The Christmas period often provides the important time we need, particularly at present, to be with those we love and care for. In my final assembly, which may only be seen by a few students now, I talk about small acts of kindness. Such acts can be seen as important elements that help bind us together. I hope you are able to find ways, with the current restrictions we face, to share the festive spirit with your family and friends.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
Headteacher