

October 2016

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

On behalf of all the staff at Ivybridge Community College, and as the newly appointed Principal I would like to warmly welcome you to the new academic year 2016/17. As an experienced Headteacher and a parent at the College myself, I am passionate about continuing on the road to further excellence and carrying on with the baton of success from former Principal, Mr Rob Haring; which sees the College with GCSE results amongst the highest in Devon and will once again be amongst the top performing schools nationally. I am particularly proud that students of all abilities have made such outstanding progress.

Chair of Governors, Mike Saltern has commented, "We are immensely proud of our students' excellent results and we congratulate all our students and staff who have continued to uphold our ethos of total commitment to outstanding Teaching and Learning. The students now embark on their journey through life with every confidence and I wish them every happiness and success in whatever direction their roads may take them".

As Principal, I firmly believe in continuing to develop the 'Outstanding Ivybridge Legacy' by maintaining a focus on high quality Teaching and Learning for all of our learners and keeping the students at the heart of all our decisions. I very much look forward to meeting with students and parents alike over the coming months and will be offering a range of opportunities for parents to become more involved with life at the College in the near future. In the meantime, please continue to support your son/daughter's attitude to learning and their progress at the College by regularly checking their Planner and ensuring they continue to adhere to the first section which provides a clear outline on the College's expectations, particularly with regard to the:

- Code of behaviour
- College Uniform / Dress Code
- Rewards and Commendations

We take pride in our excellent College's reputation and I am extremely proud by how hard the staff work to support the high standards that we expect of our students. The staff are always grateful for the support and communication that parents provide on this matter. Working in collaboration is a key ingredient to providing the best educational outcomes for any student and I look forward to developing our partnerships throughout my time at Ivybridge Community College. We shall be launching a new website shortly with many new features that will enable closer parent/College communication. Therefore, I would welcome your parent views on a brief survey which can be accessed via the link below. This will provide an ideal starting point to prepare us going forward and I would be grateful for responses by Monday, 31 October 2016.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1QzIG6mKID-EIIRsFYb_6b_h81CpR3pfRt3P_0KJYofA/edit

On this note, I would like to hand over to Mr Waldron, Head of Year 11 who is keen to share current developments specific to your Year Group.

Welcome back to the start of another academic year. This will be an exciting year, but also one tinged with sadness as it will be my last year at the helm of this wonderful Year Group. I have been particularly impressed with the start that we have made. Walking around the College it is evident that our Year Group sets high standards in uniform and behaviour and has a real pride in belonging to Year 11 at Ivybridge Community College.

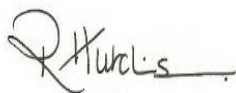
We have started this year with a focus on how we best learn. During Academic Mentoring lessons your child will have the opportunity to trial a range of revision techniques in order to find what works for them. This will be vital in ensuring that revision takes place early this year in preparation for their GCSE exams. To ensure success, it is imperative that our students formulate a revision timetable shortly in preparation for their Mock Exams in November and revise consistently throughout the year. Students will be given a calendar and guidance on how to formulate their revision timetable prior to half term. It is an important year for our students but one in which I am sure they will do well if they work hard and focus on things that they can control.

Key dates for the academic year include:

3 November	Year 11 Parents'/Tutor Evening
21 - 25 November	Year 11 Mock Exams
5 January	Year 11 Parents'/Subject Evening
13 - 17 March	Year 11 Mock Exams

I look forward to continuing our partnership in ensuring the best outcomes for our students

Yours sincerely



Rachel Hutchinson
Principal



Jarrad Waldron
Head of Year 11