



19 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Celebrating the Class of 2026 and a Well-Deserved Honour

This week, we had the privilege of giving our Year 11 students a truly memorable send-off as they reached the end of their journey at Ivybridge Community College. After months of commitment, determination and hard work, it was wonderful to come together as a Year Group to celebrate their achievements through a fun, uplifting and heartfelt assembly. The occasion provided an opportunity to reflect on fond memories, recognise individual and collective successes, enjoy a fantastic performance from the staff band and, most importantly, celebrate everything they have achieved during their time at Ivybridge Community College. The day concluded with a final clap-out from staff and students, marking a significant milestone in their educational journey.

My sincere thanks go to our incredible staff team, whose unwavering dedication, care and support have helped shape this exceptional Year Group and ensured they enjoyed such a special final day together.

Many of you may also have seen the fantastic news that our recently retired CEO, Rob Haring, has been awarded an OBE in His Majesty The King's Birthday Honours. Rob served as Principal of Ivybridge Community College before becoming our Trust CEO and, throughout his leadership, has been an incredible champion for education, young people and our wider community. This recognition is richly deserved and reflects the lasting impact of his service and leadership. On behalf of the entire College community, I would like to offer Rob our warmest congratulations and say how incredibly proud we are of this significant achievement.

As a College, we are equally proud of the way we continue to support and develop every member of our community through a strong focus on well-being, inclusion and partnership with families.

Partnership in Practice: Celebrating Parent and Carer Engagement, SEND and Well-Being

We are keen to continue strengthening our commitment to student well-being through our partnership with the NHS Mental Health Support Team (MHST) and the ongoing development of our well-being provision. The College's investment in supporting the MHST and Place2Be programmes has been extremely well received by many students, and I would like to extend our thanks to the professionals involved for sharing their expertise and support.

Mr Anniss, Designated Safeguarding Lead for the College, will be sharing a short survey over the coming weeks to gather feedback for the NHS team on the current provision and identify ways to further enhance the support available to our students and families. If you would like further information to support your child's needs, please contact the College via safeguarding@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the many parents and carers who engaged with our SEND Conferences that took place this week. The events provided valuable opportunities to share knowledge and experience alongside parents and carers, as well as their children. It was especially encouraging to hear comments from families highlighting the value of meeting others, feeling listened to and having opportunities to contribute to future developments.

Whilst the conference was a significant milestone, it represents only the beginning of a very important journey. We look forward to continuing these conversations, welcoming further feedback and working together to shape future SEND provision across our College community.

Respect ■ Aspiration ■ Integrity ■ Compassion

Looking Ahead Together

As our Year 13 students complete their final examinations over the coming days, we reach the end of another successful examination season, as they prepare for their Year 13 leavers' events. I would like to express our gratitude to our team of Invigilators, whose professionalism, kindness and thoughtful support have helped create calm and positive conditions for students throughout the examination period. Their contribution often takes place behind the scenes, but it plays a vital role in helping students perform at their very best.

We look forward with great excitement to welcoming families to our upcoming Year 5 Open Mornings (Tuesday, 23 June and Wednesday, 24 June 2026) and continuing preparations to support our incoming Year 6 students as they begin their transition journey to Ivybridge Community College. Strong parent and carer engagement, and genuine partnership between home and school remain central to our success. When families and educators work together with a shared purpose, we create the best possible opportunities for every child to flourish both academically and personally.

Finally, as the weather looks set to become warmer over the coming week, please ensure your child comes to College with a water bottle each day and, where appropriate for PE and other outdoor activities, sunscreen and a hat.

As always, our work is guided by the values that define our College community: aspiration, kindness, respect and belonging. By working together and maintaining these shared values, we can continue to ensure that every student feels supported, challenged and inspired to achieve their fullest potential.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal