



18 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

As we reach the end of another busy week, I would like to take the opportunity to celebrate the many achievements of our students and share some important updates from across the College.

Students Leading the Way

This week, we were delighted to welcome Leora Cruddas CBE who is Chief Executive of the Confederation of School Trusts representing school trusts nationally and working with the Government to help shape education policy and practice. Leora spent time meeting with students and staff and was incredibly impressed by the aspirations, confidence and determination shown by our young people, describing them as ambitious and highly engaged in their education. She was particularly interested in students' personal My Sentences and the way our Character of Education virtues underpin daily life at the College. Moments such as these remind us what a remarkable community we have.

Beyond the classroom, student participation continues to thrive, with over 140 enrichment clubs and 22 additional leisure activities available each week, alongside the successful launch of our Primary Football and Gymnastics Academies. We have also celebrated early sporting success, including an excellent performance from our Year 10 Netball Squad and Year 8 and 11 Rugby Performance Squad against Truro School.

In addition, today we welcome back our Year 9 students from France following the College's first overseas trip of the year.

Homework Improvements for 2026-27

Following feedback from parents, carers and staff, we have reviewed our approach to home learning to improve consistency and reduce variation between classes.

From this term:

- Homework is set every Tuesday and follows a consistent completion timeframe.
- Homework completion will be monitored through Class Charts, allowing students and families to track progress.
- Catch-Up Room (Tuesdays, Break 1, M2.06): Additional guidance and support available for students or anytime the Learning Resource Centre (LRC).
- Positive recognition points are awarded for homework completed on time.
- Non-completion of home learning will result in a Thursday break-time detention and a supported catch-up session with subject teachers on Friday break time.

These changes are designed to support every student in achieving their potential. Families requiring additional support or adjustments should contact us at icc@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk.

Respect ■ Aspiration ■ Integrity ■ Compassion

Safety Around the College

The safety of our students remains our highest priority.

To help ensure safe arrivals and departures, we ask parents and carers not to enter or park within the main College entrance area. As drop-off and collection space around the College is extremely limited, we strongly advise parents and carers not to use Harford Road hill for dropping off or collecting students, as these areas can become heavily congested at peak times. Where possible, we encourage students to walk a short distance from nearby safe locations, helping to reduce traffic and maintain a safer environment for all members of our College community.

For students travelling by bus, we ask that families reinforce our expectations for safe and respectful travel. The vast majority of students are exemplary and help create a positive environment for everyone.

Our expectations are simple:

- Be safe – remain seated and wear seatbelts.
- Be kind – show respect to fellow passengers, drivers and property.
- Be responsible – report any unsafe or inappropriate behaviour.
- 100% distraction-free travel so that drivers can focus entirely on transporting students safely.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership and support. We look forward to celebrating many more student successes in the weeks ahead.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal