



17 March 2020

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

Further to the advice and guidance shared by Mr Haring (CEO), in a letter on behalf of the Westcountry Schools Trust (WeST) on Tuesday, 17 March 2020, I want to continue to assure you that the health and wellbeing of our College community is of paramount importance. In light of the UK Government's move from the 'contain' to the 'delay' phase of their coronavirus action plan, and the updated advice, Ivybridge Community College remains open until further directive has been provided by the government in the event of forced school closure.

Whilst we remain open, we will continue to promote high levels of hygiene as recommended by Public Health England to ensure all students under our care can access their education.

During this period of uncertainty, we have made the decision to take the following appropriate actions to mitigate any spread of infection with effect from Wednesday, 18 March 2020:

1. The College will presently remain open during normal College hours.
2. All enrichment activities which take place beyond the College day will be postponed until further notice.
3. All Easter holiday activities have been cancelled.
4. All calendared events beyond the normal College day will be postponed until further notice:
 - **ParentMeet** **Tuesday, 17 March 2020**
 - **Year 8 Options Interviews** **Monday, 23 March – Thursday, 26 March 2020**
 - **Year 12 Parents' Evening** **Wednesday, 22 April 2020**
 - **Year 10 Mock Examinations** **Monday, 20 April – Friday, 24 April 2020**
5. All trips, visits and offsite activities such as Ten Tors training, residential activities and sporting fixtures have been postponed until further notice.
6. All Community Sports/Arts provision and all evening and out of hours bookings will be cancelled until further notice.

We recognise that the actions we have taken are significant and may cause some upset and disappointment for many of our students and staff; these enrichment opportunities are what define the uniqueness and exceptional traits of our College and we too understand and share the disappointment of everyone involved and affected by these measures. However, our main concern is the health and wellbeing of the whole Ivybridge family.

In the event of any further developments, the main point of communication with parents/carers will be via the home page of the College website, through the text messaging service and email. If the College moves to forced closure, we will provide a comprehensive education study programme for all students. Year 11 and 13 examination courses will be closely supported with further study materials and we will communicate on all examination updates when notified by the relevant bodies. The College will continue to do its best to keep parents/carers and students informed on all developments as soon as we are provided with further advice and guidance from the Department for Education.

Please do not hesitate to contact the College using the relevant communication links as shared on the College website. We kindly request that parents and carers avoid posting potential defamatory social media messages that do little to support communication at such challenging times for our learning community.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation on this matter.

Best Wishes

Rachel Hutchinson
College Principal

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