



22 May 2020

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

Following our most recent parent letter on Thursday, 14 May 2020, we are still awaiting further Government guidance which is due to be released over the next few days. In the meantime, we want to take this opportunity to share some updates in preparation for the partial re-opening of Ivybridge Community College in conjunction with our other WeST secondary schools. We hope that this letter will provide some form of reassurance of the current plans being put in place to support our learners after the May half term period.

Reopening Updates:

- The Edu-care programme will be open for the children of key workers and vulnerable students for two days during the half term break (Wednesday, 27 May 2020 and Thursday, 28 May 2020). Edu-care will then resume on a full-time basis commencing on Monday, 1 June 2020. If, as a result of changes to your own work commitments as a key worker you require Edu-care places, please use the online booking system via the College website to secure a place in advance.
- We are currently undergoing all the appropriate risk assessments and social distancing measures to be implemented across the College over the next few weeks. We are working closely with the Westcountry Schools Trust and will be adhering to the **'Wider Reopening of Schools Toolkit'** which can be found on the College website if you require further information on this matter.
- Staff will be receiving the appropriate induction into new procedures and College routines such as one way systems and the close monitoring of social distancing, hygiene and hand washing.

Years 7, 8 and 9 developments

Although we fully support Government advice on the need to restrict the number of Year Groups in all schools during the present circumstances, like yourselves we are all disappointed that the Summer Term is unlikely to see the return of your children in these cohorts. We are so proud of the continual efforts and commitments from our learners at such challenging times and we hope that the following strategies will further enhance the Summer Term learning programme from home:

- All students will be receiving a fortnightly Year Team 'message' which will be recorded and shared, followed by a virtual Tutor update. Further information to support this will be shared after half term via the Student Bulletin with the launch date week commencing Monday, 8 June 2020.
- All students will continue to receive a high-quality distance learning provision, with further virtual learning opportunities, in order to support preparations for the new academic year.

Years 11 and 13 update

Thank you to all those students, and their parents/carers, who have continued to keep in touch via Tutors, subject teachers and Year Teams during this unusual transition. We will

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continue to be available for any further advice and guidance and will be in contact after the half term with detailed updates in relation to the following:

- Official leaving procedures for both Year Groups (the returning of College resources, Parent Pay closure, Year 11 Leavers' Survey and destination information)
- GCSE and Post-16 results day arrangements
- Sixth Form induction programme including required 'summer work' tasks
- Year 13 University and future pathways guidance

Year 10 and 12 Return Arrangements (still subject to change)

- **Year 10**, we are provisionally planning to return in smaller population groups to allow for specialist teaching on a reduced class ratio (in accordance with social distancing guidance). This will take place on a partial and phased return commencing the week beginning **Monday, 15 June 2020**.
- **Year 12**, we are provisionally planning to return in a partial and phased manner in order to accommodate all Post-16 studies. This will be on a reduced timetable with subject specialists. Year 12 will commence the week beginning **Monday, 22 June 2020**.

Our intention is to share a more detailed programme with you during the first week after the half term, once we have received further secondary education Government guidance. The programme will provide detailed reopening arrangements such as which day/s your child will be expected to attend, as well as further information to support transport to and from the College and food provision during the day.

Year 10 and 12 Parent Survey

To support the preparations of our reopening we would like all **Year 10 and 12 parent/carers to complete the attached 'Return to College' Parent Survey**. This will provide us with key information to support your child's return to College.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rwUJpu2VnUWK77ZZk-259SffujwMFd1DI7EirbwYtVRUM0xCMTJOU1dFV0o2U1BJU0g1N0s0WTdTQy4u>

We would be grateful if the Parent Survey could be completed by **Monday, 1 June 2020**.

Thank you once again for continuing to support your children and the College, and I hope you all have a restful half term and enjoy the good weather.

Please continue to remain safe and we very much look forward to supporting all learners as we commence a phased and considered gradual reopening of the College.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Hutchinson
College Principal