



26 May 2023

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal

Dear Parent/Carer

As we conclude the first half of the Summer Term and with the first two weeks of the Year 11 and 13 examinations successfully completed, we would like to share our appreciation for the way in which our students have been conducting themselves around our examination venues. We have been impressed by the attitude and conduct our students have shown and how they have supported our College community.

Well done to all our Year 11 and 13 students for such a positive start to the examination season and we wish you all the very best of luck as we continue to support you for the remainder of the examination period. We are so proud of all your efforts. Keep it up!

Students at the College have been involved in a vast array of activities and performances including Drama, Music, Photography and Gymnastics. Congratulations to all those students who have been involved in fixtures and tournaments, such as the Ten Tors, Cricket and the Greenpower event.

As part of strengthening our community links and character virtues we have been prioritising partnerships with other external agencies to address anti-social behaviour and in particular, the discriminatory behaviour that students from across our community have been facing. It is unacceptable that some students at Ivybridge Community College are facing discrimination by members of their own community; this behaviour has to stop and we ask for everyone's support with this. If you see it, hear it or know about it – you must report it.

Thank you to Kadus Smith (Youth Intervention worker, Plymouth Argyle) and Ben Dunks (Relationships Education), for the work they have been doing to raise awareness of anti-racism. Today is the launch of an inaugural Culture Fest, where guest speakers and interactive workshops will provide further opportunities to educate and promote anti-racism, equality diversity and inclusion. We will be inviting parents to attend an open forum next term to feedback on work to date and to engage the wider community on this matter.

The College is working closely with the Town Council, the police and local volunteers to help minimise anti-social behaviour of young people socialising in public areas outside of College hours. In particular, the Watermark area seems to be a growing problem during the evenings.

We welcome your support in encouraging all young people to respect our community and take pride in being a positive member of the community beyond the College gates. The College will continue to support the police in identifying individuals who are not meeting such expectations. In extreme situations, where students are choosing to remain in the town after College hours, in uniform, and causing disruption in the community, this will result in College sanctions.

We will continue to tackle low level disruption in College and will be running a number of parent/carers engagement sessions next term for those families whose young people are struggling to meet our expectations. We will involve external agencies, and our SEND and Welfare Teams to ensure the right support is given to our young people and parent/carers.

For the majority of students, we take great pride in the incredible attitude and conduct they demonstrate every day. Thank you for everything you are doing to make Ivybridge Community College a special place to learn and work.

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A reminder that when we return on Monday, 5 June 2023 we expect our usual high standards of uniform, Essential 8 and attendance to College to ensure students are prepared with the right attitude to their learning.

On behalf of the Leadership Team and staff at the College, I wish you all an enjoyable half term break.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Hutchinson

Principal