



16 May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Thank You for Your Kind Words**

As we come to the end of another very productive week at Ivybridge Community College, I would like to acknowledge the tremendous feedback we have received regarding our Year 11 and Year 13 Finishing Line Strategy. The overwhelming sense of gratitude expressed by many families about the care and compassion shown by our staff has been truly heart-warming and the staff appreciate your feedback.

Parents and carers have particularly commended our teachers' commitment to providing extra sessions during Block Zero, Block Six, and even weekends. Staff across the College have felt a real sense of pride when reading your numerous comments. To those who have written to the College or spoken with staff personally – thank you.

As a staff collective, we are united in our commitment to giving our very best to each and every student in our care. We take pride in meticulous planning, making adjustments when needed, and continuing to prioritise students who may need additional support. We appreciate your feedback and will continue to provide regular updates throughout the Summer Term.

## **Ten Tors Celebrates in Style**

Congratulations to our Ten Tors walkers who successfully completed the 35 and 45-mile challenges! Four teams from Ivybridge Community College completed the challenge, three 35-mile teams and one 45-mile team. Under the expert guidance of Mr Payne alongside our dedicated team of parents/carers and community volunteers, it was truly special to witness our teams in action and acknowledge how far many students have progressed since they first ventured out onto the moors. Students were interviewed and featured on BBC and ITV News and spoke with such passion about their experiences. A very special thank you to Caron Russell, who has given many years of support to our Ten Tors teams, for her ongoing support at base camp, making sure everyone gets fed, with plenty of biscuits on hand!

In addition to the Ten Tors Challenge teams, Ivybridge Community College also had the honour of being selected to assist the Army running the Public Information, Registration and Briefing Team (PIRB) over the course of the event. A member of staff from another school kindly shared their views about our amazing volunteers, 'Without exception they demonstrated a maturity far beyond their years and could be relied upon to complete any task given to them to the highest standard. They were a credit to your organisation, and I lost count of the hundreds of compliments being paid by parents, carers, enablers and Senior Officers involved with the event'.

## **Green Power Team Race into Action**

Last weekend our amazing Green Power team of thirteen students took part in the Green Power Race day at the RMB Chivenor Heat. Congratulations to the all-female team, Mr Skorka-Brown, Mrs Hughes, and Mx Barry for achieving 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> in class and for receiving the "Best Presented Team Award".

Mrs Offer is eagerly anticipating the many successes to be shared at the next Proud Table. Remember, if your child has other interests and hobbies they feel particularly passionate about, they too can receive recognition and awards.

## **Aspiring Scholars**

The Aspiring Scholars Programme is a new and emerging programme, providing students with the chance to visit and engage with leading universities, including Russell Group institutions and Oxbridge. It aims to raise aspirations, build confidence, and help students believe in their potential to achieve academic excellence. While it is open to students in Years 7–13, we will be prioritising our upper school students as they begin to plan for higher education.

**Respect ■ Aspiration ■ Integrity ■ Compassion**

## **Medicine and Law Scholars**

We are preparing a more bespoke and enhanced support for early entry applicants in Year 12, including Oxbridge, Medicine, and Law career pathways. Helping students to strengthen their personal statements, prepare for admissions tests, interviews, and drawing on the experiences of current Year 13s and alumni. This year, we are working with a pilot group of fifteen Year 12 students, and we look forward to expanding the programme next term.

The programme is primarily by invitation, but if you feel your child would benefit and actively engage, please do not hesitate to contact us by email to [icc@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:icc@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk). We look forward to sharing more information about the wider Aspiring Programme in the coming weeks.

If you require any further information or support on any of the above opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact the College via email to [icc@ivybridge.devons.ch.uk](mailto:icc@ivybridge.devons.ch.uk).

Yours faithfully

Rachel Hutchinson

**Principal**