



9 January 2026

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

A very warm welcome back to Ivybridge Community College as we begin the New Year together. We hope you and your families enjoyed a peaceful and joyful Christmas break, filled with rest, celebration and time spent with loved ones. We also wish you all a very Happy New Year.

At the end of last term, it was a privilege to see our students hosting and performing as part of the celebration event for Rob Haring, serving CEO's, retirement event. The College hosted over 120 external guests of which we received a number of positive emails highlighting how impressed they were by our students, with comments such as:

"Thank you so much for inviting me last night. The performances of the children and the compering of the evening by your Head pupils were the best I have seen."

"I honestly would have paid for a ticket to attend an event of such high quality."

Congratulations to all our Student Leaders and performers for their contributions.

It has been a genuine pleasure to see our students return with the same energy, positivity and determination this week. Even as the weather continues to challenge us, this certainly has not dampened the mood or the commitment shown by our students across all Year Groups. We have been particularly impressed with how smartly dressed and organised students are on their return.

We are delighted with such a positive start and look forward to all that the year ahead will bring.

Welcome Back Assemblies

This week, all Year Groups have been attending our Welcome Back Assemblies, each centred on our core College values and, in particular, the importance of Respect. We were proud to celebrate with students that we are seeing fewer incidents of disrespect across the College, both between students and in interactions with staff. This positive trend reflects the thoughtful, considerate behaviour our students are choosing to show each day. As part of these Assemblies, we reaffirmed our pledge to academic excellence and reiterated our commitment to ensuring 100% disruption-free learning so that every student can thrive, feel safe and achieve their very best. Staff and students were given discussion time to reflect on their My Sentence and how we all use our own aspirations to navigate our daily habits.

Respect ■ Aspiration ■ Integrity ■ Compassion

Being prepared and taking responsibility

As part of our key messages this week, we have been reminding all students of the importance of being prepared and taking responsibility for their learning. We have shared the expectations that all students should have the following equipment with them each day.

Black Pen Purple Pen Pencil Rubber Ruler
White Board Pen Calculator Lanyard & ID card **My Sentence** **My Timetable**

Please continue to support your child in making sure they are fully prepared each day when they leave home and remind them that spare resources are available from Peverall Hall before the start of the day. Over the coming weeks we are going to be expanding our support so that we can ensure every child has a calculator and a copy of and their timetable. This will also be supported through our Peverall 'Strong Starts'.

Looking Ahead

As we begin this new Academic Year, we remain committed to maintaining the highest standards and providing every student with the best possible opportunities. Your support is essential and we look forward to working in partnership with you throughout the term.

Please find below key dates for upcoming parent/carer events this Spring Term:

Date and Venue	Title	Intended For
Monday, 26 January 2026	Year 9 Options Choices Opens Online	Year 9 Parents/Carers
Friday, 30 January 2026	Sixth Form Internal Applications Close	Years 11 Parents/Carers
Thursday, 5 February 2026	Year 10 Parents' Evening Online	Year 10 Parents/Carers
Friday, 6 February 2026	Year 9 Options Choices Closes Online	Year 9 Parents/Carers
Thursday, 26 and Friday, 27 February 2026	DPT/ACWY Vaccinations – Years 9/10/11	Year 9/10/11 Students
Thursday, 12 March 2026 Online	Year 9 Parents' Evening	Year 9 Parents/Carers
Thursday, 12 March 2026	Careers Fair	All Years, Focus groups Year 10 and above
Monday, 16 - 20 March 2026	Sixth Form Internal Interviews	Year 11 Students
Wednesday, 18 March 2026	Final Year 11 Parent Event - The Sprint Finish	Year 11 Parents/Carers

We are a College that strives for academic excellence, develops character and provides exceptional opportunities for all.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal