



Our Ref: PR/LK

30th April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Year 11 Celebration and Prom 2021

This year, there has been some understandable uncertainty about the possibility of the Celebration Day and Prom for our Year 11 students. We are mindful that our students and you, their parents/carers, may have had concerns about whether such an event will be allowed to go ahead. As many of you may be aware, after consulting with the parents of the class of 2020, the decision was made by majority vote to cancel the prom last year. The health and wellbeing of all in the community is our primary concern and this was the cause of the cancellation. This remains our primary concern this year and so we would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the situation regarding the Celebration Day and Prom and what we will be doing to ensure all are kept safe whilst also preparing for an event that celebrates what the students have achieved in Year 7-11, before they either join our Sixth Form or take their next step elsewhere.

The date which has been set for Celebration Day and Prom is Wednesday 7th July 2021. However, we would like to start by saying that should the government restrictions and recommendations not change, or change to include stricter limitations on the number of people allowed to congregate in one place, the event will obviously be cancelled. We are optimistic however, that with the current 'road map' trajectory the event will go ahead with restrictions due to be lifted on the 21st June if all four tests for easing restrictions are met. It is looking really positive at the moment but the fourth test which states '*our assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new Variants of Concern*', remains a real threat.

Regrettably due to this risk and need to plan ahead we do not think we will be in a position to be able to facilitate our traditional gathering of parents at school. I hope that everyone will agree that what we have arranged will give our students the memories they deserve at the same time keeping our school and community safe following the restrictions being lifted. Celebration Day will involve only the students coming in for their celebration day and assembly, but without parents and procession of cars that we traditionally would have. To make up for this we intend on having a professional photographer and camera operator who will film the day to share this with parents and carers. We are also looking at other smaller ways to make the day special in consultation with students. The assembly will be live streamed for those parents wishing to watch.

On the evening of 7th July, Prom will be held at Haselbury Mill as per usual, but we have decided for this year only that we will use this venue for the arrival of students in their chosen mode of transport the same way we would have done at Holyrood in any normal year. There will be opportunities for family and friends to join in with this part of the celebration and for photos to be taken.

I know there will be some that will be disappointed with these small changes, however I hope you will understand the reason for these changes and agree that making these gives the day the best chance of going ahead as well as keeping everyone safe and well.

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As with previous years, students' attendance is dependent on good behaviour, dedication to progress and attendance throughout the rest of their last academic year with us. We reserve the right to refuse entry to any student not meeting these requirements, but this will always be discussed with you in advance.

In order to secure your place for the Prom, we ask that £31 is paid online through SCOPAY by **Friday 14th May 2021**. Our Year 11 students have been amazing and have shown such resilience and maturity in response to the cancellation of their GCSEs this summer and numerous lockdowns this year, we are so very proud of all of them all. I look forward to seeing you all at Haselbury Mill on the 7th July to celebrate this. Details and timings of our Celebration Day and Haselbury Mill will follow in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Reid', written in a cursive style.

Mr Reid
Year Leader – Year 11