

HEADTEACHER: MR DAVID MACCORMICK

18th July 2021

Our Ref: PR/LK

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 11 Students,

As you know, we scheduled the Year 11 Prom for Wednesday 7th July. Following Monday's announcement, we now know that stage 4 of the government's roadmap has been delayed until 19 July at the earliest.

We recognise that the Year 11 Prom has become something of a rite of passage over recent years. However, we have emphasised throughout the planning process that the prom could only take place if the full re-opening of society at stage 4 of the government's roadmap were to go ahead.

Consequently, it is with real sadness and regret that we have to announce that we are no longer able to go ahead with the Year 11 Prom this year at Haselbury Mill.

We have looked at what we can do as a school to replace what had been organised at Haselbury Mill and have decided to go with a **PROM GARDEN PARTY** with a festival feel. Whilst we know this isn't what we ever imagined or planned, I think the main thing to remember is that at the moment, we are lucky to be able to see family and friends and any memories or plans we can make right now, is a bonus! It isn't necessarily 'what' you do, it's who you do it with!

We are going to hire in a wedding style Marquee, and provide everyone with mocktails and festival-style food which will include posh burgers and a pancake pod. There will be music, garden activities and lots and lots of photo opportunities! This includes the professional photographer, videographer and drone.

Students can celebrate in any way and still make precious memories, and I guess it is definitely a story to tell the grandchildren in the future! ... 'Oh well Coronavirus may have ruined my original prom plans but I still celebrated in my own way!!'. Let's channel more of our positive sides...Focus less on the negative on not being able to prom the way we planned and focus more on the positives of well, Corona you won't completely stop us!! The Prom garden party will follow straight after their celebration assembly and will finish at approximately 6:00. This could then be followed by smaller prom parties organised by the students outside of the academy that fall within the rules.

We completely recognise the challenges that these students have had to face over the past year and hope that this ensures the best possible send off for our students. We will also do everything to ensure that these activities/events are both safe and meaningful for our students. Students can be dropped off at the planned time of 12:30 at the turning circle in whatever mode of transport they wish, but we must insist parents not leave the vehicle or congregate outside of the school gates. If you are still planning on using an exciting mode of transport we would kindly ask that photos are taken beforehand at your homes and our professional photographer will capture the moment they arrive at school which will be available to students/parents after the event.

Please can you make sure that two lateral flow tests are done prior to the event to ensure that any asymptomatic students can be identified and quarantined, reducing transmission of the virus.

If you would like to refund your ticket for this event we totally understand, please let us know by next Friday. This allows us to plan and cater for the students that will attend. We are currently booking everything to ensure the students have a memorable time and although at the moment we don't know what the final cost will be, please rest reassured that we will refund any money left over from the Prom tickets shortly after the event. If you have any queries please contact me at the Academy.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Reid
Head of Year 11