



Dear Parent / Carer

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well. We are drawing to the end of another academic year, GCSE, A-Level and Year 10 summer exams are finished and the sun has been shining and warm. Our staff and students have been working hard both in and outside the classroom, and I am sure we are all looking forward to a well-deserved break and a chance to recharge the batteries ready for another fantastic year. I personally love this time of year when the light evenings provide our young people occasion to enjoy the full benefits of the amazing surroundings that we live in and take part in a range of activities both in and outside of the school environment.

Activities this term have included the Summer Music Concert where both our youngest and most seasoned performers have showcased their talents in front of an audience of their peers and family members. Students have participated in field work, visits to universities and opportunities to broaden their academic horizons, such as the WeST Post-16 Summer Conference which was attended by all year 12 students.

As well as a plethora of sporting events, the whole school has had the opportunity to participate in the Community Walk from Coombe Dean to Wembury. This event is a true celebration of our strong community ties, and we thank Wembury Council, members of staff and our Post 16 students for enabling the event to take place.

You can read and see more about these events in our first 'Coombe Dean Newsletter' which will be made available to you all during the final week of term, covering these events and others from this term. Please keep an eye out for this.

We have Enrichment Week to look forward next week to which gives our young people the chance to broaden their life experiences both on and off the school site. Students will take part in a wide range of pursuits through residential, day trips and activities on the school site, trying out both new and familiar experiences such as surfing, scuba diving, jewellery making, computer programming and much more! There is an activity to suit each and every one of our young people. The week embodies the school ethos of Community, Integrity and Opportunity. It is in these times that friendships and positive relationships are strengthened across our whole school community.

We also look forward to visiting our Year 10 and 12 students undertaking work experience with a wide range of employers. We thank the Careers team for the effort that has gone on behind the scenes to make this possible, and, of course, all the employers who have taken on Coombe Dean students for the week to give them this opportunity to experience a workplace environment.

With great pride and affection towards the end of June, we have waved goodbye to our year 11 and 13 students. Many of our year 11 students will return to us in Post 16 for the next stage of their education. Those that do not continue at Coombe Dean leave us to take up new opportunities through apprenticeships and college courses, supported by the excellent advice, guidance and support provided by our Year 11 Year Team Leader and the Careers team. As in previous years, the majority of our year 13 leavers are expecting to take up university places, with the rest of the cohort poised to begin higher level apprenticeships or enter employment in a variety of fields and locations. We look forward to celebrating their successes with all of

them when they collect their results in August. More information about results day arrangements and post-results services is available via the exams section of the school website: <https://www.coombedean.co.uk/student-life/exam-information-2022>

As our year 11 and 13 students depart to take their next step in life, we have welcomed our new year 7 students into Coombe Dean School. This is always an exciting but nervous time for some, and Mrs Cooper and the Inclusion team have worked hard to make that transition as smooth as possible. It has been wonderful to meet the new year 7 and year 12 students on our transition day this week.

Looking forward to next year, I would reiterate the previously communicated change in the timings of the school day with the addition of 10 minutes to satisfy the government's requirement to ensure that every school has a week lasting 32.5 hours. The new times of the school day are as follows:

8:40-9:10, Tutor/Registration

9:10-10:10, Period 1

10:10-11:10, Period 2

11:10-11:40, Break 1

11:40-12:40, Period 3

12:40-13:40, Period 4

13:40-14:10, Break 2

14:10-15:10, Period 5

I do hope that students and staff alike enjoy the time we have left this academic year and as families you enjoy the time that you have together over the summer holidays. The last day of term is Friday 21st July and the school day will run as normal from 8:40am to 3:00pm. Lesson 5 will be spent in tutor groups reflecting on the year. Please keep yourselves safe over the summer and my whole team and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Yours faithfully

Kevin Dyke
Headteacher