

June 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Year 11 Prom

I am sure that many students and parents will want to know how the four-week delay to lockdown easing that was officially announced by the Prime Minister on Monday 14 June 2021 will affect the 2021 Year 11 Prom.

The following advice from the Department of Education was issued on Tuesday 15 June 2021 with regards to leavers' events: 'Currently, you should avoid hosting large group gatherings indoors for more than one bubble'. The year 11 students officially leave school on 28 June 2021 and are therefore no longer in a 'bubble' at this point. Many students have secured part-time employment or may have been mixing with young people and adults, including friends and family members, from other schools or other areas of the country. This may result in an increase in infections locally (a trend that has already been observed in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole) and means that if we were to go ahead with the Prom as planned on 08 July 2021, we would contravene the current guidance from the government and potentially expose students and their family members to Covid-19.

Due to the circumstances outlined above we have decided to provisionally change the date of the Prom from Thursday 08 July 2021 to Thursday 22 July 2021. A final decision will be taken on Tuesday 13 July 2021 about whether we can proceed with the Prom on 22 July 2021. This date has been chosen because the government have said that they will next update the 'road map' (information about when we will fully move out of lockdown) on Monday 12 July 2021. If we are unable to proceed with an indoor event we will attempt to find a solution that allows students and staff to gather in an outdoor area of our site to mark the end of their time at Wey Valley Academy. In the event of a cancellation or change of plans for the Prom, ticket costs will be fully or partially refunded.

Thank you for your understanding about this issue.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Neill'.

Thomas Neill
Vice Principal

Wey Valley Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

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