



15<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Congratulations to all of the students who took part in the Ten Tors event on Dartmoor last week. The students had put in a significant amount of training for this event supported by a committed group of staff through the process. Formal written public examinations have started for Year 11 and 13 and we continue to pass to all of the students involved our best wishes.

### **Ofsted Visit**

As you are no doubt aware, we were informed on Monday morning that five Ofsted inspectors would be in school on Tuesday and Wednesday. Can I at this stage thank all of the parents and carers who completed the parental questionnaire which gave the team a really good insight into our school. Our visitors were really impressed with the young people that they encountered whilst here which was lovely to hear. It will be a good number of weeks before the report comes into school due to the quality assurance process in place and as soon as it does, I will send a copy to all parents and carers.

### **Uniform During External Examination Period – A Reminder**

A reminder that we are continuing with students having the option of wearing their PE kit to school bearing in mind the public examinations are using the Sports Hall and we have no access to our changing facilities. This will continue until Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June just before the start of Enrichment Week which has its own arrangements in place.

### **Mobile Phones**

In September we will be moving to a pouch system in line with some of the other secondary schools in the Lighthouse Schools Partnership and many others across the country. The government are very clear in their thought process with regards to phones in school and the direction they would like schools to travel. Our staff continue to spend significant amounts of time sorting out issues that have occurred often when students are not on our site and we continue to ask parents and carers to work with us on this matter.

The new pouches will be locked during the school day and during this time the phones themselves will not be able to receive any messages or calls. We do have a small group of students who use their phones for specific medical reasons such as diabetes and of course arrangements will be made for them. More information around the roll out will follow after Enrichment Week has taken place.

### **Half Term Dates**

A reminder that half term in May runs from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May with students returning to school on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.

### **Start of the Academic Year 2026/27**

Staff will have two INSET days on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September with **ALL** students returning together on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September including the incoming Year 7.

Finally, many of the dates for the next academic year are now available on our website for information.

With best wishes,

Gareth Beynon  
Headteacher