



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

# IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Lee Walker

**Compassion**  
**Achievement**  
**Respect**  
**Endeavour**

*The cornerstones of our  
learning community*

5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to write my first letter to you as the new Headteacher of Imberhorne School. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to provide some key messages for the term ahead as your children return to school following the Summer break.

I qualified as a Teacher of Classics in 1993, and took my first post teaching Latin and Greek at Weavers School in Wellingborough – a fully comprehensive 11-18 school. Following this I was Head of Year at Northampton High School, and secured my first position in Senior Leadership in 2007 as Assistant and then Deputy Headteacher at a school in Cambridge. Following a second Deputy Headship at Hinchingsbrooke School in Huntingdon, I became Headteacher of King Edward VI School in Bury St Edmunds in April 2017. I spent a year in Senior Leadership consultancy in schools in Kent and Suffolk before securing this post in Spring this year.

I chose to apply for the Headship at Imberhorne because the school's values are very close to my own, and the school has a highly academic approach as well as a genuine desire to help students become rounded individuals. I have also been heartened by the sense of kindness, compassion and genuine desire to work together that I have experienced in my time at the school already. My sincere thanks to all staff who have made me feel so welcome, and particularly to Mr Yule (Chair of Governors) and Mr Brown who have given their time and support so generously in order to make this a smooth transition for everyone.

Academic achievement is maximised when parents, students and school work in harmony. I know the school already does a great deal of work to promote this relationship, and I hope that you will be able to attend the relevant Parents Evenings and any other relevant evenings for your child(ren) this year. The dates for these are on our website <http://www.imberhorne.co.uk/content/calendar>. In addition, I would like to offer you the chance to hear more about our plans for the future, ask questions and provide feedback for me on your experience of Imberhorne School at a Parents Forum. This will be held on Tuesday 27 September at 5.30pm at Imberhorne Lane. Please click [here](#) to book your place.

On each classroom wall at Imberhorne is a poster showing our key expectations of students – Be Ready, Show Respect, Have Pride. I wanted to outline the messages I will be giving to students about these, so that you can reinforce these basic expectations at home.

### Be Ready:

- Attend school and lessons on time
- Have the correct equipment – every lesson, every day
- Ask and answer questions in lessons
- Try your best to understand and follow all instructions
- Read every day

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**Show Respect:**

- Be courteous, polite and kind at all times
- Listen carefully to instructions every time
- Move around school safely and sensibly
- Show understanding, tolerance and empathy for others

**Have Pride:**

- Wear school uniform correctly
- Complete all class and homework to the best of your ability
- Present work clearly and neatly
- Speak appropriately to all members of the school community
- Represent your class, year group, team, school
- Make the most of every opportunity

Behaviour will be a key focus for our community and you can expect to hear more about this in the coming weeks. I believe that good behaviour is crucial to securing the best outcomes for all of our students. If staff, students and parents are clear on these key expectations, we will achieve a consistent approach in the basics and all students have a better opportunity to succeed. Can I ask that you discuss our expectations with your child(ren)? You have a vital role to play in helping us to reach the exemplary standards we aspire to here at Imberhorne. I hope I can count on your support, and I really appreciate you working with us on this.

I am very much looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible in our forthcoming events. I plan to produce a weekly communication with key messages and dates, and I am always grateful for any feedback you might have.

With very best wishes,

Lee Walker  
Headteacher

**Upcoming Key Dates:**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Y12 Essential Information Evening  
Y7 Essential Information Evening  
Y13 Futures Briefing  
Parent Forum  
Open Evening  
INSET DAY