



# CANSFIELD

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

28 April 2021

Dear Class of 2021 and parents and carers,

I hope you are well and have had a restful Easter break. I want to congratulate our Year 11s for their continued incredible resilience and their positive attitude since they have returned to school. It has been nothing short of a delight to see their hard work and dedication as they complete the evidence that will contribute to their Centre Assessed Grades. I wanted to write with an update about the plans for the Prom and for the last day at school.

As our wonderful class of 2021 close the final leg of their senior year, our Senior Student Committee has been tasked with coming up with a way to celebrate the end of their 5-year journey. With the current restrictions we still have in place and the uncertainty of the past year, organising a Prom at a big venue was unfortunately a non-starter. Plans for Prom for the class of 2021 would have needed to have been started back in September, this would have included booking the venue, taking deposits, ordering dresses and suits etc. With restrictions around large gatherings only expected to be lifted sometime after 21<sup>st</sup> June, it is virtually impossible to arrange such a big event after this date in a very short time scale. Likewise, I have spoken with many parents who, during this time of economic uncertainty, simply do not have the funds for an externally hosted Prom.

After several meetings between the Senior Students and the SLT, plus a chance for the whole year group to have a say via a short survey, the majority decision was to host a celebration evening here in the School Gym, which we are proposing is held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. In addition to adhering to Government regulations, if we do need to move the date due to the Government extending the restrictions, this is far easier to do when the activity is on site. The cost of the evening will be covered in full by the school, which we hope will mean that cost is not a block to any student attending.

### **When is the last day that Year 11 students will attend school?**

Our Year 11 students have made fantastic progress in completing their evidence for Centre Assessed Grades. In light of their hard work, we are now on track to have all evidence complete by the end of this half term. We have therefore made the decision, in line with other schools in Wigan, to pull forward the last day that students will attend school to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May. Students will continue to work on completion of core and supplementary work in their subjects until Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May as normal. On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May they should arrive for 10am and they will leave at 1.30pm. During the day they will have an opportunity to get their shirts signed, to have a leavers' assembly and to celebrate with a lunch and activities. They will depart the school at 1.30pm and we would ask that you arrange for their collection or your child makes their own way home. Between 7<sup>th</sup> June and 25<sup>th</sup> June online learning materials will be made available, including a week-long virtual learning experience activity (more on this to follow).

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### **What is the Dress Code for the celebration evening?**

Following significant debate, the event will be, at the request of the students, smart casual, meaning attendees can wear a dress or smart trousers (specifically not jeans) and a shirt. That being said, students who wish to, can wear a Prom style dress or a suit/black tie. This will mean that any who have purchased a Prom dress can wear it. However, no family should need to go out and buy an outfit that can only be worn at this event. If anyone needs any financial support to cover the cost of suitable clothing, please email me and we will do our best to support with suitable funds.

### **How much will the event cost?**

The entire event will be funded by the school. However, we are asking that all students attending pay a £20 deposit. This will then be collected and become a prize for a prize draw, with the money being split and the names of all attending being drawn from a hat to win a portion of this fund. We hope that this will ensure that all students who say they will attend, actually do. We are asking that all payments, with permission slips, are submitted no later than Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Payments for the evening should be made online via your child's Scopay account. Alternatively, they can be put in an envelope with your child's name and form on. This envelope should be placed in the Finance Box which is located next to Student Services. Payments may be made in cash or by cheque; cheques should be made payable to Cansfield High School. If this is too much of a stretch at the moment, please do not hesitate to contact the school and we will ensure that cost is not a block to any student attending.

### **How should students arrive at the event?**

One of the key issues that parents have raised is around the costs of transport. The entrance to the event will be via Old Road, meaning that limos etc will **not** be able to access the site, while the fact that the Leisure Centre is in operation will mean that vehicles will **not** be able to wait. Therefore, all students should arrive via normal transport or walk.

### **How many students will need to sign up to make the evening viable?**

In order to make the evening viable, we need a minimum of 80 students to have signed up for the event by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Unfortunately, if we fail to obtain this number then the evening will not be able to go ahead and we will need to look at other means of marking the end of the year (this is by no means a catastrophe as we do have alternative possible plans).

### **Is there a cap on student numbers?**

Based on feedback from the Year group we are anticipating around 80 students wanting to attend. In the event that significantly more students signed up we would complete a risk assessment on the size of the room and the maximum number we feel we could have in based on fire safety restrictions etc. We would then prioritise all those students who stated

in the survey that they wanted to attend and then randomly select other students who had applied by the deadline to ensure that we reach the capacity number.

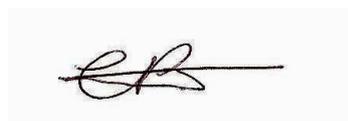
**Will there be a meeting at the Flower Park prior to the event?**

The annual meeting at the Flower Park prior to the Prom is not organised by the school. Of course, if you want to meet in the Flower Park prior to arriving at the event then you are very welcome to do so but this will be at your own arrangement.

**How will the evening run?**

Our first job is to see if we have enough students opting to attend the evening event for it to go ahead. Once confirmed we will work closely with all those who are attending to ensure that we can put together a night to remember. As a minimum, the event will involve speeches and food in the Gym, followed by a DJ and a disco. In addition to the students who attend, we envisage that many teachers and school staff will also be there to help celebrate the evening and say their final goodbyes. Once final numbers have been confirmed and we have agreed the plans for the evening a full and detailed itinerary will be shared.

If you would like to discuss these plans or have any questions please feel free to email me ([g.baker@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:g.baker@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk)) or Dave Forshaw ([d.forshaw@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:d.forshaw@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk)) who will be overseeing the plans for the Prom.



Dr Geoff Baker  
Headteacher



Mr D Forshaw  
Senior Assistant Headteacher



Senior Student Committee 2020-21

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Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Form \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my child to attend the Year 11 Celebration Evening in the School Gym on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021. I enclose a £20 deposit to secure my child's place, which I understand will be entered into the prize pot for the prize draw that evening.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian      Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_