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Richard Brand: Headteacher

19th July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and Year 11 Leavers

Important information regarding Prom

It is with great regret that I must inform you we have taken the impossibly difficult decision to cancel this year's Prom. At all points this year we have had to manage risk and be reactive to the situation around us and unfortunately, despite the easing of restrictions, cases locally have soared. We were desperately hoping we might be able make it work but as cases have risen rapidly, we cannot balance the risks of the event against the benefits.

We had hoped to hold a small Prom on site here at school to mark the end of your time at The Dean Academy, but I cannot in good faith move forward with that plan knowing that it may put the health of our community at risk. At time of writing this letter positive Covid-19 cases in Lydney are the highest they have ever been and are doubling every 4-5 days. Many of our staff are not yet double vaccinated and we have seen first-hand the speed at which the infection spread after cases spiralled following the Euro football fixtures shown locally.

If we are able to postpone to later in the Autumn term, we will look to do so but I am aware that we have already postponed the event once and that it is some time now since you left and many of you will be moving on to new exciting challenges.

I know that many of you will be disappointed by this news, and I understand your frustration. I hope you will find a way to celebrate amongst yourselves in a small, low risk way.

Yours sincerely

Richard Brand
Headteacher

RIB/TW - Year 11 Prom cancelled-190721



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