



14 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Sixth Form Summer Ball – Wednesday 21 July postponed

I am writing with the disappointing news that, after careful consideration, the Academy has made the difficult decision to, once again, postpone the Sixth Form Summer Ball at The Ocean Beach Hotel.

Although the Prime Minister has announced the removal of legal requirements around social distancing from 19th July, he has urged caution. The 10 day Track & Trace self-isolation period from being in close contact with a positive Covid-19 case will still apply.

We have discussed the Track and Trace requirements with the venue, and they have confirmed that each student and member of staff that attends the event will need to check in using the NHS track and trace app. This means that if the hotel has one guest that tests positive for Covid-19, then anyone who has checked in on that day will be required to self-isolate for 10 days, even if they have been in a private function and have not been anywhere near the person who tests positive.

With the rising number of Covid -19 cases in the local area and well over 70 settings/schools with confirmed cases since half term, we have come to the conclusion that we can't put you, your children or the Academy staff, at risk of contracting the virus or having to self-isolate for 10 days at the start of the summer holidays. Therefore, we have made the difficult decision to postpone the Sixth Form Summer Ball again.

We would still like to hold the event, therefore, we have provisionally booked **Friday 10th September**, when requirements over self-isolating, after close contact with a positive case, will have been relaxed.

I know that this second change of date will be another disappointment to Year 12 & 13 students after such a difficult year, but I hope you understand that we are taking this decision in order to reduce the risk of infection or unnecessary self-isolation to all involved.

If you are now unable to attend this revised date for the Summer Ball, please email finance@thebourneacademy.com and the Finance Department will be in contact about arranging a refund of monies paid.

Your sincerely

Mr D Taafe
Head of Sixth Form

Principal: Mr Mark Avoth

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