



Eskdale School

13th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 11 Prom

I am very sorry to have to write to you with the news that we have had to cancel plans to hold the Year 11 Prom next week (Wednesday 21st July). This is not a decision that has been taken lightly and I am very aware of how disappointing this news will be to many. However we are facing a situation in which there are rising Covid cases in both the local community and the school, leading to significant numbers of students having to self-isolate as well as new positive cases being reported on a daily basis. We also have staff members who have tested positive.

The advice from our local Public Health team is that there are significant risks to holding the Year 11 Prom next week, in particular the high likelihood that it will spread Covid further as well as leading to numbers of students and staff having to self-isolate into the start of August when we know that quite a few families have holiday plans. We are also aware that some of our Year 11 students have Covid at the moment, or are having to self-isolate, and so would not be able to attend the prom if it were to run. I am aware that restrictions are being lifted across England next Monday, but we have to respond to our local situation.

We will look to make arrangements for September as we would still like the Prom to go ahead, and are aware that some families will have already spent money on outfits, etc. Unfortunately many other schools have had to make the same decision because of Covid, and I can confirm that I made this decision in consultation with Mr Norden, Head of Caedmon College, who has also had to cancel his school's Prom.

We will get back to you at the start of next term with any plans for a new Prom date. We will need to see what the local Covid situation is like at the end of the holidays before we make any concrete plans. If there is any issue with this, we will get back to you about refunding the costs.

Sorry again for the disappointment which I know this letter will bring, and for the short notice that it gives, but I hope you understand the reasons for this difficult decision.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Fyfe
Headteacher

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