

26 September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Y11 Prom - Friday 26 June 2026

Congratulations to our Year 11 students on making such an excellent start to the year; we are excited to see them flourish as they meet the challenges of the academic year ahead. Year 11 always goes by so quickly, which means we are already planning Prom 2026, when we look forward to celebrating their successes with them. Prom is always a fantastic evening and this year, we are excited to announce we will be hosting the event off site and that we have secured the incredible Amex stadium as our Prom venue for Friday 26 June 2026.

This event includes:

- Red carpet arrival
- Non alcoholic drink on arrival
- Time on the terraces for photo opportunities after arrival
- Pizza buffet dinner
- DJ and lighting
- Parking and security staff
- Decor/entertainment (to be decided by the Prom committee)

You may be aware that since the pandemic, our Prom has been held on site at The Weald School. It has been our long term aim to move this to an off site venue as, unfortunately, we simply do not have the resources to sustainably set up and host this event on site in the longer term.

The Amex Stadium is approximately 35 minutes from The Weald School and whilst it was up to 10 minutes further away than some of the other hotel style venues we considered, we felt that this prestigious venue warranted the small additional distance. It is very much our hope that students will share lifts where possible. It is also worth noting that on a separate side of the venue, our Year 13 students will be hosting their Grad Dinner and, whilst students can't mix between these events, this may afford further possibilities to share transportation. If transport is a barrier to your child's attendance, please let me know.

Year 11 students have received this announcement in their assembly today and have been invited to join a Prom committee. Whilst we have booked some aspects of the event (above), the Prom committee will be involved in deciding on a theme, entertainment and decorations.

Students traditionally opt for a formal, evening wear dress code. Whilst there may be some suggested variations on a theme (decided by the Prom committee), we fundamentally want students to feel comfortable and so all are welcome to dress accordingly.

Arrival and collection

Although further details will follow, closer to the evening, the stadium's parking team will guide cars down to our red carpet entrance in groups of around 10 cars at a time. It is not possible for pedestrians to gather at the entrance and whilst there may be a quick photo opportunity on arrival, please ensure that the majority of photos in groups or with parents, carers and cars are done before arrival at the stadium. Please understand that this is in order to allow a smooth arrival for our large Year 11 group to get them checked in and out onto the terraces for their photo opportunities there.

Tickets and payment

Only students who attend The Weald and are in Year 11 are invited to attend. Tickets for the Prom can be purchased through ParentPay and will be available immediately. The cost of the ticket will be £65. If students would like to purchase drinks there will be the option to do this from the bar (which will not be serving any alcoholic drinks to anyone). Iced water will be provided throughout.

ParentPay has been set up to accommodate this, with the minimum payment being £15. **We would be grateful if parents and carers could pay at least this minimum amount by the end of the autumn term, so this gives an idea of final numbers and budget for party decor etc.** Neither I, nor the Prom committee, want anybody to miss out because of cost. We anticipate that the full price of the Prom ticket may be more manageable as several smaller payments. Further payments can then be made as and when convenient to you with the balance fully payable by Friday 24 April 2026. You can, of course, pay in full (£65) at any point before the deadline. Parents/carers should pay for the event using ParentPay, at www.parentpay.com using their unique login and password. Please note that payment for the Prom through ParentPay acts as parental permission and therefore no reply slip is necessary. If you would prefer to pay by cash, you may do so at your local Paypoint retailer using a barcoded letter. Please request this letter from the finance department (tel: 01403 787223 or email trips@theweald.org.uk).

If you are unable to meet the cost of a ticket at this time, please do get in touch so that we can discuss options available to you. If there are exceptional cases of hardship the school will try to support costs through its own budget and will look at cases on an individual basis. Please contact me, in confidence, to discuss this further.

Please note payments are non-refundable as the school makes a financial commitment to the venue. Should you secure a place for your child and subsequently decide to cancel we will not be able to offer you a refund. However, if your child is unable to attend due to ill health, a medical certificate to cover the date involved from GP/hospital will be required, in order that a claim can be made through the school insurance. Without this evidence we will be unable to make any refund.

Terms & conditions and signing out

Participation in the Prom has always been subject to a good attitude to learning, attendance and respectful behaviour towards others. Students who commit a serious breach of our standards or who fail to meet expectations routinely may not be allowed to attend the Prom. Throughout Year

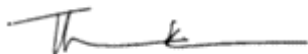
11, students may have their invitation to the Prom under review. Should this take place parents and carers will be notified with an explanation as to why a student's Prom place is being considered and what targets they must meet if they are to participate in this celebration. The final decision about their participation will be taken in May. However, it should be noted that we reserve the right to rescind a place on the Prom up to and including Friday 26 June. This decision would only be taken in exceptional circumstances, normally for a one off serious event involving a student.

Signing out will take place shortly before the Prom (details to follow). This is compulsory and students must complete this process in order to attend the Prom and receive their ticket.

Security, bag searches and no alcohol

Security will be on site at the entrances and remain on site for the duration of the Prom. We will search bags and pockets for prohibited items. No water bottles are permitted (unless empty) and there will be refreshments available. If a teacher believes a student is under the influence of alcohol or drugs they will not be permitted entrance. This is non-negotiable. This has never been an issue in the past but we always mention it just in case. Normal school rules apply regarding behaviour etc. throughout the event. Every year students and staff enjoy the Year 11 Prom, celebrating as a community, together, because the students are well behaved and have a good time.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T Brixey', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr T Brixey
Head of Year 11