

Principal
Miss. D. Givens
B.A.(Hons) Q.T.S



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Tel: 0121 779 8050

Dear Parents & Carers,

2nd November 2020

Following the half term break, and the Government announcement on Saturday that the country will be going into a second lockdown, I wanted to write to assure you that, as per Government guidance on schools remaining open, Smith's Wood Primary Academy will be remaining open for all pupils in all year groups. As you are aware, we had a very successful first half term here at Smith's Wood Primary, with no bubble needing to be closed, which meant that all our pupils had 8 weeks of high quality teaching. Pupils were able to return to school successfully, which meant that they benefitted both academically and also socially, as they were able to see teachers and their friends again. As I celebrated in the letter on the 23rd October, the first half term was a huge success.

Our aim is to provide your child with the same high quality provision that was offered during the first half term, and whilst we acknowledge that the National situation is changing, we will endeavor to continue with the successful measures, which were in place for the first half of the Autumn term, so that your child can continue to receive the education that they deserve. We will continue to monitor and implement any changes required, and will follow any further Government guidance which is issued.

To ensure that our school site remains as safe as possible for all, and in continuous response to the surging cases, we would ask that parents read the bullet points below.

- If your child, or any member of the household is displaying any symptoms, please do not come to school. Ring the school office to inform us and then keep up updated on any test results. I would also remind you that if anyone you know, who you have been in contact with, is waiting for a test result, then you should not enter the school site.
- Attendance at school continues to be mandatory; please ensure that you bring your child to school each day, as you did during the first half of the Autumn term.
- As per guidance from Solihull LA and to ensure that the areas surrounding the school remain as safe as possible, we would remind parents that it would be prudent to wear masks for drop off and pick up, especially where social distancing of 2m cannot always be maintained. This is particularly relevant at the front of the school, especially when waiting for drop off and pick up times and also when entering the school site, onto the Key Stage 1 playground, at the end of the day, where parents are crossing over in the one-way system.
- Staggered drop off and pick up times will continue. Please make sure that once you have dropped your child off, or picked them up, that you leave the site and the surrounding areas promptly. Please do not gather at the front of the school prior to, or after, the drop off of your child. Whilst waiting in any designated areas for drop off and pick up, please ensure that you maintain social distancing from other members of the community.
- Please ensure that your child has everything they need for the day- this includes PE kit, snack, reading diaries etc, as we need to minimise parents entering the main school reception. If you do need to enter the main reception, then please remember that only one person may be in there at a time, therefore we would ask that you wait patiently outside if someone is already being seen to.
- In cases where a child is needing to self-isolate for 14 days, or a year group bubble needs to be closed, then the school will issue guidance on accessing remote learning for those identified pupils.

Staff will work hard in the 2nd half of the Autumn term to ensure that your children are kept safe and that they make accelerated progress in their learning. Please work with us to continue to make the site as safe as possible, by following all of the points above.

We look forward to working with you over the next half term, to ensure it was as positive as the first half term. If you have any questions, relating to your child, please continue to email the school office, or call and a member of staff will get back to you as soon as possible. This will normally be within the day.

Yours sincerely,

D.M. Givens

Miss D Givens
Principal

CHALLENGE, SUPPORT, PROGRESS

Email: office@smithswoodpri.solihull.sch.uk www.smithswoodpri.solihull.sch.uk
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