



The William Henry Smith School

23 November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I do hope you and your families are well.

I'm delighted to attach an email sent by our Parent Governor, Matt Crowther, who has generously shared with us his family's experience during Covid. I'm sure that many families, as I do, will relate to the battles, and pressures during these very different and difficult times.

We are busy preparing for our Christmas festivities, despite restrictions placed upon us. We are in the midst of organising several exciting events (all within the parameters associated with Covid) which will include a Christmas dinner within our bubbles, followed by Christmas films and popcorn; a Christmas market; Santa's Grotto; Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas bubble parties.

Our Student Voice members have been very busy and a few weeks ago we were delighted to hear a presentation from three of the reps, who have come up with various ways to improve our Learning Token system. The youngsters spoke articulately, and requested a number of changes to which the leadership team have now agreed to. It was such a heart-warming presentation, where the focus was about using technology to improve recording, and making the system accessible for everyone.

I am very pleased with the manner in which our students are managing the changes in school and we are trying to keep these to an absolute minimum. I know that there is an understanding that we are not in control if staff or students need to isolate, and we are working very hard to keep bubbles together. As we know, there is a lot of information out there so I'm hoping that the checklist below may be of help. However, if families are at all unsure, please do not send your child into school if he or others in your household are experiencing symptoms, and seek the support of our School Nurse, Sara Hill. We have this week increased Sara's hours to help and support our community, and if families need any advice please don't hesitate to ring in.

- If your child is symptomatic they should have a test and isolate until you receive their results
- If Negative – they can come back to school
- If Positive – they must stay off school and isolate, the rest of your household should also isolate for 14 days
- If you or someone else in you live with is symptomatic and is having a test – you and the rest of your household must isolate until they get the results. This means that your child cannot come into school

The William Henry Smith School, Boothroyd Lane, Brighouse, West Yorkshire HD6 3JW
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Registered Charity: 529132



- If Negative – you can all go back to work and school
- If Positive – the whole of your household must isolate and obtain an isolation note off the Government website
- There is no need for the rest of the household to have a test unless they develop symptoms
- If anyone else in your household develop symptoms – they must take a test and isolate for the until they get the results and follow the procedure as above for Negative and Positive tests.

The WHSS EBacc is a new initiative designed to recognise the very broad experiences our children have during their time with us. As well as academic qualifications and awards, the school is keen to recognise achievements, experiences, and life-based skills. We know that our children have an array of skills, needs and talents, and it is our aim that every student will achieve the EBacc by the time they leave us. We hope that by awarding the WHSS EBacc, that as well as being equipped for the next stage of their learning journey and possessing the qualities to access further education, and the life skills relevant to today's world, our students will have another quality entry for their CV's.

I know that by now families will have received information on the Health and Well-being sessions starting this Friday (27th) following feedback from quality of life questionnaires; please do contact the school if you haven't already, to join them.

And finally, please find enclosed the Principal/Chairs annual report 19/20, and the new term dates for 21/22.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Sue

Sue Ackroyd
Principal

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