



Dear parents and carers

17<sup>th</sup> December 2020

## RE: Weekly Update

I hope that you are well and that your child/ young person has enjoyed the festive cheer this week. It has been so lovely to see Christmas trees and classrooms decorated by class groups, the excitement and buzz of the class group parties, and classrooms full and bursting with happy smiley faces! Your children and young people have always had a way of lifting my spirits and I am so proud of how they have all coped with this year.

## Covid-19 impact this week

I usually like to give you an end of week perspective, however due to the end of term, I am sending this update a day earlier so that you have an opportunity to ask any questions/ queries regarding the information we are sending to you before we break for Christmas.

To give clarity of the Covid-19 situation at school; of the 50 bubbles across the academy, this week there have been:

- 0 class bubbles needing to isolate due to positive cases.
- 1 transport bubble isolated and returned after negative test result.
- 0 class groups closed due to teacher absence.
- 3 class bubbles and 2 transport bubbles remain isolated, awaiting test results.

## Arrangements for notifying school of positive Covid-19 test results in the holidays

Between the 19/12/20 - 24/12/20, there will be a rota of school staff who have volunteered to continue to support Covid-19 Track and Trace. Please use the email below to let us know if your child/ young person is confirmed positive following a Covid-19 test:

[TrackandTrace@severndaleacademy.co.uk](mailto:TrackandTrace@severndaleacademy.co.uk) - This email will be checked between 10am – 12pm

After the 24/12/20, please follow the communications and advice from the Department for Education, Shropshire Public Health or Learning and Skills, who should be following up on communications of positive test results.

## Holiday support pack

The Christmas holiday can be a source of much enjoyment for families, but we recognise that it can also be a time of heightened pressure, worry and anxiety for many. This year, has been extremely challenging for most people, but for our community, there are pressures and concerns associated with caring and supporting the additional needs of our children and young people which are over and above the norm of what is already a



challenging time. For this reason, we have pulled together information into the attached pack that you may find supportive and helpful should your circumstances change.

## **Post-Ofsted Evaluation**

Please also find attached, the updates to the Post-Ofsted action plan that I had shared with you earlier this term. Impact statements have been sourced from the safeguarding audit by Telford and Wrekin safeguarding team, staff quizzes, tests and comments, pupil surveys, parent carer feedback, Trustee discussions and quiz results, and safeguarding and attendance data/ records.

## **Looking forward to a brighter 2021!**

2020 has been a very different year to any other in our lifetime. Lots has been learnt both in our personal and professional lives which we can build and develop on, so that 2021 brings improvement to the 'new normal'. In January we will gain more information on the lateral flow Covid-19 testing arrangements and vaccinations, but most of all we look forward to sharing updates on your child/ young person's development and progress, curriculum, teaching and learning, trips and visits and celebrations of achievement.

I have received positive feedback on these new weekly updates, and so I plan to continue these, along with the development of class based weekly updates to keep you in the loop on what's happening in your child's class; what they are working on and what they can prepare for in the following week. I am excited by the new relationship developing with the parent carer council as it helps us to stay informed and provides a strong parent carer perspective.

On that note, I would like to give my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to you for supporting us throughout this year, and particularly this term. We know how challenging things have been for you, and so we recognise the efforts that you have gone to that has helped us to keep focused, stay open, and stay safe. Thank you.

On behalf of the staff and Trustees of the academy, we hope that you have a rested and enjoyable Christmas!

Best wishes

**Sabrina Hobbs**

**Principal**