



RE: Weekly update 18/6/21

Dear parent carers

I hope that this update finds you well.

This week I have some wonderful news to share! On Saturday afternoon I received news of Scott, one of our talented students at Futures, who completed a successful trial shift at Table Table, in Oswestry; landing his first paid job! We are so incredibly proud of him for how he went about finding this opportunity, applying, and preparing so thoroughly for interview as part of his courses at our Futures Vocational Centre.

During his interview he was asked why he wanted the job Scott said, "I want a purpose in life to enable me to gain my independence". Following his interview Scott said "I am very proud of what I have achieved and very honoured to have a job that I will enjoy. I am going to represent our great Academy by showing employers around the country that people who have additional needs can still be employed with the correct support. I hope that I have encouraged other students within the Academy to work towards getting a job and gaining more independence for their future.

What Scott has shown us all is that with perseverance, determination, and a positive mind-set, getting a paid job is achievable! Well done Scott!

The situation this week

- Thankfully there have been zero positive test results reported from either PCR or Lateral Flow tests this week and therefore there has been no impact to class bubbles.
- Attendance rates in school has remained high this week, ranging from 89%-92%. However in the small number of absences, there has been a relatively high number of pupils who are poorly with tummy/ sickness bugs. We will remind our teams to remain vigilant about hand washing/ sanitising as a measure to continue to keep Covid safe, but also to avoid the spread of any other bug that may affect the health/ wellbeing of our community. We are also grateful for your support with this at home.
- We sent out a gentle text reminder earlier in the week regarding sun safety. We have recently enjoyed some beautiful, sunny days, however safeguarding data has identified an increase to sunburned children and young people following last weekend. Please don't forget to stock up on sun creams and cover to protect your child when needed. Please let us know if you need support with this.

Covid-secure activities week – <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-coronavirus-covid-19-operational-guidance#educational-visits>

As you are aware the government has chosen to continue the current Covid restrictions until 19.07.21. Activities week can still go ahead. However, we are unable to mix class bubbles as we were hoping. This does not mean that trips and activities cannot happen! Instead, we will be creative and work out ways to ensure separate transport is in place for class groups, that we build in cleaning breaks for the resources of activities that will be happening in school, and build in other measures within our risk assessments.

We are prioritising activities week as we place huge importance on fun, motivation, and excitement to create positive experiences on which learning can embed and grow. We all know that we remember the fun times the best! Additionally, following such long periods of restrictions, many of us will have had our confidence knocked about getting out and about. We hope that you will feel assured that your child/



young person will have the opportunity to engage in exciting activities and build resilience in trying/reengaging in new things.

For more information about activities week, please let your class teacher/ department know.

Parents evening – School Cloud trail

In the spirit of doing everything different this year, we will be inviting you to join us for our first virtual parents evening on 6th July 2021. You will be able to book your own 10 minute slots and meet with key staff from wherever is most comfortable for you... no waiting around in hot hall spaces! Look out for more information on how to register to take part. We appreciate your support in making this a successful first attempt using this approach, but please don't worry, we will help to prepare everyone soon! Following this we will seek feedback to inform future parent carer meetings.

2021/22 Class groupings

We are currently pulling together class groupings for next year with department leads and co-ordinators, which will then go out for whole staff consultation to make sure we have considered all aspects of education, health and care for every child and young person to make sure they get the very best outcomes from our provisions. We hope to have these ready to share with you at parents evening.

Summer holiday support – Holiday Fun and Food (HAF) in Shropshire

Please find attached a leaflet to inform you of this new service in Shropshire for children and young people 5-16 who are eligible for Free School Meals.

As we approach the summer holidays, we would like to make sure that you and your family are safe and secure; enabling you and your child/ young person to have an enjoyable summer break. Please contact your class teacher/ department lead/ co-ordinator, or our co-lead Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs), lorna.matley@severndaleacademy.co.uk and michelle.hill@severndaleacademy.co.uk if you have any concerns or worries about any aspect of life and we will do our best to help prepare you and get support in place.

Thank you for your on-going support and please let us know if you have any queries or suggestions.

Enjoy the weekend!

Sabrina Hobbs
Principal