



“Believing is Achieving”

Monday 28th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you at the start of our third week back both to thank you for the overwhelming support for our full return to on site education and to update you on on-going issues and adjustments.

There is a great deal to celebrate about our pupils returning to Shepwell. In particular the way that they have been able to re-focus on their learning and how well they have adjusted to the new measures in place around school. Shepwell staff have been delighted to see how well our pupils have settled back to work with a strong determination to do well. During walks around school it has been wonderful to see smiling faces and hear the familiar sounds of focused learning.

Pupils have adapted exceptionally well to the new track and trace seating plans used for lessons. This is to ensure that if we need to, we can implement track and trace very quickly. In addition, pupils have been extremely compliant and thoughtful about using hand sanitiser and wearing their masks in the appropriate areas whilst remaining in their bubbles. I would like to thank you for your support in making sure all our pupils attend school with their masks. I am aware that false information has been circulating on social media around an outbreak of Covid-19 in Walsall schools. If I am made aware of any Covid-19 cases I will work closely with Walsall Public Health, Public Health England and the Department for Education. Parents and carers will be made aware if we are advised that any pupils should isolate or if any other action needs to be taken. This is still very challenging time for all of us, I ask parents and carers to ensure that they take information from our social media pages, text messages, website, or letters home and to avoid speculative sources of school information.

Obviously, it is really important that our pupils benefit from being able to learn from their teachers in person, which requires them to be in school. We understand that families may have concerns, but it is really important that unless your child is genuinely ill or isolating due to Covid-19 symptoms in the household or direction from track and trace, that your child attends school regularly. In addition, if you are in a position where your child has to be off school for a Covid-19 related reason, please ensure that you can provide evidence to cover this absence. It is normal for children to get winter illnesses, but unless symptoms of Covid-19 appear pupils should to come into school if they feel well enough. We want every child to aim for at least 96% attendance.

We are updating the website regularly as we review daily and adjust our practice in the light of experience and after following advice from the relevant agencies. Whilst we are delighted with how well things have gone, equally we continue to work to improve and adjust where needed.



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Pupils should wear masks on public transport and maintain social distancing on the way to and from school in line with Government guidelines. We would appreciate your support in reinforcing this message at home.

We would like to thank parents and carers for being conscious of our neighbours and other road users on Bilston Lane when picking up and dropping off pupils by car.

Please continue to let me know if you have any concerns. Thank you for your support which has clearly prepared the pupils well for their return, this is not unnoticed and is very much appreciated.

Kind regards

Stephen Pritchard-Jones

Mr S. Pritchard-Jones
Headteacher