



St. Edward's Church of England Academy

Westwood Road, Leek, ST13 8DN

Telephone: 01538 714740

Principal: Mr. T. Hutchinson

<http://stedwards.academy>

28th May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Updates for this week:



Dear Parents and Carers,

The summer term is flying by and we are now only six weeks till the end of the Academic Year. Thank you for all the help and support you have provided to the Academy and our pupils, your children this half term.

We have all been working very hard to ensure that the Academy continues to develop and go from strength to strength even with many of the COVID restrictions being in place. I am hoping that I will receive more information regarding the relaxation of these measures and what this will mean for how the school will run in September. As soon as I have this information I will write to you with further updates.

In the mean time I hope you all have a wonderful half term and enjoy the freedoms which we have all longed to regain.

Many thanks

Mr. Hutchinson
Principal

COVID-19 – Half Term Contact Arrangements:

If your child has a positive Covid test before Monday 31st May, please could you message us via the contact form (this is monitored) on the academy website as staff will not be picking up any messages/telephone calls when the academy closes on Friday 28th May until Monday 7th June.

We need to know because if a child starts to develop symptoms from Friday 28th May onwards and then has a positive PCR test, although term will have ended for the children, we will still be required to inform everyone that the child has been in contact with during the previous 48 hours that they will need to self-isolate for 10 days.

Contact form link: [St Edwards Academy](#)

Rights Respecting School: We Have Been Award SILVER!

On Friday 21st May, we took part in a virtual accreditation as part of our work with UNICEF on our journey to becoming a 'Rights Respecting School'. We are delighted to announce that we have now achieved 'Silver' status.

'Rights Respecting Champions' from Y6,7 and 8 answered questions about their role in school and their experiences: how their rights are upheld, how they are protected and about their learning on children's rights around the world. Their answers were thoughtful, respectful and articulate – a credit to themselves! The assessor's full report can be found on our website but these are the highlights:

"Pupils had a good awareness of rights and were able to share a wide range of articles that they knew they were entitled to. They understood that rights were from birth, were unconditional and for every child around the world. They were able to link global issues such as poverty, natural disasters, climate change and wars as reasons why some children may not be able to experience their rights. One pupil said, "It's not fair that some children go without...we need to have every school teaching about rights so everyone knows them and can stand up for them."

"Pupils are learning about rights through assemblies, class conversations and topic work, particularly through key curriculum areas such as RE, PSHE and English. It was clear that the school are committed to ensuring every child has a happy, safe, nurturing school experience. The Headteacher, staff and parent governor spoken with understood the role that RSA had played in whole school improvement. The Headteacher said, "It links in with everything we do...our ethical framework and our values of respect. Relationships are strong...we work to find a way to support every child...it's palpable, that fuzzy feeling you can't quite measure...but you know it's there. It's showing care and compassion."

"Relationships across the school are strong. The school places the inclusion of all pupils high on their agenda, as evidenced with their recent successful Stonewall award for their diversity and inclusive curriculum while actively encouraging pupils to challenge stereotypes and negative behaviors."

"Pupils social and emotional wellbeing is a priority, and something the school have particularly focused on during the pandemic. Pupils recently engaged in Mental Health Awareness week, Anti-Bullying week and Online Safety week and have been learning about healthy lifestyles and healthy choices. Pupils are active participants in their own learning and supported to track their progress."

M-Y-Voice - What is M-Y-Voice?

M-Y-Voice is a youth led steering group made up young people from all over the Staffordshire Moorlands which will allow you to build relationships with decision makers, inspire other young people to take action and have a say in their community as well as their future.

You can get involved in one of our local Youth Committee Groups (YCGs) to have a say on what is important to young people. You will have the incredible opportunity to travel all over the UK, meet new people, and develop a whole range of skills which will look great on your CV including; communication skills, teamwork, organising events and leadership. You will also have the opportunity to grow your network and lead on campaigns that could make a difference to young people across the Staffordshire Moorlands.

If you are interested in having a say and feel that you can help your community and other young people, please complete the application form attached and email it to myvoice@sportingcommunitiescic.org by 31st May 2021.



We will then shortlist applicants and inform you as to whether your application has been successful by 14th June 2021.

[St Edward's Church of England Academy MY Voice Application Form](#)

Lunch Money Payments

Please check your ParentPay balance and ensure any lunch debts are paid off. Year 8 pupils will not be allowed to go into debt after half term therefore please ensure your child has sufficient funds for that day or they have a packed lunch with them.

Pupil Absence

If your child will be absent due to illness, medical appointment, or for any other reason please select **option 1** for the pupil absence line to leave a voicemail message at any time.

Appointments and Collection of Pupils

If your child has an appointment during the school day, please put a note in their planner to show the teacher and the teacher will allow them to leave during the lesson. The pupils can then ensure they are at the office on time for collection.

When you arrive at school to collect your child, please ring the bell at the main entrance to inform office staff that you have arrived then your child will be sent out to meet you. Pupils need to be collected by an adult; for safeguarding, pupils are unable to leave alone during the school day.

Year 7 and 8 Pupils: Reporting Lateral Flow Test Results:

Please can parents/carers remember to send in your home testing results to the link below and not the Academy contact form unless you have a positive result. This form below has been set up specifically to collate this information:

[Year 7 and 8 Lateral Flow Home Testing Result Form](#)

Home Testing Information Year 7 & Year 8

A detailed letter with further guidance on this has been sent out to Year 7 and 8 parents/carers. Information on this has also been posted on the Academy website. A Video and links with further information can be found below.

[How to do a Covid self-test video](#)

[Informing the Academy of your result](#)

[Informing the NHS of your result](#)

[Testing at Home Y7 & Y8 Letter](#)

[Privacy Notice for Staff/Pupils Testing at Home](#)

New guidance from the Government informs us that from now on, if a positive result is recorded for a lateral flow test. Then a confirmatory PCR test must be arranged either using the online facility or by calling 119. If the PCR test result returns negative the pupil/s will be able to return to the Academy. We politely request that you make us aware of all of these results and we will continue support you and your children during this process.

Mobile Phones:

We are happy for pupils to have their mobile phones with them as they are a piece of equipment that keeps them safe on the journey to and from school. However, we do not allow phones to be used in school and will be reminding pupils about this. If phones are seen in school, they may be confiscated and held in the Academy office until they can be collected by a parent/carer. Evidently, we wish to avoid this situation to reduce the risk of transmission through unnecessary visits to the Academy office.

To avoid this please can parents/carers reinforce that mobile phones are not to be seen or used in school.

Spare PE kit donations

Please can I request if any parents/carers have any spare Academy PE kit or serviceable trainers at home that pupils have grown out of and you would like to donate could pupils bring it to their PE lessons, where we will quarantine them. We will give house points for donated items and redistributed them to pupils who need it or keep it in school as spare kit.

PE kit

Pupils will need to come in their PE kit on the following days:

Year 5	5Ed / 5EI / 5Is	Monday and Friday	5Ne/5FI/5Ni	Tuesday and Friday
Year 6	6Ed/6EI/6Is	Wednesday and Thursday	6Ne/6FI/6Ni	Monday and Friday
Year 7	7Ed/7EI/7Is	Monday and Friday	7Ne/7FI/7Ni	Thursday and Friday
Year 8	8Ed/8EI/8Is	Wednesday and Thursday	8Ne/8/FI/8Ni	Tuesday and Friday

Pupils with medical needs and/or diabetes who are returning

If your child has medical needs and requires medication (e.g. inhaler and spacer, Epipen, diabetic kit), please ensure that your child brings their medication to school with them ready to hand in at the school office on their return.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's medical needs, please contact us via the contact form on the Academy website.

Before and after school club

Kids Space before and after school club will resume as per the arrangements prior to the Christmas break. If you require any further information regarding this, please call Lyn on 07534 839280.

Thank you for your support in helping us to keep everyone as safe as possible at school.

Yours sincerely,



Mr T Hutchinson
Principal