

Thursday 24th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware we are experiencing a significant number of student and teaching staff Covid-19 cases in the Academy at present. I have discussed the situation with Public Health (Solihull and England), the Department for Education and following a full analysis of our cases, they have asked us to take the following actions:

- The Academy will be closed to students in years 7, 8 and 11 from Monday 27th – Thursday 30th September (students will return on Monday 4th October – see below).
- The Academy will be open as normal all week to students in year 9 and 10.

**Please note the Academy will be closed to all students on Friday 1st October for a training day as per our published calendar.**

All lessons will take place using Teams and a full user guide is also attached to the email. We are very aware that some families will not have access to IT equipment at home and as such if any student in year 7, 8 or 11 requires a laptop and has home internet, please email the Academy on [sw-devicerequest@smithswood.fmat.co.uk](mailto:sw-devicerequest@smithswood.fmat.co.uk) with your request. We will then contact you when your laptop is ready for collection from the Academy (from 11am on Monday 27th September). Please note the laptop is a DfE built laptop with access to educational functions only.

For further information, please visit the remote learning section of our website by clicking on this link: [Blended and Remote Learning – Smith's Wood Academy \(smithswood.co.uk\)](https://www.smithswood.co.uk/Blended-and-Remote-Learning)

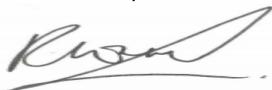
If a student requires a TEAMS password reset please email us at [sw-studentremotesupport@smithswood.fmat.co.uk](mailto:sw-studentremotesupport@smithswood.fmat.co.uk)

If any student in year 7, 8 or 11 is entitled to a Free School Meal and you wish us to provide a meal, please email us at [lunches@smithswood.fmat.co.uk](mailto:lunches@smithswood.fmat.co.uk) and we will be in touch.

If you are considered to be a critical worker of a child in year 7, 8 or 11 and you wish your son / daughter to attend the Academy, please email us at [office@smithswood.fmat.co.uk](mailto:office@smithswood.fmat.co.uk) and we will contact you with further details. In-line with DfE guidance we will be contacting any student who is 'Looked After', has an EHCP or who we consider to be vulnerable on Monday.

Thank you for your support during these challenging times.

Yours Faithfully



Mr R Cornell

**Acting Head of Academy**

