

Following the closure of school from Tuesday 5th January 2021, SEND practice at Smith's Wood Academy has been changed to align with government guidelines. The guidelines for schools provided by the government can be found below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

Smith's Wood Academy provides the following arrangements in-line with these guidelines:

- Students will access 'remote learning' from home
- All timetabled lessons will be delivered using Microsoft Teams. Students have had training, and can access ongoing support via email swastudentremotesupport@smithswood.fmat.co.uk
- All students with EHCPs working at home will receive at least weekly calls from key staff to provide support, and gather to what extent the child's needs can continue to be met at home.
- All students with EHCPs were offered a place in school to learn from January 5th, and this offer always remains open.
- When in school, those with EHCPs or SEND support have Teaching Assistants or other school staff available to support with their learning.
- Quality first teaching and appropriate differentiation is still the priority in meeting the needs of children with SEND.
- Assistive technology that can be used to support students with SEND with remote learning has been sent to children, and their families. For example, speech to text technology and colour-tinting the screen
- Students in school will have activities linked to their outcomes on their Education, Health and Care Plans.
- The usual process of reviewing progress will continue. For example, EHCP annual reviews or meetings will be held via Microsoft Teams/Telephone call/Planned Meetings with professionals and parents.

- Outside agencies continue to provide interventions within school or online via Microsoft Teams/Telephone calls, where necessary, following all guidance on social distancing and hygiene.

Support, advice and guidance for families of pupils with SEND will continue to be available, and may well be needed more at this time. The SENDCo can be contacted at p.bagry@smithswood.fmat.co.uk

External agencies will become involved if necessary following the usual graduated response process detailed above.

Key Workers for students with SEND

Each student with SEND continues to have an allocated Key Worker, these have not changed. These are points of contacts for students, parents and teachers and are vital in supporting each for the benefit of the child.

Key Workers will continue to be responsible for setting students targets and liaising with staff to support students throughout the remote learning period.

Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 Transition

We are aware that the transition period for our pupils with SEND has been greatly affected by the current situation.

Key Stage 4

- Each student in Year 11 with SEND will continue to have access to support and advice from the Careers Advisor in school
- Key Workers will continue to contact students/parents regularly and support with applications to post-16 provisions
- Each student with SEND has an individual plan, worked on with a Teaching Assistant and the Careers Advisor that offers support to them during the transitional stage of Year 11 to post-16 provision

Key Stage 2 to 3

- March 1st is the National Offer Day for Year 6 pupils
- From this date parents of students with SEND will begin to have communication in preparing their child for the move to secondary school
- We encourage all parents of Year 6 students offered a place at Smith's Wood Academy to contact the SENDCo as soon as possible to ensure that the transition process can begin