

MR S HUNTINGTON PRINCIPAL

SMITH'S WOOD ACADEMY WINDWARD WAY SMITH'S WOOD BIRMINGHAM, B36 OUE

T: 0121 788 4100

13th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers.

I am writing to share that we have had a positive start to the academic year and it has been fantastic to see our students returning with such enthusiasm and focus. The majority of our young people have settled quickly into routines and are already demonstrating the high standards of behaviour, effort and respect that we expect.

As always, we are committed to maintaining a calm, safe and respectful environment where all students can learn and thrive. While most of our students are consistently meeting expectations, there are a small number who sometimes find it difficult to make the right choices, particularly in relation to being hands-free and avoiding physical contact with others. We would appreciate your support in reinforcing this message at home, reminding students that physical behaviour of any kind is not appropriate in school.

Attendance

As we approach the end of this half term, we're excited to announce some fantastic incentives to keep our children motivated and engaged! Every student who attends school every day during the final two weeks of term (October 13th–24th) will receive a special treat as a reward for their brilliant effort and commitment. In addition, all students with full attendance for these two weeks will be entered into a prize draw to win four tickets to Drayton Manor's Monsters & Magic, an amazing family day out! Remember, you've got to be in it to win it!

To round off the half term, Friday, October 24th, will be a non-uniform day. Please note that **Halloween costumes or themed items are not permitted**, and any brought into school will be confiscated. We kindly ask that each child brings in a £1 donation, which will go towards our School Hardship Fund, helping to support families within our community who may be in need.

Teaching and Learning

This week we have spoken to students in assembly about our new entrance and exit routines. These are simple instructions to follow but will lead to an effective start and finish to all lessons ensuring our students make the most of every lesson.





One area that can slow down the pace of the lesson is when staff need to lend out multiple items of equipment. We expect all students to attend each day with a full 'Ready to Learn' pack. Please could we ask that you check with your child if they need any item replacing in their pack. These items can be purchased on Parent Pay.

We continue to hold all students to our high expectations, both academically and socially, and we are confident that, with your continued support, this positive start will set the tone for an excellent year ahead.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Huntington Principal