

20 July 2023



**Smestow Academy**  
www.smestowacademy.co.uk

### End of Year Letter

At the end of my 2<sup>nd</sup> term since arriving, following the change of Trust at the academy, I am extremely happy with the progress we are making and with the magnificent support we have received from parents. However, we still have lots of work to continue to grow Smestow Academy into the magnificent school we know it can be. This will be helped greatly by the excellent staff appointments we have made for September, with 13 teaching staff joining and only 2 substantive members of teaching staff leaving. This means we will not be required to bring any supply or short term contract staff to cover our curriculum or to deal with occasional unplanned staff absences. It also gives us the capacity to significantly reduce class sizes in Years 9, 10 and 11 for next academic year.

This letter is intended to provide the necessary information you will need for your child to be ready for September 2023.

### Uniform

We remind you of the following expectations (some of them changes) to the uniform from September 2023.

- Shoes should be black leather and polishable (details of acceptable and unacceptable footwear can be found at <https://smestowacademy.co.uk/uniform/>)
- All trousers and skirts should be plain black (grey will no longer be accepted)
- Girls skirts need to be an appropriate length (approximately 5cm above the knee)
- Optional jumpers under the blazer should be plain black V-neck jumpers (no more navy blue; jumpers should not replace blazers)
- No piercing are permitted other than small silver or gold stud in each ear lobe (No nose studs, false nails/eyelashes or extreme hairstyles)

### PE Kit

Please see below details of our new PE kit for September 2023. Last year's navy blue shorts will still be permitted but the top with the previous school badge will no longer be permitted from September.

<b>POLO SHIRT</b>	-	GV20 Navy Polo Shirt
<b>SHORTS</b>	-	P235 Navy Sports Short
<b>¼ ZIP TOP</b>	-	ZR45 Navy ¼ Zip Top

**NAVY BLUE FOOTBALL SOCKS**

*All PE kit is available with or without the logo  
The cost of the logo is £1 extra per item*



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01902 539500

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All PE kit items are available from:

Lads and Lasses Schoolwear  
50a Warstones Road  
Penn  
Wolverhampton  
WV4 4LP

01902 334650

Crested Schoolwear  
Wulfrun Shopping Centre  
Units 26/27  
Wolverhampton  
WV1 3HG

01902 593030

Please see <https://smestowacademy.co.uk/uniform/> for an image of our new PE kit.

Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils also have dance on their curriculum for September so should wear their PE kit for these lessons also.

### **Equipment**

In order to be fully prepared for learning we ask that pupils bring to school each day 2 black pens (one spare), green pen, pencil, ruler, scientific calculator and their pupil planner which will be distributed on return in September.

### **Medical Conditions**

If your child has a medical healthcare plan that has been written by a medical professional, please bring a signed copy of this in to school. Additionally, please contact school reception on Tuesday 5 September to arrange for you to bring in the required medication and to complete the relevant paperwork with one of our First Aiders. We are unable to administer medication prior to written consent being obtained from parents/carers.

### **Cashless Catering and Parental/Carer Communication**

From September 2023, Smestow Academy will be going cashless and all payments will be made on our new Matrix Academy Trust App which can be downloaded on your mobile device app store. This is where you will make payment for your child's catering and any additional trips you wish for them to attend. All credit and trip payment history on your child's Parentpay account will be transferred over to the new app ready for September. In the last few weeks of the summer, you will receive an email or message stating your child is enrolled – please follow the instructions and sign in to your child's account. Please note, your child will not be able to purchase anything in the school with cash when they return. If you do not plan on making payments, **please still download the app** as this will contain day to day information for you from school.

### **Year 11 Study Seminar**

In order to support our Year 11 learners in achieving the best outcomes in their Summer 2024 examinations, we will be running compulsory study seminars for Year 11 from 3:00 to 3:50 after school. These will begin on the week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> September and will alternate weekly with from **one week Tuesday – Maths, Wednesday – English and Thursday – Science** (Monday night on this week will be staff training so Year 11 pupils will finish at 3:00) and a **second week of Monday – Option D block subjects, Tuesday – Option C block subjects, Wednesday – Option B block subjects and Thursday – Option A block subjects**. The focus of these sessions will be on modelling and



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teaching study and revision skills as well as providing additional guidance on how to answer examination style questions.

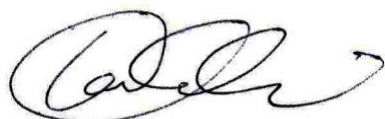
**September Return to School Arrangements**

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Teacher training day
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 7 and Y12 enrolment only (Y11 prefects to attend to support Y7) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Year 7 arrive at 8:30 and assemble on the tennis courts.</li><li>- Year 12 enrolment at Reception from 09:30-11:30am</li></ul>
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	All pupils return with a staggered start <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Year 7 arrive at 8:30 and go straight to form rooms.</li><li>- Year 8 and 9 arrive at 8:30 and assemble on the tennis courts.</li><li>- Year 10 and 11 arrive at 9:15 and assemble on the tennis courts.</li></ul>

If there are any further questions or queries please email at [postbox@smestowacademy.co.uk](mailto:postbox@smestowacademy.co.uk).

Wishing you a wonderful Summer break.

Yours faithfully



**I Chamberlain**

