9 November 2026

Smestow Academy
www.smestowacademy.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

Fantastic News – Smestow Academy is the 5th Highest Attaining Secondary School in Wolverhampton!

I am delighted to share some fantastic news following the publication of the latest national school performance data.

Based on the newly published, unvalidated national data, Smestow Academy has achieved the 5th highest Attainment 8 score of all secondary schools in Wolverhampton, based on last summer's examination results. (Attainment 8 measures pupils' average GCSE performance across eight key subject areas.)

This is a tremendous achievement and further evidence of the remarkable improvement journey Smestow Academy has been on over the last four years. Having once been one of the lowest attaining schools in the city, we are incredibly proud to now be ranked fifth. This transformation reflects the hard work and determination of our pupils, the dedication of our staff and the continued support of our parents and carers.

Our motto, Success Achieved Together, has never been more appropriate. Whilst we are rightly proud of how far we have come; our ambition remains to continue improving and providing every pupil with the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Children in Need – Friday 13 November 2026
We will also be raising money for BBC Children in Need on Friday 13th November. Pupils are invited to take part in a variety of fundraising activities including:

- Pudsey Photo Booth
- Penalty Shoot Out
- Tug of War
- Staff Leg Wax
- Wear something yellow (alongside your full school uniform) for Pudsey

All activities are 50p each. We ask that pupils bring the correct change as all buckets are sealed.

Staff Moderation Day – Friday 13th November
A reminder that this Friday, 13th November, will be a half day for pupils, with the school day finishing at 12.30pm. This is to allow staff time to undertake moderation activities and work together to ensure consistency in the assessment of pupils' work.

Important Dates – Remainder of the Academic Year
Please make a note of the following important dates for the remainder of the academic year:

- **Thursday 19 November 2026 – Sixth Form Open Evening**
- **Thursday 3 December 2026 – Year 11 Parents Evening**

- **Thursday 7 January 2027 – Sixth Form Parents Evening**
- **Thursday 4 February 2027 – Year 10 Parents Evening**
- **Thursday 25 March 2027 – Year 9 Options and Parent Evening**
- **Thursday 6 May 2027 – Year 8 Parents Evening**
- **Thursday 17 June 2027 – Year 7 Parents Evening**

- **Friday 27 November 2026 – Staff Training Day**
- **Monday 4 January 2027 – Staff Training Day**
- **Friday 30 April 2027 – Staff Training Day**
- **Wednesday 21 July 2027 – Staff Training Day**

Further information about individual events will be shared nearer the time.

Working Together and Communicating with School
We greatly value the partnership we have with our parents and carers and recognise the importance of being accessible and working together to support every child. We are always happy to arrange meetings when parents have concerns or wish to discuss their child's progress.

I would, however, kindly ask that parents and carers contact the school in advance rather than arriving at reception expecting to meet immediately with a member of the senior leadership team or a Head of House. Colleagues often have teaching, meetings and other commitments in their diaries, which may mean they are unable to meet at short notice.

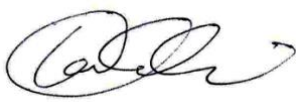
By contacting us beforehand, we can ensure that the appropriate member of staff is available and can give you the time and attention you deserve. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation and look forward to continuing to work positively together in the best interests of our pupils.

Safety Walking to and from School
With the onset of darker mornings and nights, here is some simple safety advice for your child to follow:

- If possible walk with a friend or group of friends.
- Stay alert – keep an eye on everything that is happening around you.
- Avoid wearing earphones or chatting on your mobile phone, as this will distract you from your surroundings.
- Trust your instincts – if you have a 'funny feeling' about someone or something, don't ignore it, act on it straight away.
- Take the route you know best and stick to busy, well-lit streets.
- Walk in the middle of the pavement, facing oncoming traffic. This will avoid any cars driving up alongside you as you walk.
- Think about your route home. Where would be a safe place to go if something went wrong? Safe places might be busy places like shops or garages, friends' houses or a police station.
- Have your keys ready as you approach your home so you can get inside quickly.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Mr I Chamberlain
Headteacher