



Smithycroft Secondary School
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Head Teacher
Patrick Oberg

6th August 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you have all had a restful summer and, like us, are excited about a return to school next week.

You will be aware that over the summer we lost a much-loved member of our school community.

Paige Lloyd would have been starting back with us in S4. She was a smart, witty girl with a bright future. She died tragically on 18th July 2021. As a school community, we have been devastated by the loss.

Over the coming weeks we will be talking to young people and Paige's family about how best we can commemorate her time with us. We will continue to offer support to young people who have been deeply affected by her death. In the meantime, please keep her family and friends in your thoughts.

Any young person who feels the need to talk should approach their Pastoral Care teacher in the first instance. We are here for you.

First day back - 16th August

To help us support all young people on their return we are operating a slightly staggered start on the first day back.

Our new S1 should attend at the start of the school day – 8.50am

All other year groups should attend at 9.10am **on the first day only.**

Staff will be outside the school to show young people where to go on first arrival

Covid mitigations

You may have seen that the Scottish Government has published its guidance for schools return. As a result, we will be keeping almost all the mitigations that we had in place at the end of last term. The key points to note are:

- Everyone will sanitise their hands on entering the school.
- Face coverings must be worn indoors at all times unless exempt.
- The school day - with split break and lunchtimes - will continue as per last years' modifications. A copy is attached for your convenience.
- If young people leave school at lunchtime they will be permitted to return to the building 5 minutes before the afternoon bell.
- The one-way system will remain in use.



Follow us on Twitter @Smithycroft282
School Website: <http://www.smithycroft-sec.glasgow.sch.uk>

Glasgow—UK Council of the Year 2015

Glasgow—Supporting the Gaelic language Glaschu - a' toirt taic do'n Ghàidhlig

Glasgow—UNESCO City of Music

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Disposable face coverings remain available from the school office at a small cost and our washable 'Smithy' Masks are available to those who have not already had one.

We have been advised that the above measures should remain in place for the first six weeks of term.

There have also been changes to contact tracing that should result in significantly fewer young people being sent home for this reason should local case rates rise.

Lateral Flow testing

All young people are advised to complete twice-weekly Lateral Flow testing as an additional mitigation against Covid-19. Please see the school website for details if you would like your young person to take part.

Uniform

We are committed to the highest possible standards here at Smithycroft and this certainly extends to how we expect young people to look. I have attached again our uniform standards in order that we can be clear about our expectations.

If you have any difficulty at all accessing the right uniform items, just call us at the school.

School Communication

The simplest way for you to get information - from us straight to your devices – is to use the Xpressions App. Information about this attached. All you need is to ensure that we have up-to-date contact and email details for you.

We are all looking forward to seeing you all on the 16th

Yours sincerely



Patrick Oberg
Headteacher



The School Day - August 2021

Monday and Thursday	
Period 1	8.50am – 9.40am
Period 2	9.40am – 10.30am
Registration S1 – S3 Interval S4 – S6	10.30am – 10.45am
Registration S4 – S6 Interval S1 – S3	10.45am – 11.00am
Period 3	11.00am – 11.50am
Period 4	11.50am – 12.35pm
Lunch : S4 – S6 Period 5 : S1 – S3	12.35pm – 1.20pm
Lunch : S1 – S3 Period 5 : S4 – S6	1.20pm – 2.05pm
Period 6	2.05pm – 2.55pm
Period 7	2.55pm – 3.45pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday	
Period 1	8.50am – 9.40am
Period 2	9.40am – 10.30am
Registration S1 – S3 Interval S4 – S6	10.30am – 10.45am
Registration S4 – S6 Interval S1 – S3	10.45am – 11.00am
Period 3	11.00am – 11.50am
Period 4	11.50am – 12.35pm
Lunch : S4 – S6 Period 5 : S1 – S3	12.35pm – 1.20pm
Lunch : S1 – S3 Period 5 : S4 – S6	1.20pm – 2.05pm
Period 6	2.05pm – 2.55pm



Our School

Uniform

Available from www.logoexpress-schoolwear.co.uk



- School Logoed Blazer
- School Tie
ties are available from the school office
- White School Shirt
- Black Footwear
- Black Trousers or Black Skirt
skirts should be of an appropriate length



Logoed PE Tops are part of the school uniform and should be worn with black shorts, jogging trousers or leggings. Logoed leggings are available as an optional extra.

Optional Extras

- Smithycroft Hoodie or Zipper
- Plain Black Hoodie or Zipper
- Plain Black Knitwear



Visit www.smithycroft-sec.glasgow.sch.uk for more information

Groupcall Xpressions App

View your child's information on your mobile phone!

An exciting new service is now available for parents to ensure communication between the school and yourselves is easier and more effective. **Groupcall Xpressions** is a new service created by the award-winning school communication company Groupcall Limited.

The app is completely free of charge to you and can be installed on your mobile phone or tablet. It currently supports both Apple iOS and Android devices (with Windows mobile to follow) and you'll be able to see information for your children.

If you have children in different schools and those schools also use **Groupcall Xpressions**, you will be able to view information on multiple children within the same app.

What do I need to do now?

Please ensure we have your correct mobile number and email address on our school database to ensure you can use the new app as soon as it is available. You'll need to make sure you keep these details up to date in future to maintain access to the service.

What happens next?

Groupcall has now set up the system in your child's school. Once you ensure the school has your current email address and mobile number, you can then download the app by accessing <http://parents.groupcall.com/>

Once installed and set up you may receive emails or texts about:

- Emergency school closures
- Pupil absence notifications
- Exam reminders (where appropriate)
- Reminders about meetings and after school activities
- Parents evenings
- Special school events and newsletters
- When Report Cards have been given to pupils
- Expected time of arrival when returning from a school trip
- Invitations to a meeting



*Enhanced Service