



Shireland Hall Primary Academy
Montague Road
Smethwick
B66 4PW

0121 558 6331
shpenquiries@gbshp.org

George Betts Primary Academy
West End Avenue
Smethwick
B66 1RF

0121 558 0472
gbenquiries@gbpshp.org



The Federation of George Betts and Shireland Hall Primary Academies

6 July 2020

Dear families,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our parents, pupils and staff for their resilience and support during the strangest of times that we have found ourselves in since March 20th. Whilst school has been closed to most, we have been open every day for identified pupils and year groups. Although not everyone has felt comfortable with sending children back, we have fully supported those decisions and through our weekly calls, Google Classroom and home visits have seen some of the fantastic learning experiences that have been taking place and fun that your children have been having at home.

You will be aware by now that the Secretary of State announced last week that all pupils will return in September. This is what we are currently working on and unless there are any local Smethwick or Sandwell issues, please presume this will be the case. Further details will be sent to you in due course.

One of the unknown consequences from the past term is how much "lost learning" has impacted on pupils' knowledge and skills. Also, how not seeing their friends and teachers along with the removal of school routine has impacted upon their mental well being. Both of these elements will be central to our curriculum offer from September.

It is sad that our Y6 pupils, who have been a joy and a credit to SHP, have missed out on the formal goodbye before they start the next part of their learning journeys at their new schools. We wish them all the best for their futures and will look at organising an official goodbye event when social distancing measures allow.

Learning at Home

Home learning provision will continue over the summer holidays. A summer home learning pack will be available for collection from this week (families will receive texts when they are ready). Daily lessons will also continue to be uploaded onto your child's Google Classroom throughout the summer but please note that the 'comment' function will be disabled and staff will not provide feedback during the 6 weeks as school is closed. Daily reading is also important so please use the links on Google Classroom to access books.



FSM vouchers over the summer

Families with children who are eligible for income-related free school meals will receive £90 per child in supermarket vouchers before the summer holidays. Voucher codes will be emailed out as usual and are to cover the six week period from 20/7/2020 to 28/8/2020. If you think you may now be eligible please check online at <http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>. **Applications must be made by the end of Wednesday 8th July in order to receive vouchers for the summer.**

Lots of families are now being accepted under current circumstances. Any applications that are approved now will entitle your child to vouchers over this summer as well as free meals and additional funding in school until they leave us in Year 6. Parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who currently receive infant free school meals when in school are also entitled to apply.



Shireland Hall Primary Academy
Montague Road
Smethwick
B66 4PW

0121 558 6331
shpenquiries@gbshp.org

George Betts Primary Academy
West End Avenue
Smethwick
B66 1RF

0121 558 0472
gbenquiries@gbpshp.org



The Federation of George Betts and Shireland Hall Primary Academies

Transition 2020

Your child's school report will be sent out in the post later this week along with a letter explaining which class your child will be in and who their teacher will be in September. We are hoping to arrange an open afternoon before term starts and teachers will be sending out welcome messages via text links. ***In order to receive all of these messages please make sure you let us know if your mobile phone number changes over the summer by emailing shpparents@gbshp.org***



As mentioned above, we are currently working on our plans for September 2020. As things stand at the moment, ***school will be open to all children, full time.*** There are likely to be some differences in routines and systems in school which we will provide more details on before the start of term.

The DfE has published the following guidance for parents on what to expect from schools in the autumn term: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-s-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Wraparound Clubs

Breakfast Club and After School Club will be available to book onto from the start of term. Please contact the school office before 17th July or after 1st September to request places. Unfortunately, in line with rising running costs, we have had to increase prices as follows:

Breakfast Club	£3.00 per session (includes a drink and breakfast)
After School Club 1 (3:30 - 4:30)	£3.50 per session (includes a drink and snack)
After School Club 2 (3:30 - 6:00)	£6.00 per session (includes a drink and snack, then a hot meal with dessert)

Keeping Safe

Whilst we encourage families to spend lots of time outdoors over the summer - whether in gardens, parks or other public places - please ensure that you and your children maintain safe social-distancing along with good hand and respiratory hygiene. It is likely that COVID-19 will be around for some time yet so we must all do everything we can to reduce transmission in order to keep ourselves and our community as safe as possible.



Dates for your diary

Friday 17/7/2020 Last day of term for pupils attending in 'bubbles'
Thursday 3/9/2020 Start of term for pupils in Years 1-6

Full term dates for 2020-2021 are on the following page and the school website. We look forward to welcoming you back in September!

Yours Sincerely

Allan Shephard
Executive Principal



Shireland Hall Primary Academy
Montague Road
Smethwick
B66 4PW

0121 558 6331
shpenquiries@gbshp.org

George Betts Primary Academy
West End Avenue
Smethwick
B66 1RF

0121 558 0472
gbenquiries@gbpshp.org



The Federation of George Betts and Shireland Hall Primary Academies

Term Dates 2020-2021 – Shireland Hall Primary Academy

Autumn term 2020

Training Days: Tuesday 1st September and Wednesday 2nd September

Term starts for children: Thursday 3rd September

Parents' Day: Monday 12th October – school closed to children

Half term holiday: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

Last day of term: Friday 18th December

Spring term 2021

Training Day: Monday 4th January

Term Starts for children: Tuesday 5th January

Parents' Day: Monday 8th March – school closed to children

Half term holiday: Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February

Last day of term: Thursday 1st April

Summer term 2021

Term starts for children: Monday 19th April

Bank holiday: Monday 3rd May

Year 2 KS1 Assessments: throughout May 2021

Year 6 SATs Tests: Monday 10th to Thursday 13th May

Half term holiday: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Term ends for children: Tuesday 20th July

Training Day: Wednesday 21st July

Main holiday: From Thursday 22nd July