



Newsletter

Message from Bob Smytherman, Chair of Governors

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the new Chairman of Governors I am pleased to contribute to the newsletter to say a few words about the governors at West Sussex APC.

As for all Governing Boards of schools we have three main functions; to ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the College, to hold leaders to account for the educational performance and to oversee the school's finances.

This carries responsibilities for safeguarding and health and safety, policy making, employment of staff and monitoring the wellbeing and standards of education of the children.

Our Governors bring a wide range of life skills and experience and with regular online meetings and visits to school (when we are allowed) throughout the year we are able to challenge and support where necessary.

Regrettably the Covid-19 pandemic has affected all our lives and prevented us from visiting as often as we would like but 'MS Teams' meetings have enabled good communication for many of us, at home, school and work.

On behalf of the Governors I want to thank you all for your encouragement and support for the staff and the College especially during these difficult times.

Be assured that we are mindful of anxieties that we are all experiencing in different ways.

We are extremely thankful to our Head Teacher Mr Thomas and the Senior Leadership Team as well as all our staff for providing a safe, secure and caring College for our students.

As part of the College community, governors are here in a role of service and will continue to do the very best for all our students.

We hope that you and your families stay safe and well during this time.

With best wishes,

Mr Bob Smytherman
Chair of Governors





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Covid

Hands, face, space!

Covid-19 symptoms

Please note that if your child, or anyone in your household has the following symptoms the whole household should isolate for 10 days unless a covid-19 test produces a negative result.

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Pupils Social Distancing Outside of School

A reminder of the current restrictions:

Leaving home

You must not leave, or be outside of your home except where necessary. You may leave the home to:

- shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person
- go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if you cannot reasonably do so from home
- exercise with your household (or support bubble) or one other person (in which case you should stay [2m apart](#)). Exercise should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.
- meet your [support bubble](#) or [childcare bubble](#) where necessary, but only if you are legally permitted to form one
- seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse)
- attend education or childcare - for those eligible

If you do leave home for a permitted reason, you should always stay in your local area - unless it is necessary to go further, for example to go to work.

Staying in your local area means stay in the village, town, or part of the city where you live.

If you are [clinically extremely vulnerable](#) you are advised to only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential. We recommend that you do not attend work.



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Meeting others

You cannot leave your home to meet socially with anyone you do not live with or are not in a [support bubble](#) with (if you are legally permitted to form one).

You may exercise on your own, with one other person, or with your household or support bubble. This should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.

You cannot meet other people you do not live with, or have not formed a support bubble with, unless for a permitted reason.

[Stay 2 metres apart](#) from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

Welfare Team

As with Lockdown 1 we have identified a team of APC staff to carry out welfare calls across the school for pupils who are not accessing face to face provision in centres. Families should expect to hear from the team on a regular basis and we hope pupils and their families will find this a supportive measure in these difficult times.

Questions about Coronavirus and Housing Rights?

Shelter helps millions of people every year struggling with bad housing or homelessness through our advice, support and legal services. And we campaign to make sure that, one day, no one will have to turn to us for help.

We've seen a big increase in demand for our services since the coronavirus pandemic began. We're here with the latest information and advice for people whose housing has been impacted by COVID-19, such as people who've accrued rent arrears due to losing their jobs, or are threatened with illegal evictions.

Shelter has free online housing advice for:

- reliable and updated information
- step by step advice guides
- access to a webchat adviser
- an emailed copy of the chat

Visit shelter.org.uk/covid19 or search 'Shelter housing advice'.



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For people in urgent housing need (if you're homeless or likely to be homeless within 8 weeks; or are at risk of harm), please see our emergency helpline at [shelter.org.uk/get help](https://shelter.org.uk/get_help).

Online Learning

Microsoft Teams can be accessed through Xbox and PlayStation – please click [here for instructions](#).



Rewards

This term we launched our first ever termly rewards raffle. Students were able to earn tickets through their achievement in centre and overall attendance, the draw was hosted by Mr Thomas and took place via Microsoft Teams on the last Wednesday of term. Over 280 tickets went in to the draw, with students from a variety of primary and secondary centres winning a range of prizes. We will continue to run these raffles on a termly basis as we look to instil in our students an important lifelong message that good attendance and hard work brings with it rewards.

Coronavirus: How to keep children healthy, happy, learning and entertained at home

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Here is your free e-copy of Family First magazine, packed full of information to help keep children happy, learning & entertained at home during lockdown- We hope it helps in some way.

Please click on the link below:

https://issuu.com/sevenstarmedia/docs/ff_issue_7_digital211220





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Nut Free School



All WSAPC sites are now 'nut free'. Please ensure that your child doesn't bring any products containing nuts of any kind onto school premises. Nut allergies can be life threatening and we are implementing this for the safety of our pupils and staff.

For help and advice, please see our website [HERE](#).

College Twitter Feed and Website

Don't forget to follow APC on Twitter



[@apcollege](#) and to like and share our posts.



Our web address is [apcollege.co.uk](#)



Keep in touch

Please don't hesitate to contact WSAPC staff should you have any concerns about your child, their education and of course Covid-19. We are here to help!