

Re: AGi/LT

10 May 2023

Dear parents

I hope you enjoyed the two Bank Holiday weekends.

Students have been working hard in implementing our new silent entry to lessons routine and it has really improved their focus on learning and the speed at which they settle to work in each lesson, which is really great to see.

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Mrs A Gibbins Headteacher

Year 11s are also engaging well with their final exam preparations for the GCSEs which begin in earnest in just one week's time. Those who were involved in the PE Moderation sessions were also hugely impressive and a credit to both themselves and the school. Those studying Art have now completed their examination and are finalising their coursework ready for submission.

Unfortunately, we have had an increase in some negative behaviours in and around the toilets in school, including groups of students vaping and gathering in small spaces. While the CCTV in the open areas enables us to look back and deal with incidents after they have happened, it is not enabling us to prevent them from happening in the first place. As a result, we have made the decision to remove the external doors from all group toilet blocks on the site. Cubicle doors will, of course, remain in place as will doors on single, inclusive toilets. All group toilet blocks have a staggered entry to the toilets themselves, ensuring that student privacy is maintained in its entirety; however, the removal of the doors will make it obvious if students are vaping or gathering in groups. Below are images from the open doorways of a selection of toilets so you can see how the privacy is maintained. These doors will be removed at the beginning of next week.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring Smithdon High School is a positive environment for all our community, helping everyone to uphold our values to *Work Hard*, *Be Kind and Smile*.

Yours sincerely

A- Globais

Mrs A Gibbins Headteacher













Shaw Building example (D block)



Pendall Building example (C Block)



Smithson Building example (A Block)