



March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Re: New Teaching and Learning Framework

At Smithills, we are committed to ensuring that every pupil achieves their full potential. To support this, we are introducing our new **Smithills 6 Teaching and Learning Framework**, designed to ensure high challenge, consistency, and ambition across all classrooms.

### Why are we introducing the Smithills 6?

- To create a shared language for teaching
- To build consistency across classrooms
- To embed evidence-informed teaching practice
- To maintain high challenge and ambition for all pupils
- To support continued improvement in outcomes

The purpose of this framework is to create a clear, shared approach to teaching, ensuring that every pupil experiences high-quality teaching in every lesson. It builds on the strong practice already in place while aligning with evidence-informed strategies and ensuring consistency across all subjects. Ultimately, the framework supports our aim that pupils at Smithills achieve highly and thrive beyond school.

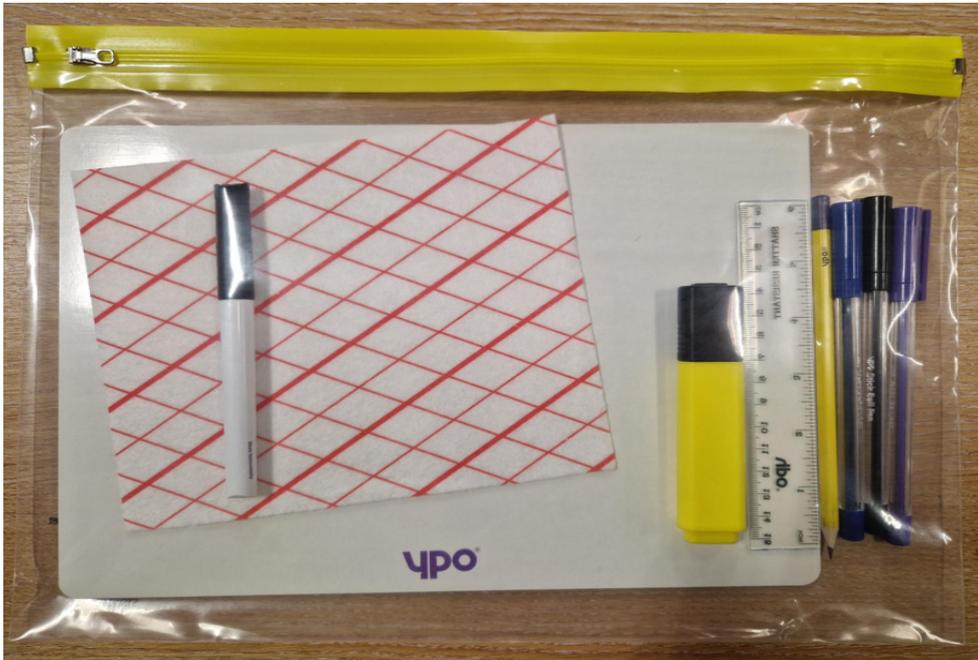
### What high challenge looks like in practice:

- Pupils consistently engage with ambitious ideas.
- Teachers provide clear explanations, careful modelling, and questioning that encourages pupils to explain their thinking.
- Misconceptions are identified and addressed quickly to ensure learning builds securely.
- Pupils are actively thinking about what they are learning, rather than simply completing tasks.

### Supporting high challenge and ambition – Equipment Packs

To help all pupils be fully prepared for learning, from after the Easter holidays, every pupil in Years 7–10 will be provided with an equipment pack (see below). Pupils are expected to bring this pack to every lesson to ensure they are ready to learn and can do their best. To ensure all pupils are prepared and can make the most of every lesson, the following rules apply to the use and care of the equipment pack

- Any worn-out items will be replaced.
- Any individual lost items can be purchased from the upper or lower dining rooms or Student Services. The total cost of a replacement wallet is £3, which must be met by parents.
- Please ensure your child keeps their wallet safe and has a suitable school bag to carry it in.
- Wallets will be checked each morning by your child's form tutor.



We ask for your support in ensuring that your child comes to school prepared and ready to engage fully with their learning, so they can achieve the best possible outcomes.

If you have any questions, you are very welcome to attend my Headteacher Coffee Morning on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30am or you can email any queries to: [office@smithillsschool.net](mailto:office@smithillsschool.net)

Thank you for your continued support in helping all our learners reach their full potential.

Yours faithfully

C. Dewse.

C. Dewse  
Headteacher