

February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Wildcats After School Club 2020



We are delighted to announce that we have been selected as a Wildcats centre by the Sheffield & Hallamshire County Football Association.

Wildcats is an initiative launched by The FA designed to inspire girls aged between 5-11 to be involved in football. Wildcats centres provide girls with regular opportunities to play football and take part in organised sessions in a fun and engaging environment.

The FA's Research & Insight team have found that SSE Wildcats Centres are having a significant positive impact in developing a lasting football habit amongst girls. Research from 2017 showed that the centres have made football fun for girls as well as developing their technical skills. As a result of this, girls are now more than twice as likely to join a team outside of school. Of the girls who took part in the centres, the number playing structured football has also risen by 23% (49% → 72%) since they took part. "The all-female environment amongst friends, key to nurturing the girls' passion for football, has given many of the girl's confidence to take the next step on their footballing pathway: club football."

We have partnered with Sheffield United Community Foundation who will be running our Wildcats Centre at Hunter's Bar on Tuesdays after school. The sessions will provide an ideal opportunity for the girls to learn new skills and have fun whilst playing football. As the sessions are being managed by Sheffield United Community Foundation and not Hunter's Bar Juniors you will need to follow the link below to sign up.

<https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/sheffieldunited/hunters-bar-wildcats-after-school-club.html>

Centres are also open to participants from outside of School but as we are hosting this within the school grounds our pupils have been given first refusal to take part.

I would encourage any of our girls in Year 3-6 to take up this unique opportunity to experience being part of this exciting new initiative.

Yours sincerely,

B. Adebola

Mr. Adebola

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DEPUTY HEADTEACHER: MRS KELLY HERSEY

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SSE Wildcats Centres – Research Findings

Research conducted by The FA's Research & Insight team has shown that SSE Wildcats Centres are having a significant, positive impact in developing a lasting football habit amongst girls.



After the SSE Wildcats Centres ran in late 2017, The FA's Research & Insight and Girls' football teams worked together to look into the impact that the centres were having on the girls involved and also how much they were enjoying the sessions.

The research showed that the centres have made football fun for girls as well as developing their technical skills. As a result of this, girls are now **more than twice as likely to join a team** outside school. Of the girls who took part in the centres, the number **playing structured football has also risen by 23%** (49% → 72%) since they took part.

Further research will be conducted in late 2018 as we continue to monitor the impact of SSE Wildcats Centres and check in on the progress of girls that have started/continued to play football since taking part.

