

Noel-Baker Academy Special Educational Needs Newsletter

Summer Term 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

We have had a very busy second term in the SEND department. It was a term filled with many telephone calls, emails and meetings to develop the communication links between us as a department and you as a parent/carer.

We hope you feel there has been an improvement with the introduction of Key workers, allowing you a point of contact within the Student Support team to ensure that the support we are offering your child is effective and personalised. A key part of this is working together to create a Student Information File for your child, that identifies strategies to support your child in and around the Academy, especially in the classroom.

The highlights of last term include seeing students work together to improve and plant the allotment area in the Academy as part of the new gardening club, and sampling some of the amazing Easter biscuits that students made as part of their nurture class.

This half term is going to be particularly stressful for our Year 11 students as GCSE examinations have finally begun. Regardless of the grades you get, if you have given 100% there is nothing more we can ask of you.

As always, the SEND team is here to support you in any way we can and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing support.

With kind regards,

Sarah Brown
Assistant Headteacher/SENCO

Issue: 1

Attendance

Good attendance at school is important for academic progress, social interaction with peers and the opportunity to participate in clubs and try new activities.

Academic studies have shown a direct link between attendance and progress towards GCSE grades. 19 days of school missed per year (attendance of 90%) equals one GCSE grade dropped on average.

Should your child's absence become more persistent however, it is important to discuss this with the Academy to see if there are other barriers to their attendance.

100% Attendance

Noah Clements
Daniel Edwards
Hannah Faulkner
Thomas Fogg
Leo Goodwin-Wilson
Cai Brough
Jade Hanson

Halle Allsop
Knighton Coxon
Aleasha Gordon
Ashleigh Reed
Caitlin Woolley
Lymar Steadman
Dillon Needham

Advice for Exams

Tried and Tested Technique

EXAM
TODAY!

- Read the question
- Pick out the key information
- Think about the best method to answer the question
- Use the allocated marks to guide how much time you spend on each answer.
- If you can't answer a question, move on to the next question and come back to it later.

Wellbeing during exams



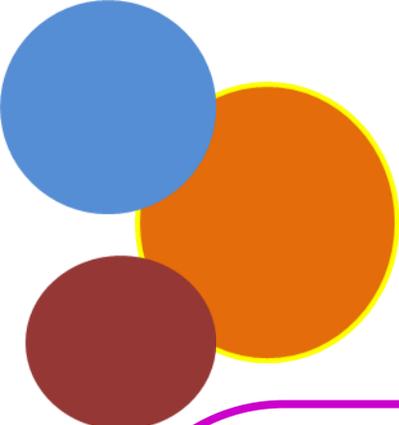
- Get plenty of sleep! No all-nighters for last minute cramming of revision.
- Eat properly. Eat brain food such as oily fish, fruit and vegetables.
- Drink water and avoid energy drinks!

GCSE POD for Year 10 and 11

Remember to utilise GCSE Pod as each Pod is mapped to an exam board, and contains all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams that your child needs for GCSE success.

There are over 6,000 'Pods' that last three to five- minutes that are designed to deliver knowledge in short bursts. GCSEPod makes learning and revision much more manageable.

Year 11 have now accessed 10,000 pods so far this year!



Advice for Exams

What you can take with you

Depending on the type of exam, the Academy will provide your question paper, answer sheets and additional materials. Always check with your teacher beforehand if there are any specific instructions for your exam, or additional equipment or stationery you need to provide.

Generally, you can take the following into your exam:

- A black pen (including spares)
- Additional equipment, such as erasers, rulers, highlighters and pencils
- A clear pencil case
- A wrist watch (no smart watches)
- A clear water bottle, with no labels
- A calculator (without the lid)

Please read [JCQ's Information for candidates](#) for a list of instructions on exam room conduct and permissible materials and equipment.

Do your best

Your exams are your opportunity to apply all of your hard work and show what you can do.

ASD

Support strategies for parents of autistic children when preparing for exams

Here are some ways in which parents can help their child with exam preparation:

- Teach your child simple relaxation techniques
- Ask teaching staff to remind your child to use these techniques before exams
- Encourage your child to leave items relating to their interests at home
- Suggest to your child that they do whatever helps them relax before leaving for an exam
- Encourage your child to take part in physical activity as this can reduce anxiety
- If you can, make sure your child eats well before an exam
- Make yourself available to offer support during exam times
- Display your child's exam timetable somewhere visible.

**Congratulations to the following students
for achieving Star of the Term!**

Thomas Foster

JJ Moore

Alfie Stockwell

Aleasha Gordon

Danielle Harcula

Samantha Whetton

Student Information Files



Ensuring that all pupils with SEN have an Student Information File is one of our key priorities.

This handy document is a snapshot of each learner, containing vital information which is accessible to all staff as well as outside agencies working with the child and is useful during transition periods.

If you would like to know more about your child's SIF or would like a copy then, please do not hesitate to contact your key Worker or our deputy SENCO Caroline Jones on

carolinejones@noelbakeracademy.co.uk

Name -
Year - UPN -
CoP Stage: K - SEN Support
Description of need

You May Notice

My Targets

You could try

Access Arrangements

Coffee Morning

SEN Coffee Morning with ASD focus

Friday 7th June 2019

10.00 - 11.00 am

Come along and join the SEN department for a coffee and a chat!

We will be focussing on ASD and how we are supporting students in the Academy and strategies that you could use to support your child at home.

There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and to seek advice and support from other like-minded parents.

After-School Enrichment

A reminder that the SEND department is offering an exciting range of after-school enrichment opportunities throughout the week from 3.10-4pm.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Homework Drop in LRC	Homework Drop in LRC	Homework Drop in LRC	Homework Drop in LRC
Computer Club B2	Maths Intervention LRC	Handwriting LRC	
English Intervention LRC			

CELEBRITIES WITH SEN STATUS!

Daniel Radcliffe

At a young age, Daniel Radcliffe was diagnosed with Dyspraxia. This is a common neurological problem which impairs organisation of movements. One of the reasons that Daniel became an actor was because he struggled in school and acting boosted his confidence. Daniel suffers from a mild form of Dyspraxia and has problems with tying his shoe laces and has very poor handwriting.



Will. I. Am

Will.I.Am has battled with ADHD for many years. He has said that his mind constantly wanders when he is doing everyday tasks and he finds it difficult to sit still. He has found that if you have ADHD, then the best way to control your thoughts is to find your passion and then work with that. Will says that finding your passion will help you become more engaged. As a Grammy award winner, Will's passion is the music that he writes and produces. Will channels his energy into this and it keeps his mind focused: it is a coping mechanism for him.



Easter Baking

As part of our nurture programme, all students were given the opportunity to bake some Easter-themed biscuits. Within previous group sessions, students discussed any traditions they follow over the Easter period. Throughout the activity, the children utilised their Maths and design skills through the measurement of ingredients and decoration of their biscuits. We hope that family members who had the opportunity to taste the finished product thoroughly enjoyed them as much as the children enjoyed making them. Students' feedback was extremely positive, stating that not only did they enjoy the activity, but they also felt a sense of pride when looking at the finished product.

