

## Message from the Headteacher:

We were pleased to welcome two inspectors from Ofsted recently. This was not an official inspection, but a visit to see how we were responding to the issues faced during the COVID-19 pandemic. They commented positively about our remote teaching provision, above average attendance record and the accelerated learning support we have in place to encourage pupils to catch up with lost learning. We look forward to welcoming Ofsted back to the school once inspections recommence properly. In the meantime, please find attached a copy of their letter.

The hoodies have arrived! There has been a larger than expected uptake, so please bear with us as we are distributing them as fast as we can, given the current staff shortages.

Unfortunately, we have seen an increased number of CV-19 cases, with some students currently isolating. Thank you so much for your patience, understanding and support. The children continue to make us very proud; working hard in lessons, going about their daily lives in school in a calm, respectful and well-mannered way and generally taking this difficult situation in their stride.

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Everyone has a role to play in keeping our schools safe and helping to stop the spread of COVID-19.

### YOU SHOULD BOOK A COVID-19 TEST IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

#### A HIGH TEMPERATURE

This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).

OR

#### A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

OR

#### A LOSS OR CHANGE TO THEIR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

**IF YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 BUT HAS OTHER COLD-LIKE SYMPTOMS, SUCH AS A RUNNY NOSE, THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE TESTED AND THEY OR MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD DO NOT NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE. YOUR CHILD CAN ATTEND SCHOOL IF FIT TO DO SO.**

### HERE'S WHAT TO DO IF:

#### YOUR CHILD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result.

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the test is negative providing they are well enough, have not had a fever for 48 hours and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

#### YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result
- Self-isolate for at least 10 days as advised by the PHA.

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough / loss of smell or taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks.

#### SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- The household member should book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the symptomatic household member's test is negative and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

#### SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

#### CONTACT TRACING HAS IDENTIFIED MY CHILD AS A CLOSE CONTACT

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for at least 14 days as advised by the PHA Contact Tracing Service

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

#### YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A CLOSE CONTACT

##### WHAT TO DO?

- Attend school as normal
- If your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms they should carry on with normal activities.

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

#### YOUR CHILD HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD AND HAS TO SELF-ISOLATE

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for 14 days in line with quarantine advice

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

\*If your child has been identified as a close contact of a case of COVID-19, or has returned from travel abroad and is self-isolating, they must self-isolate for 14 days regardless of a negative COVID-19 test result.

Further information, including Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Carers, can be found on the Department of Education's website at [www.education-nl.gov.uk](http://www.education-nl.gov.uk)

### EDUCATION RESTART

WE ALL MUST DO IT TO GET THROUGH IT



## COVID-19:

### Face coverings

All students are required to wear a face covering on entry and exit to the building and whilst walking along the corridors. We are still giving out far too many disposable face masks, which is putting a strain on finances and is also very bad for the environment. Therefore could we again ask you to provide your children with a reusable face covering in a zippered bag.

### Exit at the end of the day

Can you please reiterate to your child that on leaving the school site, they must go straight home and practice social distancing in line with Government advice.

### Mobile phones

If your child has their mobile phone confiscated they will be allowed to collect it from Reception at the end of the day. This is to allow students to use the NHS Track and Trace app if needed.

## Year 7 (Mr Lumber):

**Form of the fortnight:** 7B - for the highest recorded positive behaviour points in year 7. Well done 7B, keep up the amazing work!!

**Star of the fortnight:** Well done to Apurab Rehal for passing her grade 5 Flute exam with a Merit. This is an amazing achievement!!

## Year 8 (Miss Foulstone):

**Form of the week:** 8E and 8B.

**Stars of the fortnight:** Chloe Siviter - 8B for being the highest rewards points' scorer in Y8! Finley Evans - 8E for being a great Team captain in PE! Amiee Spencer – 8E; Riley Broughton – 8E; JJ Sparkes – 8B and Tatenda Chikowore – 8B. Well done everyone!

## Year 9 (Miss Scott):

**Form of the week:** 9E - for achieving the most positive points for Year 9. Brilliant!

**Stars of the fortnight:** Madeline Woodhead, Ebony Greenaway, Lucas Dellow, Megan Marshall, Fatima Damiya, Muhammed Muntasir, Sophie Woolis and Scott Junior Lockley for getting the most positive points in their tutor groups. Well done and keep it up!

## Year 10 (Mr McDonagh):

**Form of the fortnight:** Mr Pender - 10O for repeated top attendance and top reward points

**Stars of the fortnight:** Freyja Piggott - 10K for outstanding engagement with lessons, Chris Jackaman - 10A for consistent successful completion of homework, Emily Potts and Erin Lee - 10E for teacher engagement.

## ACE Centre (Mr Taylor):

**Star of the fortnight:** Alex Teck - superb all week. Amazing focus. Well done!

## Year 11 (Miss Southern):

**Form of the week:** 10R - for making a massive 8% improvement in their attendance.

**Star of the fortnight:** Aaliyah Darby - for making such an effort in her school work and being a role model for her peers.

## Behaviour:

Once the hoodies have been fully distributed next week, our uniform policy will be updated. Students will be allowed to wear their Noel Baker hooded top in lessons, either instead of or as well as a normal navy blue unbranded jumper. No other outer garments are allowed in class, with the exception of a blazer over the top of the hoodie and/or jumper to give an additional layer.

## PSHE:

### Thoughts for the week ahead:

W/C 23/11/2020: 'If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion'

W/C 30/11/2020: 'Never give up on a dream just because of the time it will take to accomplish it. The time will pass anyway'.

### Assemblies:

W/C 23/11/2020: Anti-bullying.

W/C 30/11/2020: Career aspirations.

### Week 1

Year 7: Achieving my dreams and goals.

Year 8: What money can't buy.

Year 9: The power of planning.

Year 10: Me, my goals and my health.

Year 11: Careers.

### Week 2

Year 7: Coping strategies.

Year 8: Online safety.

Year 9: My dreams for my life.

Year 10: Work/life balance.

Year 11: Careers.

## Safeguarding:

Could all parents please ensure that we have your up to date contact details. The onus is on you to make sure you inform us of any changes. This is a legal obligation. Please email [attendance@noelbakeracademy.co.uk](mailto:attendance@noelbakeracademy.co.uk).

Please remember if anyone in your household is showing symptoms, you should seek a test and all members of the household should isolate. No child should attend school if anyone in the household is symptomatic.

## Facilities Management:

We have had a number of reports from local road users of children riding bikes erratically, often without helmets, and running across the road in front of cars without looking properly. We are reminding our children of the importance of using the roads safely and would ask that you remind your children as well.

We expect all children who ride a bike to school to wear a helmet. There should only be one child on a bike or scooter when on the road – not one child riding a bike with their friend sitting on the handle bars. Children should dismount before they enter the school site as there are so many pedestrians on site at the start and end of the day.

## Quality of Education:

At NBA, we know that research tells us that the more we read, the more vocabulary we meet, and so the more we can understand. During our Covid-safe opening, students can continue to benefit safely from our Library stock, and use our Covid-safe 'Click and Drop' service. Access our 'Click and Drop' service from the "Students" tab on the Academy website, and then select:

"Click and Drop Library Service".  
Here you can use a Microsoft Form to submit book requests.

Happy reading!



## Attendance Matters:

We are quickly approaching the end of our first term and we would like to celebrate by giving all students who achieve 100% attendance in December the chance to win a £20 Amazon voucher. A student from each year group will be drawn at random and will receive the voucher on the last day of term, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Good luck!!!

Polite reminder, we have 2 inset days coming up: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November and Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November

**If your child has been absent from school, please ensure that you have sent written evidence for their absence (via letter or email [attendance@noelbakeracademy.co.uk](mailto:attendance@noelbakeracademy.co.uk)) so we can authorise your child's absence. If your child has been off relating to Covid-19, we do not require written evidence - just a phone call to inform us.**

## Miscellaneous:

### Kidspass

The organisation Kidspass have created a link for parents and have asked us to share it in our school newsletter. Parents can enjoy a free 1 month Kids Pass. <https://www.kidspass.co.uk/redeem-code/PARENT30>

So far over 600 schools have now claimed over 12,000 Kids Pass memberships. We hope you enjoy them!

[www.kidspass.co.uk](http://www.kidspass.co.uk)

## Future Dates for your Diary:

27<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November – school closed to students.

## **Parent Governor Vacancy:**

### **WANTED – NEW PARENT GOVERNOR**

#### ***What are we looking for?***

Our Governing Body is made up of Governors from all walks of life and many come to us through a variety of routes and with a range of different backgrounds, skills and experiences, but they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the School and are the link between the School and the community we serve.

#### ***We want you –***

We are currently looking for a new Parent Governor and would be delighted to hear from anyone who has:

- An interest in the performance of the school.
- A desire to contribute to and represent the community.
- An open and enquiring mind.
- The ability to look at issues objectively.
- The confidence to ask questions and join in debate.
- A willingness to listen and make informed judgements.
- The ability to work well with others.
- Time to spare.
- A child or children currently attending the School.

If you match the above description, you may be the very person to become a Parent Governor at Noel-Baker Secondary Academy. Everyone has something to offer and we want people from as many backgrounds and with as wide a range of interests as possible.

#### ***What can we offer?***

- A chance to develop skills in strategic management.
- The opportunity to work with our team of governors and staff in improving our School.
- A sense of achievement in making a difference to our School.
- The pleasure of helping students reach their potential.

#### ***What is the Governing Body's Role?***

The Governing Body of our school plays a key role in:

- Setting targets for raising standards of educational achievement.
- Monitoring progress towards meeting these targets.
- Supporting and challenging the performance of the Headteacher; and
- Deciding policy and future development plans.

As well as attending meetings governors are also asked to look at specific areas of the school's work in more detail. To help support governors, everyone has access to further training to help build on existing skills or to develop new ones.

#### ***If you are interested...***

Please contact [janebailey@noelbakeracademy.co.uk](mailto:janebailey@noelbakeracademy.co.uk) and we will send you an expression of interest form. We will ask you to write a short statement on why you are interested in joining the Academy Governing Body. Depending on the number of applications there may be an election process. Closing date for completed applications is 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

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18 November 2020

Ann Donaghy  
Headteacher  
Noel Baker Academy  
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DE24 0BR

Dear Mrs Donaghy

### **Ofsted visit to Noel Baker Academy**

Following my visit with Peter Stonier, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 3 November 2020, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm the visit's findings. Thank you for the time you made available to discuss your actions since September 2020, when the government expected all schools to open fully to all pupils.

This visit was conducted under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 (as amended) and in accordance with Ofsted's published procedures for visiting schools while routine inspections are temporarily suspended.

Ofsted's visits to schools during the autumn term are not inspections. We are not giving graded judgements. We did not undertake the usual range of inspection activities and were unable to check other sources of evidence, such as visits to lessons or looking at pupils' work. The content of this letter gives an overview of our discussions about what has happened in your school this term.

During the visit, we spoke to you and the two deputy headteachers. We did not speak to pupils because of the protective measures in place.

### **Context**

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills is leading Ofsted's work into how England's education system is managing the return to full



education for pupils, following an extended break in formal schooling due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

In undertaking this focused work, HMI are visiting a broad range of schools. HMI will visit a sample of:

- approximately 1,200 schools across all Ofsted grades (outstanding, good, requires improvement and inadequate)
- maintained schools, academies and free schools, special schools and centres of alternative provision, including those in cities, and coastal, town or rural communities.

The information from this visit will feed into Ofsted's national reporting so that the insights can be shared with the government and the education sector. We did not find any significant concerns during the visit. In such a case, an inspection report would be published on our website and available to parents and carers.

We did not consider your response to COVID-19 during the spring and summer terms 2020, when the school was not open to all pupils.

**From this visit, inspectors noted that:**

- All pupils returned to school on 9 September 2020.
- Pupils' attendance is above the normal attendance for this time of year. At the time of the visit, a Year 7 year-group 'bubble' and a Year 11 group 'bubble' were isolating.
- All pupils are studying their usual range of subjects. The practical aspects of some subjects are not taught yet. You are keen for pupils to return to their usual curriculum by summer term 2021.
- Teachers have assessed all pupils. Their checks have revealed that some pupils are behind in their learning. Teachers have created 'accelerated learning' plans to address pupils' learning gaps.
- Pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 have taken a reading-age test. Some pupils' reading skills have regressed. These pupils are receiving extra support to help them catch up.
- Leaders have a system to deliver the curriculum remotely. Some pupils in Years 7 and 11 who are currently isolating are accessing their learning in this way. Many pupils have limited access to appropriate electronic devices. Leaders are finding ways to address this barrier for pupils.

Thank you again for contributing to this important national work. The views and experiences you have shared will help to inform future policy.



I am copying this letter to the chair of the board of trustees, the chief executive officer of the L.E.A.D. multi-academy trust, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Derby local authority. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Jayne Ashman  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**