



Message from the Headteacher:

Mock exams are now behind us. We would like to thank all parents for their support during this time. The students have conducted themselves very well indeed during what has been the strangest mock exam period ever!

Just a reminder that although we have come out of lockdown, we are still in a Tier 3 area, which means that all the Covid restrictions around visits to site etc., are still in place. Please do not visit site without an appointment. Appointments will only be given out under exceptional circumstances.

We are doing our best to make sure that the run up to the Christmas break is full of fun activities to crush any negativity felt by COVID. Highlights include: daily elf spotting; a rewards competition, a christmas bubble decoration competition; christmas headband day and a surprise event for the children in the last week of term (look out for Mr Leach and Mr Taylor taking a starring role)! In addition, the bubbles are having fun organising their own competitions and activities.

Please note, each bubble will finish early on Friday 18th December. The finish times will be staggered, and these are detailed at the end of this bulletin.

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.

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-ni.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 receiving the highest positive points. Keep up the amazing work! Well done.

Star of the fortnight: Well done to Savannah Taylor Thomas, Ama Kesse and Hannah Kasonogo Ngoy for their amazing support in assisting with a year 7 issue. Thank you for your support ladies!

Year 8 (Miss Foulstone):

Form of the week: 8O - for achieving the most reward points with 2,980. 8N - for achieving the highest attendance with 98.04%.

Stars of the fortnight: Manpreet Kaur – highest rewards point scorer for the whole year!

Year 9 (Miss Scott):

Form of the week: 9L - for getting the highest attendance in the whole of year 9. Well done!

Stars of the fortnight: Sandra Deba, Lindsey Riley, Lilly Appleton, Tori Bradshaw, Tegan Hilton, Muhammed Muntasir, Lilimae Wakefield and Tegan Goodwin. You have all achieved the most positive points in your tutor groups.

Year 10 (Mr McDonagh):

Form of the fortnight: 10R - for top form and most improved form rewards.

Stars of the fortnight: Libby Dodsley and Dean Ironmonger - 10R. For consistent engagement and focus in lessons.

ACE Centre (Mr Taylor):

Star of the fortnight: Janai-Devon Carr-Fearn – for a fabulous work ethic, maturity and commitment shown to her work.

Year 11 (Miss Southern):

Form of the week: 11A - for the highest and most improved attendance throughout year 11 so far.

Star of the fortnight: Joshua Beardmore - 11k for always having fantastic manners and a sunny disposition.

Facilities Management:

The school hoodies are still available to purchase via the Gateway app. This offer will close on 18th December.





PSHE:

Thoughts for the Week Ahead:

W/C 07/12/2020: 'As a civilised society, we have a duty to support those among us who are vulnerable and in need'.

W/C 30/11/2020: 'Be so good they can't ignore you!'

Assemblies:

W/C 23/11/2020: Christmas is more than presents.

W/C 30/11/2020: Rewards.

Week 1

Year 7: How responsible and irresponsible choices affect my dreams and goals.

Year 8: Money and earnings.

Year 9: Mental health and illness.

Year 10: A healthy balance.

Year 11: Careers.

Week 2

Year 7: How making an irresponsible choice could affect a person's dreams and goals.

Year 8: The price of life.

Year 9: Media manipulation and mental health.

Year 10: A healthy balance.

Year 11: Careers.



Safeguarding:

The Home Office has announced the launch of a month-long campaign in partnership with charities including the NSPCC, to protect victims of child abuse in England. The Something's Not Right campaign encourages young people to recognise different forms of abuse, report it and get help. The campaign will see animated adverts aimed at secondary school pupils aged 13+, running across Instagram, Snapchat and Facebook. Young people will be directed to a dedicated page on the NSPCC's Childline where they can access information and seek support.

Read the news story: [Government leads national drive to protect victims of child abuse](#)

Childline website: [Getting help if you're worried](#)

Quality of Education:

At this time of year, with the dark nights closing in early and the winter break fast approaching, it can be very tempting for students to spend the evenings wrapped up in front of the fire and enjoying the increasing array of Christmas films already on our televisions. Please continue to support and encourage your child to maintain a routine when it comes to homework: homework first, and then leisure time.

Gaps in knowledge can be easily both prevented and remedied by daily engagement with the knowledge retrieval homework tasks set by your child's teachers, and at Noel-Baker Academy we know that 'Knowledge Is Power' – *Scientia Potentia Est*. Homework can be found on the Academy website - <https://www.noelbakeracademy.co.uk> – and is located on the 'Curriculum' tab under the sub-heading 'Home Learning'.



Attendance Matters:

This week has seen the start of our Attendance competition to win a £20 Amazon gift card. All students who achieve 100% attendance between 1st and 18th December will be entered into the prize draw and one student will be selected at random from each year group. Remember you have to be in it to win it!

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) 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.

Behaviour:

As you may be aware there are more and more incidents occurring in the Shelton Lock area, specifically around the canal paths. Please can you inform your children and families to stay safe and refrain from being near these areas. Your safety is paramount and important.

A gentle reminder regarding uniform. All students must be in full Noel Baker Academy uniform on non PE days. On the days your child has PE they must wear the Noel Baker PE kit. No branded tops or hoodies allowed - only the Noel Baker hooded top.

Rewards Competition

In the final two weeks we are having a huge push on rewards. All students in the last two weeks will be competing to collect as many reward points as possible.

The top 10 students in the last two weeks collecting the most reward points in each year group will receive a doughnut and will be entered into a prize draw to win a £10 Amazon voucher.

The top 3 students in each form group that have collected the most reward points since September will all receive a doughnut, a certificate and be entered into a draw for a £10 Amazon voucher.

The top 3 students in each year group that have collected the most reward points since September will automatically win a £10 Amazon voucher plus a doughnut and certificate.

You've got to be in it to win it!

Future Dates for your Diary:

Friday 18th December - school breaks up for Christmas. Staggered finish times below:

- Year 7 – finish start of break time at 2.20pm.
- Year 8 – finish at 1.50pm at end of period 4.
- Year 9 – finish after shortened lunch at 2.10pm.
- Year 10 – finish at 2.00pm after lesson.
- Year 11 – finish at 1.25pm.
- ACE - finish at 1.50pm.

