

## Message from the Headteacher:

Thank you to all parents and carers for your ongoing support in what has been a challenging year for all of us. We are so incredibly happy to have the school back up and running to full capacity and to once again be able to teach our students face to face rather than remotely.

Moving forward into the final term of the year, the school will continue to operate within year group bubbles and with staggered start and end times. We're hopeful that in September, we will be able to return to a more normal way of working. The 2021-22 term dates will be published on our website at the start of next term, as will the September start and end times.

As we go into Spring and the weather looks set to get better, students will no longer be able to wear their school hoodies under their blazers. We will return to full school uniform after the Easter holidays but students will still need to attend school in their PE kit on PE days. The navy school hoodies will be part of our PE uniform moving forward and students will be able to wear them on PE days. A full uniform list is available on our website: <https://www.noelbakeracademy.co.uk/uniform/>

In addition to this, our school dinner menu will also be undergoing a re-launch and we're hoping to be able to advise you about a new pre-order dinner system in time for May half term.

## 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](http://www.education-ni.gov.uk)



## COVID-19:

### Home Lateral Flow Tests

Please continue to conduct lateral flow tests during the Easter Holidays for your children. You will need to report the results to us on a Sunday and Thursday (details on home page of our website) until further notice. If you gave consent for school testing and have not received a test pack, please email [enquiries@noelbakeracademy.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@noelbakeracademy.co.uk)

### Face Coverings

All students are required to wear a face covering at all times whilst in school. 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

**Form of the fortnight:** 7B - for the most positive points as a collective. Well done 7B, please keep this up!!

**Stars of the fortnight:** Roshaya Thomas and Jack Fields for their amazing work in English and PSHE. Well done to both of you - keep up the good work!!

## Year 8

**Form of the week:** 8K - for settling back into school with great enthusiasm.

**Stars of the fortnight:** Billie Kennedy - 8A, for showing kindness to peers and making sure everyone feels included. Muhammad-Mufassir Khan - 8O, for going above and beyond to help staff and having a really positive attitude.

## Year 9

**Form of the week:** 9O - for collecting the most positive points.

**Stars of the fortnight:** Tegan Goodwin, Muhammad Muntasir and Destiny Imonitie-Felix for their hard work in gaining the highest positive points. Jack Beaumont and Kayden Tillson for their great effort and attitude to learning

## Year 10

**Form of the fortnight:** Well done to all of year 10 for their commitment to attending school.

**Stars of the fortnight:** Very well done to our Duke of Edinburgh students in year 10!

## Year 11

**Form of the week:** Well done to all of year 11 for their commitment to attending school.

**Star of the fortnight:** Well done to James Murphy Clarke for his continued drive to join the Army and for entering the final selection process this week. Also, well done to our 56 students who have signed up for NCS!!!!

## ACE Centre

**Star of the fortnight:** Angel Harby, who has been outstanding since attending the ACE centre. She is an absolute pleasure to teach and is a credit to herself and her family. We wish her every success when she leaves us in four weeks to pursue her future pathway.

## Behaviour:

**Detentions** - we are not required by law to inform parents when a child is given a detention, but we do so as a courtesy. The only time these can be re-scheduled is if there is an urgent medical need or for legal reasons sanctioned by the Head Teacher. If a child does not stay for detention, they will be placed in internal exclusion the next day **in addition** to a detention at the end of that day.

Please see attached letter relating to PE kit expectations and standards. This has also been sent to you by Schoolcomms.

## PSHE:

### Thoughts for the week ahead:

- W/C 19.04.2021 "Ignorance is the curse of God, knowledge the wing wherewith we fly to heaven." *William Shakespeare.*
- W/C 26.04.2021 "We all make mistakes, have struggles and even regret things in our past. But you are not your mistakes, you are not your struggles, and you are here NOW with the power to shape your day and your future." *Steve Maroboli*

### Assemblies:

- W/C 19.04.2021 Respect and tolerance - the importance of cultural heritage.  
W/C 26.04.2021 Individual liberty - respect and dignity.

## Safeguarding:

At Noel-Baker Academy we take any kind of bullying and harassment seriously. We want our children to be able to recognise all forms of bullying and harassment. Please see below some links to help you and your children recognise sexual harassment, whether it be online or in person.

<https://safeguarding.network/safeguarding-resources/sexual-violence-sexual-harassment/>

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/online-sexual-harassment-advice-for-parents-and-carers-of-13-17-year-olds>

<https://kidshealth.org/en/teens/harassment.html>

## Facilities Management:

**Cycling** - is a fantastic way to get to school, but it is very important that we consider the safety of our children and others. We encourage those children who are cycling to school to be respectful of other road users, pedestrians and their own safety. Please remind them that they must dismount and walk their bikes when on the school site and wear a helmet for the journey. This is a mandatory requirement, and students who ride their bikes without wearing a helmet will have their bikes confiscated.

**Electric scooters** - are banned for use as transport for school. We will support parents who wish to report any misuse of electric scooters on the highway to the police. Any student using a scooter will have it confiscated and parents will receive a phone call and a letter.

**Litter** - please help us by reminding your children to be respectful of our neighbours in the local community on their journey to and from school and on the school site by using bins for their litter. There are bins available both inside and outside the school gates. Thank you to all those children and visitors that help keep the site looking so smart.

## Quality of Education:

Thank you to all of our families who contacted us to say how useful the 'This Week In...' document was, throughout the latest period of remote learning, in opening discussions with your children about what they are currently studying in school. We have re-instated this weekly communication, which is designed to support you to keep in touch with your child's curriculum experience each week, and offers you some knowledge retrieval questions (answers also supplied) which you can ask your child in order to support their learning. At NBA, we know that 'Practice Makes Permanent', and asking regular knowledge retrieval questions is a powerful tool to help students to embed and maintain knowledge in their long-term memory. As always, we thank you for your continued support.

## Attendance Matters:

The Attendance Team would like to express their thanks for your support in ensuring that your child maintains a good attendance record in light of the pandemic. To reinforce, **attendance is mandatory** and therefore, your child must attend school every day and on-time. Good attendance is crucial to the future educational success of your child. At Noel-Baker Academy, good attendance is defined as 97% and above, but your child must **aim for 100% attendance**. If your child achieves this, they will have full access to a knowledge-rich curriculum, the opportunity to engage positively with the Academy and be able to enjoy a feeling of belonging to their community.

*If your child is absent, you are now able to email the attendance team on [attendance@noelbakeracademy.co.uk](mailto:attendance@noelbakeracademy.co.uk) to explain and evidence the reason for the absence. We will then authorise the day(s) off and update your child's record.*

## Miscellaneous:

**Vacancy for New Parent Governor** - 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.

If you are interested, please contact Jane Bailey, Head Teacher's PA on [enquiries@noelbaker.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@noelbaker.co.uk) and we will send you an expression of interest form and more details. Depending on the number of applications, there may be an election process. Closing date for completed applications – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April.



**Headteacher:** Mrs Ann Donaghy  
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**Telephone:** 01332 572026  
**enquiries@noelbakeracademy.co.uk**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents and ~~Carers~~

At Noel-Baker we pride ourselves on our high expectations and standards for uniform. As PE kit is now worn throughout the day on PE days, we would like to ensure that the same standards and expectations are upheld for PE uniform. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to once again share key information with regard to PE at Noel-Baker Academy and the standards linked to uniform for PE.

In line with government guidance, PE lessons are still being delivered outdoors. As a result of this, PE lessons will take place in open air spaces and there will be occasions where lessons take place outside in inclement weather such as light rain. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to encourage students to prepare themselves appropriately for being outside. It is imperative that students bring sufficient outdoor clothing, ~~eg~~ a waterproof jacket to every lesson, so they are able to participate comfortably and safely.

As we approach the summer term students will remain in their 'bubble' classes for their lessons however there will be more opportunity to study the key sports in line with the curriculum for this time of the academic year.

As an Academy we have measures in place that allow students to be ~~organised~~ into smaller groups. Thorough cleaning of PE equipment before and after lessons will be undertaken and staff will ensure lessons adhere to social distancing measures where possible.

Students are still expected to arrive to school in PE kit on the days they have timetabled PE in order to avoid the use of changing areas. Students will not have access to the changing room facility and therefore must come fully prepared.

A reminder that our outdoor kit consists of the following:

- Academy polo top or Academy reversible games top or plain blue round neck t-shirt (this must not be branded).
- Base layers can be worn underneath the Academy polo top.
- Plain navy/black shorts (no branded shorts - also the shorts must be of a suitable length).
- Plain navy/black skirts (see image on next page - leggings and cycling shorts are not permitted).
- Plain navy or black tracksuit bottoms (no branded tracksuit bottoms).
- Noel Baker hoodie only.
- Waterproof sports jacket.
- Appropriate PE trainers (please be aware, students will be on the grass which may be muddy).
- Waterproof jacket can be worn during wet weather.

Please see examples of acceptable and unacceptable PE kit:

Acceptable items of PE kit:



Unacceptable items of PE kit



If the weather is unsafe or unsuitable for PE to be delivered outside, a wet weather plan will be applied. This may result in PE being moved to a classroom where students will complete a PE theory lesson. We will continue to review the government guidance, plan accordingly and inform you of any changes we make. We look forward to welcoming students back to PE.

**If students do not comply with the above expectations after the Easter holidays, they will be expected to borrow items of uniform from our store so they are wearing the correct kit. Failure to borrow uniform will result in a day in internal exclusion.**

If you would like to discuss any of these points further please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Mr. M Taylor.

Mr. M Taylor  
Assistant Headteacher Behaviour and Head of ACE

