

Noel Baker Summer School – August 2021



Overview

We invited Year 6 students from our feeder schools to attend a Summer School at Noel-Baker Academy in the summer of 2021. The aim was to catch up with some of the learning the children had missed during lockdown and to support their transition from primary to secondary school. We had capacity for 140 students to attend.

The same group of students attended for one week of Summer School activities, Monday to Friday, during week commencing Monday 9th August.

The Summer School was staffed by teachers and support staff from Noel-Baker Academy who worked some of their summer holiday. Staff were allocated to named groups of students and went to the different activities with them unless they were personally leading sessions. The summer school activities and lessons were planned by members of Noel-Baker teaching staff. The summer school was coordinated by 2 members of teaching staff with support from a member of the Senior Leadership Team and finance and admin staff.

Every day the students began with breakfast and then the school **roll call** before going off to either a Maths, English, Science, Art, PE, Technology or Food Technology lesson.

The ethos of our Summer School was for the students to build relationships with each other and the staff, and to build resilience by being together and navigating around the building. Core skills were covered in the classroom lessons each morning and all students had an opportunity to learn in each subject.

Subjects

In the core subjects of Maths English and Science sessions were focused on the understanding of key skills required at an introductory level for secondary education. These included place value and its relation to functions in maths, sentence structure and reading in English and investigations in Science.

Students cooked for the rest of the group. The first Food Technology session each day made cookies for break time and the second Food Technology session cooked lunch every day. This built the idea that we are a community and we look after each other. Students learnt key life skills and were responsible for feeding the rest of the community a healthy, nutritious lunch.

An art project covered three of the morning sessions where students produced banners to be displayed in school demonstrating pride in their work and building confidence.

An orienteering exercise took them around the school site and a den building activity built teamwork and allowed them to work outside in teams.

Each afternoon we had a physical activity playing zone ball, rounders and participating in a mini sports day until the Friday where we finished with a mini summer fayre to which parents were also

invited. This built positive relationships between The Academy and parents and allowed children to demonstrate some of their work to their parents and carers in a positive environment.

Impact

Children have told us that the Summer School gave them confidence when starting their new school in September – it was a place they were familiar with rather than a building they had never been inside. They knew our lesson routines and staff were familiar faces rather than strangers. They covered some of the key introductory areas in important subjects and learnt to work and play together, all things that children had missed during lockdown. Year 7 have made a very positive start to their time at Noel-Baker and this is in part down to the Summer School that half of them attended.

Attendance

Monday 9th August 2021	139
Tuesday 10th August 2021	137
Wednesday 11th August 2021	138
Thursday 12th August 2021	137
Friday 13th August 2021	139

Finance

The summer school was funded by the government and the costs are outlined below.

Resources	£ 4,377.88
Food	£ 1,121.92
Staffing Costs	£ 21,259.91
Facilities Management Cleaning	£ 340.00
Share of PFI building charge including utilities	£ 3,300.00
Total	£ 30,399.71