

## Message from the Head Teacher:

Following our recent Ofsted inspection in March 2022, I am beyond delighted to be able to share with parents and carers that inspectors judged that Noel Baker Academy is now a 'Good' school.

Inspectors recognised the significant improvements made across the Academy since consecutive inadequate judgements in 2016 and 2018, describing the academy as 'transformed' and as 'a school of which the whole community can be proud.'

We have worked exceptionally hard to ensure the curriculum is broad and ambitious and it was wonderful for the inspection team to note that the curriculum is 'highly ambitious' and that teachers 'use their expertise well to deliver the planned curriculum,' helping pupils to 'make links between their learning.'

Inspectors noted that student 'conduct is exemplary,' that pupils at Noel-Baker 'thrive' and praised our wonderful students who they recognise make a 'positive contribution their community' and 'are ambitious for their futures.' I know that you will join me in recognising just how wonderful the young people of Noel-Baker Academy are.

It's hard to find the words to express just how proud we are of our student body and all that they have achieved and will continue to do so despite the disruption to all of our lives that the last few years have wrought. Their ambition and determination to be the best that they can be makes us proud every single day.

Finally, thank you to all of the parents, carers, alumni and members of the wider community for their support in driving forward the improvements at Noel-Baker over the last four years. Your support, dedication and willingness to embrace change, are the foundations for the improvements we have achieved and with your continued support, we look forward to building upon on successes to date and to the Academy continuing on its strong upward trajectory, as we work towards becoming an exceptional academy.

A full copy of the report can be found here: <https://www.noelbakeracademy.co.uk/ofsted-2>

A short celebratory video shared with students in school today can be found here: [https://youtu.be/D7f1dM\\_hNBU](https://youtu.be/D7f1dM_hNBU)

Thank you and here's to the next chapter in our journey.

## Attendance Matters:

**Rewards and Nudge Texts directly to your child:** Many thanks for providing your child's mobile telephone number. Our 'positive nudge text' strategy has seen some amazing results with more and more children increasing their attendance and receiving daily surprise rewards. If you still haven't submitted it please use the following link and answer the few questions. If your child doesn't have a mobile phone do not worry- any texts will go directly to the parent so your child won't miss out. <https://forms.office.com/r/rWC6dfh7jV>

**Pupil Absence:** It is extremely important that you inform the attendance team by 8.30am if your child is too unwell to come to school. We can then authorise the absence and update your child's attendance record. Finally, we would also like to share that our attendance at Noel- Baker Academy is currently higher than all other state funded secondary schools in the country- but we still expect your child to be here punctually every day so please continue to support your child to enable them to have excellent attendance because attendance really does matter **#AttendanceMatters**

## Quality of Education:

After our extremely 'good' news this week, we would simply like to remind our students in every year group that success in school is brought about by their consistent efforts day after day, week after week, across the academic year. Simply by engaging in their lessons every day, students can make great gains in new knowledge, and ultimately achieve great things. We are really proud of our learners - keep doing exactly what you're doing!

## Thoughts for the Weeks Ahead and PSHE Topics:

**Week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022:** *Achieve - 'There is no beauty better than intellect' Muhammad, Prophet*

**Week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022:** *Achieve - 'Define your own success on your own terms, achieve it by your own rules, and build a life you're proud to live' Anne Sweeney, Business Person*

**Year 7 will be covering:** Exploitation and knife crime

**Year 8 will be covering:** Different types of health and how to improve that health

**Year 9 will be covering:** Protected Characteristics and the Equality Act 2010

**Year 10 will be covering:** Taking the Leap - skills for the future such as growth mindset, time management, setting goals

**Year 11 will be covering:** Taking the Leap – skills for the future such as resilience, dealing with failure, increasing self esteem

## Safeguarding:

With the lighter nights and warmer weather now being here it usually means that there are more members of the public out and about in the community and this will be at all times of the day. Could we ask all parents to remind our children of the importance of being aware of their surroundings and the importance of "Stranger Danger".

Should your child be approached by anyone they feel uncomfortable about, please inform the Academy or the Police directly with all details of the incident.

**LEAD:**

**Form of the fortnight:** 7E for best attendance and 7O for most reward points

**Star of the fortnight:** 8N Emily G most rewarded student

**EMPOWER:**

**Form of the fortnight:** 10E for best attendance and 7B for most reward points

**Star of the fortnight:** 7B Elena W

**ACHIEVE:**

**Form of the fortnight:** Well done to 7A for the most reward points - 217!!

**Star of the fortnight:** Well done to Dakota in 7A for the most reward points - keep it up!!

**DRIVE:**

**Form of the fortnight:** Well done to 7P for the most reward points!!

**Star of the fortnight:** Well done to Mandy in 8K for the most reward points - your smashing it!!

**EXCEL:**

**Year group of the fortnight:** Year 10 - for the highest attendance over the two weeks and highest points for their attitude to learning

**Star of the fortnight:** Elise W 8ACE. Having a willingness to succeed every and a positive attitude

## Behaviour:

### P.E Kit Reminder

A reminder that students should only be arriving to school in their P.E kit on P.E days. With the warmer weather around the corner, we would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of our P.E kit. Our P. E uniform consists of:

- Academy polo top.
- Academy reversible games top.
- Academy Noel Baker hoodie.
- Plain navy or black shorts (No cycling shorts).
- Base layers / skins are allowed including for religious / cultural reasons that require students to cover up.

We encourage students to be as prepared as possible for their P.E lessons over the next term. Students should ensure they have the correct uniform under their hoodie, as they will need to remove it for P.E lessons after Easter, when it is hot to prevent them from overheating. If you need to purchase any P.E kit, you can do so from Uniform Direct."

**Please be aware that when students return after the Easter Break (week commencing: 25.04.22) hoodies will only be a part of the school PE kit, they will no longer be a part of the everyday uniform.**

## Lateral Flow Testing:

A reminder to all parents/carers to continue to carry out and log Lateral Flow Testing twice weekly as requested. This initiative is really important and is continuing to keep everyone safe. You can obtain free kits via the government website up to and including 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms. We are therefore asking all parents to continue testing their children to help us to continue to provide a normal education for our students and keep the school open.