



Noel-Baker Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy



Headteacher: Mrs Ann Donaghy
Address: Derwent Campus, Bracknell Drive,
Alvaston, Derby DE24 0BR
Telephone: 01332 572026
enquiries@noelbakeracademy.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of what has been a long and challenging year for us all I would like to take this opportunity to write to you to outline the arrangements for the end of the summer term, some changes to our procedures in the autumn and the details of our return in September.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your ongoing and unswerving support of the academy and our young people as we have worked hard to manage and navigate our way through the last year and the many challenges that gradually returning to normal post cv-19 have thrown up.

I am very proud of the staff and students of Noel-Baker Academy, despite the difficulties that have come our way during the course of this year the Academy has continued to improve and we are delighted that the academy is now publicly recognised by Ofsted as a Good school. I am thankful of your support in helping us to achieve so much and I have been very pleased to hear from many of you about how different you and your children feel the Academy is.

In September, we will continue with our relentless focus on driving up standards and the quality of education in the Academy. Research shows that schools that have the highest standards and expectations of all students are those who achieve the very best results. With that in mind, and in order to continue on our rapidly improving journey we will continue to focus on ensuring that all students meet our expectations, including being fully equipped and correctly dressed for school and attaining a 100% attendance record.

With that in mind, please find below details of the arrangements for the end of term and the start of the new term in September 2021.

End of term arrangements

The academy will close for the summer holidays on Friday 22nd July at 12:05. Students will be able to purchase lunch from the canteen up until 12:35pm prior to their departure should they wish.

Uniform

With the weather expected to continue to be hot up until the end of term we have taken the decision to move to PE kit for the remainder of the term.

The full Noel-Baker Academy PE kits consists of:

- Navy blue academy PE t-shirt or plain navy blue t-shirt
- Black or navy **non branded** shorts (not cycling), jogging bottoms or Skort
- Trainers

These items are compulsory. The following items are also acceptable if necessary depending on the weather. These items are not instead of the full PE kit listed above, but over and above should your child require them:

- Noel Baker Academy hooded top. No other hooded top should be worn and a long sleeved T Shirt can be worn under the T Shirt if required.
- A suitable coat or jacket can be worn to school as normal as long as this is removed inside buildings.
- Sun hat

PE Uniform for 2022-23

- As a result of staff, student and parent feedback we will be maintaining our current uniform policy in the new academic year. This means that on days when students have a PE lesson they will continue to come to school in their PE kit. Please note that no PE lessons will take place on students' first day back in September and as such, they will need to be in full uniform.
- The uniform expectations for PE kit will remain the same – no branded joggers or shorts will be permitted.

Free Service to Buy and Sell Used School Uniform

We have been made aware of a service that parents may wish to use called “**Grown out of It**” which can be found at <https://www.grownoutofit.co.uk/>

This is a website where parents can buy and sell used uniform without being charged. There is a page specifically for Noel-Baker. The service is not linked to school in any way, and we are not responsible for how it performs, but we thought many parents might want to make use of a cost effective and environmentally sustainable alternative to buying new uniform.

Celebration of Culture and Diversity

Between the 11th – 22nd July, we are holding our first Celebration of Culture and Diversity. This celebration will see us learning about different cultures and identities across the world within lessons as well as through a range of cultural experiences including food, music, costume making workshops and much more.

The celebration culminates in a parade where students, staff, governors, and external visitors will join together to recognise and celebrate all members of our diverse school community. It will be a bright, colourful and vibrant start to our sports day this year on Thursday 21st July.

Sports Day

Sports day will be held on Thursday 21st July.

All students are required to attend in their full Noel-Baker Academy PE kit for the duration of the day to allow them to participate. (please see above for details).

Face paints/glitter can we worn on Sports day but in line with our risk assessment, **must** be applied at home and not brought onto school site.

If a student is injured and cannot take a practical part in the activities, they are still required to attend school in their **full PE kit**. Students to be excused from activities must bring a note outlining the details of why they cannot take part. This note must be given to their tutor during morning roll call.

All students should bring a bottle of water to school for sports day that can be re-filled by kitchen staff during lunch if needed.

The School day

A reminder and outline of the school day can be found below:

	LEAD	EMPOWER	ACHIEVE	DRIVE
08:15am	Breakfast Clubs (optional)			
08:30am	Roll Call (enter through theatre)	Roll Call (enter through theatre)	Roll Call (enter through MUGA)	Roll Call (Netball courts)
08:40	NBA Reads	NBA Reads	NBA Reads	NBA Reads
09:00	Lesson 1	Lesson 1	Lesson 1	Lesson 1
09:55	Lesson 2	Lesson 2	Lesson 2	Lesson 2
10:50	Break	Break	Break	Break
11:10	Lesson 3	Lesson 3	Lesson 3	Lesson 3
12:05	Lunch	PSHE	Lesson 4	Lesson 4
12:35	PSHE	Lunch		
13:05	Lesson 4	Lesson 4	Lunch	PSHE
13:35			PSHE	Lunch
14:05	Lesson 5	Lesson 5	Lesson 5	Lesson 5
End of compulsory lessons				
15:00 – 16:00	Period 6 – Extracurricular clubs, C2 Detentions and Late Gate catch-up			

Attendance

The Attendance Team want to thank those of you who have ensured that your child attended school promptly every day. Your support for their education is invaluable and the benefits they gain from being at school every day cannot be underestimated. The school works incredibly hard to support those of you who struggle with attendance. The recent Ofsted report commented that overall levels of attendance have improved at Noel- Baker Academy, but it remains one of our top priorities. Our pastoral team work with individual pupils closely on this, also involving teachers, and many interventions and incentives have been developed and introduced to tackle barriers to learning - this work will continue to be developed so that all pupils attend well next academic year. Guidelines make it very clear the irreparable damage absence from school has on a child's life chances: If a child's attendance falls below the 90% guideline for persistent absence then this equates to 20 days absence from school, which potentially is 100 lessons missed and the equivalent of one academic year of English, maths or Science lessons. Parents may not be aware of the cumulative effect of the absence. When your child returns in September, within the first few days, their attendance record will be 100%- this needs to be sustained and we will continue to work together effectively to make this happen. Many thanks again for your support and have a wonderful summer break. #AttendanceMatters

Parent meetings:

Recently a minority of parents and carers have started to arrive at school during the day requesting to meet with academy staff on spec. Whilst we try and accommodate as many meeting requests as possible please be aware that all staff have very busy timetables and schedules. This means that unless an appointment is pre-booked we will unfortunately have to ask parents to leave site and arrange an appointment at an alternative time when staff are available. If parents and carers would like to request an appointment to meet with a member of staff please either email the staff member directly or email enquiries@noelbakeracademy.co.uk, your email will then be picked up by a member of the administration team who will arrange the meeting.

Autumn Term Dates

Please find below the details of the return dates for each year group:

Monday 5 th September	Year 7
Tuesday 6 th September	Year 11
Wednesday 7 th September	Years, 10, 9 & 8

Farewells and New Arrivals:

Of course, it is the time in the year when we sadly say goodbye to some staff. I know that you will join me in publicly thanking them for all that they have done for the Academy and our students.

This year we say a fond farewell to Ms Licence who, after 30 years of service to Noel-Baker in our catering team, is retiring. Ms Guest who leaves us after 14 years in our music department; Ms Criddle-Jones who is leaving to take up a promoted post as Head of Drama and Mr Ratchford who is also taking up a promoted post as Head of English elsewhere.

We are also saying goodbye to: Mr New (Teacher of PE); Mr Draper (Assistant Curriculum Director Maths); Ms Iovine (Teacher of Maths); Mr Davis (Teacher of Geography); Ms Hill (Teacher of Geography); Ms Lord (Teacher of Maths); Ms Hussey (Teacher of Geography); Ms Peacock (Teacher of MFL); Ms Goh (Science Technician); Ms Faulkner (Intervention Lead) and Ms Parker (SEND support). We will miss them all and thank them for their hard work and dedication to the Academy. We wish them all every success in the future.

Although it is sad to be saying goodbye to some colleagues, I know that you will also join me in welcoming new faces to the Academy in the next academic year:

Ms Yasmin – Teacher of English & Co-Key Stage 3 lead in English

Ms Haveron – Teacher of MFL

Ms Sefiane – Teacher of MFL

Ms Riley-Heenan – Teacher of MFL

Mr Khan – Teacher of Computer Science

Mr Williams – Assistant Curriculum Director, Maths

Mr Jones – Teacher of Maths

Mr McDonagh – Teacher of Science

Mr Ross – Teacher of Music

Mr Dilkes – Head of Music

Mr Pessoll – Teacher of Drama

Mr Heeley – Teacher of Business Studies and Media

Mr Fogg – Teacher of Geography

Ms Detton – Teacher of Geography

Mr Redfern – Teacher of History

We would like to take this opportunity to celebrate students who have really stepped up over this last term:

Lead	Alfie M (7E) for such an amazing turn around with his behaviour and his attitude towards learning. He is a valued member of the NBA family
Empower	Owen MC (7L) for being an amazing student and a great example for Empower house
Achieve	Connor S (7A) - For consistently being a well-behaved student and a credit to NBA, always being a happy face and polite to all.

- Drive Olivia W (7P) for having the most positive reward points and best behaviour throughout the year.
- Excel Dylan H for the most improved student in ACE. Dylan has made a real effort to control his behaviour since Christmas. He tries his best each day and has shown a willingness to improve his work ethic and attitude to learning. Well done Dylan and carry this on into year 9!

Well done everyone.

All that's left for me to say, is thank you as always for your continued support of the Academy and have a great summer. We look forward to welcoming students back in September.

Yours faithfully



Ann Donaghy
Head Teacher