

Message from the Head Teacher:

We're now into the full swing of our new academic year and I would like to congratulate all our years for returning to the Academy with a smile on their faces and a positive attitude to learning. I'd like to say a special welcome to our new Year 7's who have really shown that they are truly a part of Noel-Baker and have welcomed every challenge that has faced them head on – they are amazing.

A couple of things that I need to inform you of and also need to ask for your assistance with:

Lockdown Drill

Firstly, as part of our safeguarding practises and procedures, we have to practise should the Academy need to be placed into lockdown. This drill will happen at some point over the next few weeks. A real lockdown would happen if students and staff need to be locked within buildings for their own safety. This could be if there is a dangerous intruder on the Academy's grounds, but more likely, it would occur in the event of a hazardous situation such as a chemical spill or fire outside of the Academy, which makes it dangerous for students, staff and visitors to be outside.

Please do not become alarmed, it something we have to do should the occasion arise.

Allergies

We have two students who have joined our academy this term who have a severe allergy to nuts. The allergy is so severe that even opening anything that contains nuts near them can cause a reaction. Due to this please can we kindly ask that no item of food is brought into the academy which may contain nuts or is a nut i.e. breakfast cereal bars, snickers, a packet of nuts in place of a packet of crisps etc. I really cannot stress the severity of the allergy these students have, we have already had an incident where paramedics needed to be called due to an item with nuts in being opened.

Your cooperation and assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

Quality of Education:

We have been delighted to welcome our students back to school for the new academic year, and this term has got off to a flying start. The Noel-Baker day comprises 330 minutes of learning time, and we like to make sure that we start our day's learning as effectively as possible. In Years 7-10, students' days begin with a session of daily reading, during which students are read to from a diverse, challenging, poignant and enriching selection of novels. Across the four years, students will find themselves journeying, through these books, across time and space, exploring both their own world and also worlds beyond their own experience. In Year 11, meanwhile, we are excited to have launched our new initiative to begin the day - NBA Review. Knowing how vital it is to revise little and often, these powerful daily sessions support students to embed knowledge from the core subjects of English, Maths and Science into their long-term memory. Year 11 are already making great use of these morning lessons, and we are really proud of their strong and determined approach to this new term.

Attendance Matters:

To all our lovely new year 7's and new starters- welcome to Noel- Baker and welcome back to all our other wonderful year groups! We are excited to see your child maintain an excellent attendance record so they 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. Many parents question what a good attendance record looks like. Of course your child must aim for an attendance record of 100% but what will your child's attendance record be if they are absent? To enable you to understand the impact of your child missing their learning we have created a simple table below:

Attendance % relating to days off each week

0 days off every week	= 0 loss of learning days missed	= 100% Attendance	Excellent Attendance
1 day off every 10 weeks	= 4 loss of learning days missed	= 98% Attendance	
1 day off every 9 weeks	= 6 loss of learning days missed	= 97% Attendance	Good Attendance
1 day off every 4 weeks	= 10 loss of learning days missed	= 95% Attendance	
1 day off every 3 weeks	= 13 loss of learning days missed	= 93% Attendance	Almost Critical-Persistently Absent
1 day off every 2 weeks	= 19½ loss of learning days missed	= 90% Attendance	Critical-Persistently Absent
1 day off every week	= 39 loss of learning days missed	= 80% Attendance	
1½ days off every week	= 58½ loss of learning days missed	= 70% attendance	Critical-Severely Absent
2 days off every week	= 78 loss of learning days missed	= 60% attendance	
2½ days off every week	= 97½ loss of learning days missed	= 50% attendance	
3 days off every week	= 117 loss of learning days missed	= 40% attendance	
3½ days off every week	= 136½ loss of learning days missed	= 30% attendance	
4 days off every week	= 156 loss of learning days missed	= 20% attendance	
4½ days off every week	= 175½ loss of learning days missed	= 10% attendance	

To ensure that your child 'hits' the green, they must only have a maximum of 4 absences this year. We know that the main reason your child may be absent from school is due to illness. Keeping healthy, so your child is able to attend school regularly, is an important part of your child's life. You can help them by ensuring that they exercise, get enough sleep and eat a healthy diet. Please remember that early morning aches and pains often pass, so don't keep your child at home 'just in case', when they could be learning. We will monitor your child's attendance closely and are able to support your child at school if they are feeling unwell. Please also refer to our attendance policy which can be found on our website. Many thanks for your continued support and the attendance team look forward to celebrating your child's attendance with the many rewards that we offer.

<https://www.noelbakeracademy.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Attendance-Policy-September-2022.pdf>

Thoughts for the Weeks Ahead and PSHE Topics:

Week commencing 19th September:

Empower - 'If you plan on being anything less than you are capable of being, you will probably be unhappy all the days of your life' Abraham Maslow, Psychologist

Week commencing 26th September:

Empower - 'The study of Geography is about more than just memorizing places on a map. It's about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures. And in the end, it's about using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together. Barack Obama, 44th US president

Year Group	Topic	Students will learn
Yr 7	Being Me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. That identity is affected by a range of factors b. How peer pressure operates with groups
Yr 8	Being Me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. That identities are complex and can change over time b. There are similarities and differences between people's identities c. People have collective identities and individual identities <p>About the influence family has on self-identity</p>
Yr 9	Being Me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. That different people have different expectations of intimate relationships b. How to access support if you are worried about a relationship issue c. What peer approval is and how it can cause problems d. What grooming is
Yr 10	Liberty & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The freedoms you enjoy in society b. What it means to be safe <p>Potential risks to your safety</p>
Yr 11	Being Me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Some of the legislations that affect 16 year olds b. How to identify things to look forward to in "adulthood" as well as things that could be concerning c. Where to access help and information about those things that could be concerning

LEAD

LEAD:

Form of the fortnight: 7N for having the most reward points

Star of the fortnight: 7N Lily Harrison for exceptional manners

EMPOWER

EMPOWER:

Form of the fortnight: 7E for having the most reward points

Star of the fortnight: 7e Casey-May S most rewarded student great start to NBA

ACHIEVE

ACHIEVE:

Form of the fortnight: For always lining up for Roll Call perfectly each and every time

Star of the fortnight: Finn B 11B for starting Year 11 with such a positive mind-set and being ready and willing to work hard during his final year with us

DRIVE

DRIVE:

Form of the fortnight: Well done to both forms 7r& 8J with an amazing 100% attendance

Star of the fortnight: Well done to Torri D-F for scoring the highest rewards points since returning back

Safeguarding:

As part of our youth engagement, the **Derbyshire Youth Commission** have developed four easy to access surveys on their chosen priorities:

- Knife and Gang Crime
- Abuse and Sexual Harassment
- Relationships between Young People and the Police
- Drugs and Alcohol Abuse

The survey's aim to:

- Understand young people's **lived experiences** of policing and crime
- Understand the challenges young people face when accessing and finding services
- Involve young people in developing future **solutions**

The surveys are open to young people aged **14-25 years who live in Derby or Derbyshire.**

The survey's results will form part of wider research from the youth commissions peer to peer workshops on the priorities. All the results collected will be used to create recommendations for change which will be presented to the **Police and Crime Commissioner Angelique Foster, Chief Constable Rachel Swann and wider stakeholders.** We'd be grateful for your support in sharing these survey's with young people.

Abuse and Sexual Harassment

<https://forms.gle/ZaWVjUugFg4qs4Lv5>

Relationships between YP and the Police

<https://forms.gle/ASD5Ho7esSCKx2x89>

Knife and Gang Crime

<https://forms.gle/NA1f6XhHk4X7rFqi8>

Drugs and Alcohol Abuse

<https://forms.gle/Prdh1qbD19jEtCQZ6>

Behaviour:

Firstly can we say a big thank you to all the students for their positive attitude in returning to the Academy after the summer break. SLANT, SHAPE and STEPS are being followed which is only enforcing the positivity within the Academy which is amazing.

Secondly, please can we reiterate the following with regards to uniform:

- Lanyards are required to be worn at all times – this is not optional. Should a student misplace theirs they must contact their Head of House to obtain a new one;
- Piercing – Only one pair of stud earrings are to be worn. Nose piercings, Tragus, Helix etc. are not permitted and must be removed during Academy hours, this includes plastic retainers;
- Bike Helmets - every student who rides a bike to and from the Academy must wear a helmet. This is compulsory. Any student who arrives on the premises with a bike without their helmet will have their bike locked and parents will be contacted to collect the bike.

Miscellaneous:

WANTED – 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 Debbie Broadhurst, Head Teacher's PA on 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 – 30th September 2022.

Miscellaneous continues....

Our School Library

Last September saw the launch of our new library. With the help of the Student Librarians we have been busy getting these new books onto the shelves. Last academic year we had over 2000 library books borrowed by our students. This September we will be launching the opening of our new Non-Fiction library.



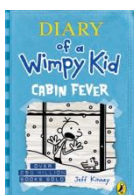
These were some of our most popular books series last year in the fiction section:



Heartstopper - A bestselling graphic novel from our LGBTQ+ about life, love, and everything that happens in between. Now an acclaimed live-action Netflix series!* Boy meets boy. Boys become friends. Boys fall in love.



My Hero Academia -from our Animae and Manga section about a group of super villains who attack University Academia with the intent of getting to All Might.



Diary of the Wimpy Kid - our Superreadable section the hilarious, brilliant, bestselling and award winning Diary of a Wimpy Kid series.

Our most popular titles last year in the nonfiction section were:

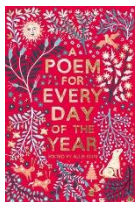


Ultimate Football Heroes - A series of biographies about different famous footballers.



The Diary of a Young girl - Anne Frank - The famous diary of a young Jewish girl hiding from the Nazis. a deeply moving true - life story that comes to an abrupt and tragic end.

This was also one of our morning reading books, so it was great to see students borrowing their own copy to read.



A poem for every day of the year - is a warm and magnificent collection of 366 poems, linking events on key dates - compiled by Allie Esiri, one to share on every day of the year.