



Nailsea School

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19th June 2020

Dear Parents/carers

It has been wonderful to see more staff and students in the building as we come to the end of the first week of wider opening to students in years 10 and 12. We have had 85% of eligible students coming in for these face to face sessions over the first three days. All parents of students in these year groups have received initial plans of timetabled sessions and further details will be sent home to those in year 10 and 12 next week relating to the final two weeks of the academic year.

Provision for key worker children/vulnerable children

The school continues to remain open for students in these categories. Parents are reminded that the booking form needs to be completed **one week in advance**.

Some parents and students were, unfortunately, disappointed this week when we had to turn students away from this provision.

I understand that this may have caused upset within families and for individual students but in line with our risk assessment, which ensures the safety of staff and students, we do need to have this advance notice and if a student does arrive and has not pre booked, they will not be permitted to remain on site.

Parents can access the booking form for week commencing 29th June can be accessed here: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC_kKVN2UUqnozslzVoQVW73i_5A2HxBoDhUtN-POA1UMExHUzFZVTg1WEZFN0lzSTJZS1pNRjAORS4u

Applications for places for week commencing 29th June will close at 10:00am on Friday 26th June.

When students are on site accessing this provision can I please remind parents that they will need to

- bring equipment to use (pen/pencil) so that when taking part in lessons the sharing of resources can be prevented
- wear non uniform, but clothing that is appropriate for a work environment (Students may be asked to go home and change if required)
- bring a filled water bottle (As part of our risk assessment our water fountains are not in operation at the moment and the canteen is not open)

Thanks, in advance, for your support with these requests.

We have also noted that as time has passed and parents return to work there has been an increase in the numbers of students accessing this provision. As a school, as well as providing for these students we have been asked to maintain face to face provision with years 10 and 12. As a result, parents accessing this provision are asked to book for a maximum of three days per week. This is in order to make supervision manageable within the physical restraints we have in the building. **Students will not be able to be in school for more than 3 days in one week.** This will allow all students to access the provision at some point during that week. Thank you for your understanding of this situation.

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Continuation of Home Learning

The government has made it clear that any contact with students in school is a supplement to ongoing home learning which will be the predominant form of education for all students for the remainder of term 6. Work is continuing to be set on Mondays and submissions are expected on Fridays, continuing for the remainder of term as outlined below:

Term 6 Cycle 5 – Mon 29th June – Fri 3rd July

Term 6 Cycle 6 – Mon 6th July – Fri 10th July

Term 6 Cycle 7 – Mon 13th July – Fri 17th July

We can continue to print out paper copies of work for families where there are problems in accessing tasks. These will need to be collected from main reception and parents are encouraged to liaise with their child's Head of House if this is something that is required.

We understand that the thought of a further four weeks of paper based remote learning has caused concern and I have spoken to a number of parents directly about the impact the lack of interaction is having on our students, especially on those in years 7 – 9 where there is no opportunity for them to return to school. Staff have been working behind the scenes on some additions to our provision that will be in place in week commencing 29th June – the final three weeks of term.

From 29th June there will be schedule of recorded and live lessons that will be published on a week by week basis for students to access. This will be delivered through Microsoft Teams, which every student has access to through Office 365 and can be accessed through a laptop, or mobile device by downloading the app. Ahead of the timetable being published in my letter next week it may be useful for students and parents to familiarise themselves with the way Teams operates. This link will be useful as a starting point:

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-gb/office/distance-learning-with-office-365-guidance-for-parents-and-guardians-89d514f9-bf5e-4374-a731-a75d38ddd588?ui=en-us&rs=en-gb&ad=gb>

Further details about the timetable and how to be part of this will be published in my letter next week. We are excited about the further opportunities this will provide students.

Plans for September 2020

I have received a number of emails from parents asking about the plans for September opening and the support for current year 10 and 12 students returning to their final exam years. As a school we have received updates at the same time as the general public and so at present any plans are currently unknown. Please be assured that I do share the concerns that have been raised and I will inform parents on plans as soon as they can be formulated. I am more than aware that students across the country have been placed in an incredibly difficult position and as a school we will be doing everything we can to support them when they do return

Pastoral 1-1 meetings

From week commencing 29th June and in line with government guidance where schools can look at supporting students in other year groups where feasible, the pastoral team will be available for students in years 7-9 to book appointments to discuss how things have been since closure and ways to be ready for a full return when this happens.

These appointments will be made using the system we already use for parents' evenings and further details will be available in my letter next week. In the intervening period, I wanted students in years 7, 8 and 9 to know that we are still thinking of them and I hope many take up this opportunity to come into school and meet with the pastoral team.

Staffing Update

Finally this week, whilst school has been closed to the majority of students I have been continuing to prepare for the next academic year and have been delighted with a number of staffing appointments that I can now share with you.

Assistant Head teacher – Progress and Engagement. Mr Dominic Graffagnino, currently Head of Phoenix House, has been promoted to this role within the school leadership team. Mr Graffagnino will continue links with the House system in overseeing attendance and rewards. He will also have a focus on students achieving their full potential at KS4 and supporting them in moving from KS4 the 6th form.

Assistant Head teacher – Aspiration and Inclusion. Mrs Sophie Ruddy, currently Head of English, has also been promoted, completing the senior leadership team. Mrs Ruddy will oversee the strategic development of the Resource Base and ensure the school continues to support all students in succeeding in accessing the curriculum. Mrs Ruddy will also oversee the Careers Programme at the school.

Heads of House – with Mrs Shoemith retiring, Miss Figgures on maternity leave and Mr Graffagnino's promotion there will be three new Heads of House in September. Mrs Natalie Wells, a current member of the PE department, will lead Griffin House and has already begun liaising with Mrs Shoemith in a handover. Ms Susi Wisby, a current member of the English department, will be leading Phoenix house and she has begun working with Mr Graffagnino prior to the new year. Finally, we welcome Mr Josh Howard to Nailsea in leading Unicorn House from September, moving from Priory School in Weston Super Mare.

With the increased numbers joining the school we have also made a number of new appointments, as shown below:

Art	Gemma Lane
Music	Katherine Nunn
Technology	Sian Hurst
ICT	Leisa Evans
Geography	Frances Bicknell
Languages	Ben Paillier
Religious Studies/Social Sciences	Joshua Boyce Joshua Howard
English	Paul Jones – Head of Department Josephine Jones – Teacher of English/Media
Science	David Bradley – Physics Thomas Burgess – Physics Helen Young – Chemistry
Resource Base	Melody Cole – Deputy SENCO Suzanne Lange – Inclusion teacher (Eng and Hums) Viki Brewster – Inclusion teacher (Maths and Science)
Cover Supervisor	Susie Powell
Academic Mentor	Charis Duckworth

I am delighted with the expansion of our great team of staff at Nailsea, all of whom will be there to support your children on their return to school.

As ever, thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher