



Nailsea School

ASPIRE BELIEVE SUCCEED

4th November 2020

Dear Parents/carers

Apologies for a further piece of correspondence today and at such a late hour. However, given the amount of contact I have received this evening from individual parents and the discussions taking place on social media I felt it was important to contact the school community as a whole.

As my correspondence today demonstrated, Nailsea School has taken the role of ensuring the site is a safe environment incredibly seriously. Government guidance is clear that schools should remain open. Despite having the privilege of leading this fantastic school my jurisdiction and influence alone cannot extend past 3pm on school days when students leave the school site or the actions of students during the school holidays. Our students families and parents who live within our community have a vital role to play in ensuring that the spread of the virus is reduced as much as possible alongside the parental responsibility of ensuring guidance is understood and being adhered to within the community.

In order for the system of track and trace to work successfully, both in a school and national context, the system relies on students and families passing on notification of positive cases. The actions required following any positive case are determined by the information supplied to either Track and Trace or the school. I can confirm over the half term break there were two students that have now been identified to the school this morning as testing positive. Neither of these students have been on site since the start of term.

It was with incredible disappointment that I was made aware, in one of these situations, that a number of students from KS4 attended a gathering during the half term break which clearly undermines the practices we have introduced in school and the national guidance of households mixing.

Despite the speculation within the student body and the wider community on social media I would like to reassure families that

- the student in KS4 who has tested positive has not been in school at all during term 2 and continues to not be in school, following Track and Trace guidance on isolation.
- The school was informed on Wednesday morning. As this has been a case that happened outside of the student being in school, this is not directly linked to the in school KS4 bubble.
- ONLY students that were in direct contact with the student at the half term event need to isolate, and are now isolating if they are a student of our school. Of the students in school that were instructed to isolate today, none are displaying any symptoms.
- As soon as the school became aware of students that were on site that had been in contact with the student, these students were isolated, contact was made with home and students were collected from the school. This happened within an hour of notification.

Headteacher: Mrs D Elliott
Mizzymead Road, Nailsea, Bristol, BS48 2HN
Company Number: 8084047

Telephone: 01275 852251 e-mail: nailsch@nailseaschool.com Web: www.nailseaschool.com

I hope that this reassures you that all possible actions that could have been taken by the school have been, this has been swiftly actioned and that there is no increased risk to the rest of the bubbles.

I also understand that this is an anxious time for our families and so I felt wider communication was appropriate, despite the late hour.

Finally, I place a huge amount of importance on open and honest communication with parents. If any parent has any question or query at any point about anything that is happening at school, I would ask they contact me directly rather than comment on social media as this can often inflame a situation when the full picture is not known.

Thank you, in advance, for your continued support.

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher