



# Nailsea School

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29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/carers

This week's letter is the last one of a fairly soggy, and occasionally snowy, January. With two weeks remaining of term 3, I know that we have all been awaiting further details from the Prime Minister about the national plans for wider school reopening. This initial announcement came on Wednesday afternoon and I reference this, as well as other key messages below.

### **Prime Minister's announcement regarding wider opening of schools in March**

As has been discussed, the Prime Minister announced that being able to open schools again from 8<sup>th</sup> March was his ambition. At this stage we do not know any further details about this plan and have been told they will be passed on in what would have been the first week of Term 4, week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> February. As always, as soon as they have been made public and there has been time to process the expectations, we will be in touch to explain what this means for Nailsea School and our students and staff.

One thing I can confirm is that the plans for Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April will now change. These were originally planned as INSET days (with students not expected in school). However, given the amount of disruption that students have already experienced and the fact that this is only three weeks after the 8<sup>th</sup> March possible restart, we felt continuing with the original plan would be detrimental for students.

As such students are expected to continue to attend lessons and learning will continue until the final day of Term 4, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April.

As INSET days are statutory training days for staff, these will need to be rescheduled into Term 5 or Term 6. Once the Government has confirmed details around the changes to assessments, exams and schooling in the summer terms, we can reorganise the INSETs with minimal disruption to students and communicate the new dates to you.

### **February half term arrangements**

The government has confirmed that schools will be closed to all pupils during half term, 15<sup>th</sup> February – 19<sup>th</sup> February.

The school will continue to support national measures for track and tracing and if students/staff show symptoms during half term, on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February they should contact [c19@nailseaschool.com](mailto:c19@nailseaschool.com) in order for possible close contacts to be identified. If symptoms are noted on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February and beyond individuals should use the national system.

### **Remote Learning**

Next week will be week B2. All timetables can be found on the school website:

<https://www.nailseaschool.com/remote-learning/>

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As you are aware we are monitoring student submissions and levels of engagement and there have been some really fantastic examples of student focus that they should be rightly proud of.

Given we are now over a month into remote learning a questionnaire has been shared with students. In a similar way we would greatly appreciate any feedback from parents and this can be done through this form:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC\\_kKVN2UUqnozslzVoQVXT5tAGfQHRErSLIBbOeTNFUM0hITjE4TlhWQ0JSQVVD0U9LVFRFWFixNC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC_kKVN2UUqnozslzVoQVXT5tAGfQHRErSLIBbOeTNFUM0hITjE4TlhWQ0JSQVVD0U9LVFRFWFixNC4u)

Thank you in advance for taking the time to do this. Your feedback is invaluable in ensuring our provision can be as good as it possibly can be and we will update families on the responses in due course.

**Students wishing to access school site: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Fri 12<sup>th</sup> February inclusive**

Students who are children of critical workers and those vulnerable students can be supervised on school site for the period of wider school closure. These students will be following the live lesson provision offered to their year group when in school.

The booking form for this period can be found here:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC\\_kKVN2UUqnozslzVoQVW73i\\_5A2HxBoDhUtN-POA1UMTU2QUY1TDdNOEpHVINZUddJVVBURjRIRi4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC_kKVN2UUqnozslzVoQVW73i_5A2HxBoDhUtN-POA1UMTU2QUY1TDdNOEpHVINZUddJVVBURjRIRi4u)

The form will open at 5pm on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January and will close at midday on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January. The later opening will enable working parents to be able to access the form. If you have not been contacted by the school by Monday lunchtime please assume that all of the sessions you have booked can be ones that your child can attend.

If the situation for families does change and places need to be booked in this provision after the form has closed, can I please ask that all enquiries are directed to [nailsch@nailseaschool.com](mailto:nailsch@nailseaschool.com) Spaces can only be allocated for this period if they are available. Going forward it may be that the school may need to prioritise which students are allocated places and/or limit the number of days per week students can access the provision.

As a reminder, students attending school during this period

- should wear EITHER school uniform OR their school PE kit (This is a change from wk comm 1<sup>st</sup> February)
- should bring their own lunch/snacks, unless they are entitled to FSM in which case lunch will be provided
- should bring a water bottle with them.
- should bring headphones with them. The school can provide some but there will be a charge.
- should follow the same rules and expectations as they would during a normal school day, including the fact their phones should be 'off and away for the whole school day'

### **Children's Mental Health Week – week comm 1<sup>st</sup> February**

The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health week is 'Express yourself'. We will be referring to a number of resources and activities during the week and coming weeks but parents may find the following resources, useful, [Parents and Carers - Children's Mental Health Week 2021](#)

### **Extended Tutor time – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

Lots of interim feedback about our remote learning offer has referred to students wanting to have interaction with their peers. In response to this, the final extended tutor time of this term, Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, will be a Teams Meeting where the tutor will hold a quiz. This will be an opportunity for students to attend and, if they choose, cameras can be on so that they can see fellow members of their tutor group.

### **Term dates and INSET days 2021/22**

For reference, please find attached the term dates for the academic year 2021/22, including the INSET days.

Once again, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support as we adapt our practice in line with local and national guidance whilst ensuring students, staff and the wider community remain safe. I hope you all continue to stay safe and well.

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dee Elliott". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Mrs Dee Elliott  
Head teacher