



Nailsea School

ASPIRE BELIEVE SUCCEED

4th March 2021

Dear Parents/carers

With so much happening next week, with our wonderful students returning, I thought it was useful that this week's update is sent slightly earlier. As ever, this letter is the main method of communication between home and school and I hope you find the information here a key reference point.

Testing update

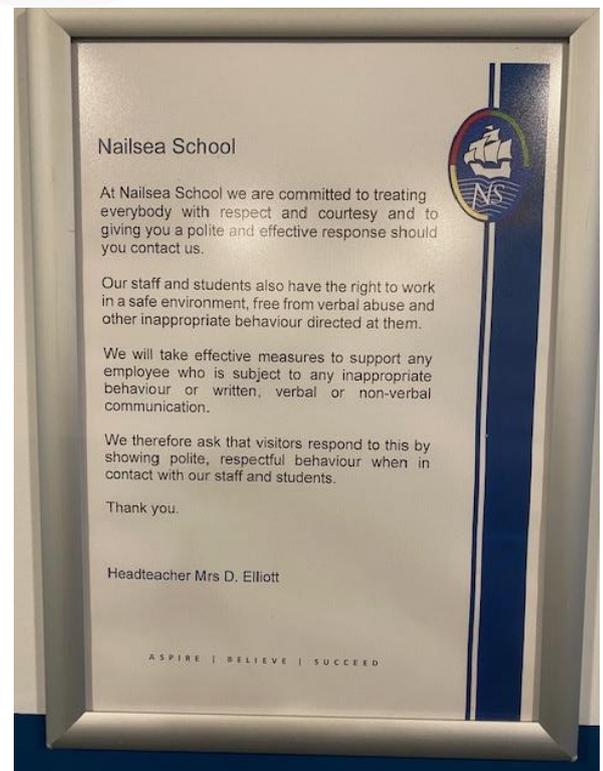
At the time of writing, four different year groups (6th form students, year 11, year 8 and year 10) have all taken part in their first lateral test. Students have taken the process incredibly seriously and I have been very proud of how our staff have worked together to enable this huge undertaking to be possible.

The administrative requirements of this system taking place behind the scenes, registering students and uploading results, is a huge undertaking and it is for this reason the school needs to have consent in advance of the day of the test taking place. I would ask for parents and students to be understanding when the first test for a student has to be delayed, if consent has not been given. In addition to this, the reception team have received an unprecedented number of queries and calls about the process which they are responding to in order of their receipt. Again, I would ask for parents to be understanding with this situation.

I am aware that this is an anxious time for families, as it is for some staff. I do have a duty of care to protect staff and students from harm when at Nailsea School, be that physical, verbal or emotional.

I do want to highlight that a small minority of parents this week have crossed a line in the way that they have spoken and interacted with staff. I would ask for everyone to be mindful of the values that underpin our relationships at Nailsea, all of which be summarised by this poster displayed in reception.

Thank you for your understanding and for continuing to work with us in such a positive way.



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Return to school from 8th March

In line with our testing regime there will be a slightly staggered start to the return to school next week. This staggering refers to both the days on which some students return, as well as the timing of student arrivals. These adjusted arrival times will apply **only** on 8th March. Please see details below the outline for the week commencing 8th March: (Week B2)

Year group	Time and location of arrival	Start of face to face teaching/Testing update
13*	8:40am – Tutor Time discussion regarding assessment procedures in Terms 4 and 5. Will be joined by year 12 students during period 2. (Details will be shared with parents in a letter next week) Students report to tutor room. Enter building through Community Entrance.	Period 3 8 th March– dependent on timetable Test Number 3 completed on 8 th March
12*	9:40am – Join tutor time discussion with year 13 to discuss new Health and Safety plans. Students report to tutor room. Enter building through Community Entrance.	Period 3 8 th March– dependent on timetable Test Number 3 completed on 8 th March
11	8:40am – Tutor Time discussion regarding assessment procedures in Terms 4 and 5. (Details will be shared with parents in a letter next week) Students report to tutor room. Enter building through Juice Bar entrance	Period 3 8 th March Test Number 3 completed Tuesday 9 th March.
10	9:40am – Discussion in tutor base about plans for the rest of this year. Students report to tutor room. Enter building through Main Entrance, right hand door.	Period 3 8 th March Test 2 completed 9 th March and Test 3 completed 12 th March
9	Students remain at home. On Monday 8 th March teachers will be delivering live content periods 3 and 5. (Teachers will be involved in tutor time period 1 and so work will be set on SMH for periods 1, 2 and 4) On Tuesday 9 th , Wednesday and 10 th March, live lessons will be available periods 1, 3 and 5 as well as remote tasks scheduled for periods 2 and 4. On Wednesday 10 th March tutors will hold an online tutor session reminding year 9 students about some key messages and taking questions. This will mean students can go straight into period 1 on their return on 12 th March.	Test 1 will take place on Thursday 11 th March. Students will return to school at 8:40am on Friday 12 th March and head straight for lesson 1. Test 2 completed 16 th March and Test 3 completed 19 th March

	On Thursday 11 th March teachers will be delivering live content periods 1, 3 and 5 only. There will be no further work set in order for students in year 9 to attend their test appointment and refer back to recorded lessons that have happened during the day when they return home.	
8	8:40am – Students report to tutor room. Enter building through Station Road Entrance. Students will spend the tutor period completing Test 3. Remainder of tutor period will be discussing plans for the rest of the year.	Period 3 8 th March Test 2 will take place during tutor period on 8 th March. Test 3 will take place on 11 th March (8x groups) and 12 th March (8y groups)
7	9:40am – Discussion in tutor base about plans for the rest of this year. Students report to tutor room. Enter building through Main Student Entrance, left hand door.	Period 3 8 th March Test 2 will take place on 10 th March and Test 3 will take place on 15 th March

*Mr Reddiford will be contacting 6th form students if there is a change to these plans.

When tests are scheduled for dates when students are in school, appointment times are not issued. Students will be collected from their classrooms and returned to them when the test is completed.

For those students that will be travelling to school on Monday 8th March via buses/taxis, please note:

- Students using transport provided by North Somerset and the school minibus will be arriving at their usual time, irrespective of their start time listed above. These students will be supervised after arriving on site prior to their tutor period starting.
- Students who come to school on the Long Ashton Bus, can be collected an hour later than usual to accommodate the change in start times. For example, if students in year 7 are normally picked up at 8:10am they will be collected at 9:10am to cater for the later start time. To clarify there are 2 buses running, one at the usual time and one an hour later.

Health and Safety reminders ahead of return

The school will be reverting to the bubble system that was in place prior to the Christmas break, as shown by the entrances referenced in the above table. For those students and families that may need to remind themselves of this information a summary can be found on our website here: [Logistics-of-school-site-updated-Nov-2020.pdf \(nailseaschool.com\)](https://www.nailseaschool.com/logistics-of-school-site-updated-nov-2020.pdf)

Parents can also access the updated risk assessment for wider reopening here [Covid-19 Latest – Nailsea School](#)

Government guidance on face masks

Our governors have agreed that, as an additional safety measure and in line with government guidance, students will be expected to wear face masks in classrooms where social distancing cannot be maintained. There has been national debate about this complex issue. On balance the decision has been taken for students and staff at Nailsea as it is felt that the practice will enable a safer return to school. Our responsibilities to keep each other safe will mean that education can continue for all of our students – the most important part of this whole process.

Staff, if they choose to do so, will also be permitted to walk around the classroom whilst wearing a face mask. I see this as a real step forward in ensuring that students can receive targeted support and teachers have the opportunity to check understanding during lesson time. As an additional measure we are also asking staff to wear a face shield when they choose to remain behind the 2m teaching line at the front of the classroom.

Students will not need to wear masks when outside, although they can choose to do so if they wish. When in the building, the only occasion where students do not need to wear masks are when they are eating or drinking.

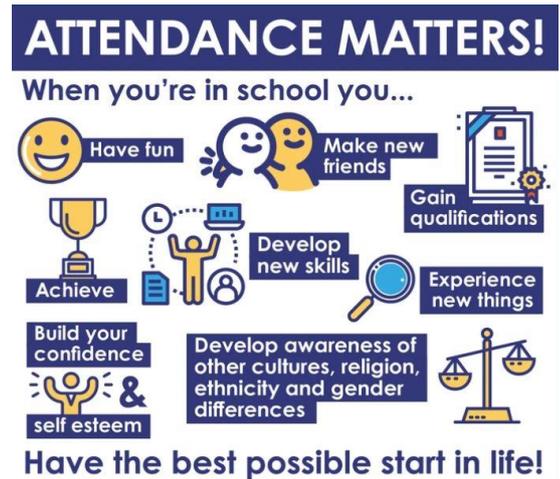
I am sure that the school will continue to receive overwhelming support from staff, students and their families as we introduce these tighter controls. Although it does mean there will be some discomfort and a sacrifice of some personal freedom, our actions will be ensuring the safety of others. Looking after each other is exactly the ethos we have as members of #teamnailsea

Other return to school reminders

It has been almost 12 weeks since some students have been in the building and although these reminders will be shared with students in the first tutor time session, it will be useful for families to discuss these key points ahead of their return:

- Students are expected to be in **full uniform**. A reminder of expectations are here: [Uniform – Nailsea School](#) Please remember that the only hoodie permitted in school is the Leavers' hoodie worn by Year 11 students. All other students can continue to wear the fleece that was added as an optional piece of uniform in October if they choose to do so.
- On the **days that students have PE, they can continue to attend school in their PE kit**. The details of this uniform, specifically the need for a plain navy jumper on these days, can be found here [Uniform – Nailsea School](#)
- **Mobile phones** are expected to be 'off and away for the whole school day'
- Students will need to wear a **mask** for a significant majority of the day. It may be useful for students to bring a spare mask with them. The school has a limited number of spare masks which can be distributed but there will be a charge incurred. Given the national context we are expecting students to attend with masks.

- From 8th March, **attendance** at school is now viewed by the Department of Education as mandatory. The usual rules on school attendance apply including:
 - parents' duty to secure their child's regular attendance at school
 - the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conductPlease contact your child's Head of House if you feel there is a need for further support around attending school regularly from this date.



Finally....

I trust students are looking forward to their return, as much as we are looking forward to seeing them. As I made clear in my letter last week, and in a virtual staff meeting on Wednesday, students will not be returning to testing/exams and should not be feeling they are 'lost' or 'behind'.

In response to this view, and to steal a line from the Jackson 5, it's as easy to remember as **ABC**.

Nailsea students and families are

- NOT Alone
- NOT Behind and
- hugely Capable

As ever, the staff and I will continue to do everything we possibly can to help anyone in the school community. We have got this!

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher