



Nailsea School

ASPIRE BELIEVE SUCCEED

14th May 2021

Dear Parents/carers

Use of Face masks

Many thanks to all of our families for showing patience in waiting for our updated plans for the school given the announcement made on Monday. I know that many families may have their own views on the decision taken by the Prime Minister and by taking a decision regarding the expectation of the wearing of masks or not at Nailsea was never going to please all of our families. However, all of the schools in the Wessex Learning Trust will be adopting the following measures from Monday 17th May:

Students

- From 17 May 2021 students who are currently wearing face coverings will no longer be required to wear a face covering in the classroom or communal areas
- Students can choose to continue to wear a face mask if they wish to do so
- Students who use public transport or dedicated school transport must continue to wear a face covering during their journey

Staff

- From 17 May 2021 face coverings are no longer recommended for staff in classrooms
- However, the Trust have made a decision that if a staff member cannot socially distance from a pupil they are advised to wear a face covering. This could be in the form of a transparent face covering to aid communication or a fabric face covering
- If a staff member chooses to wear a face covering when they are already socially distancing they may do so
- Face coverings should be worn by staff in communal areas such as corridors and staffrooms

Visitors/Volunteers/Parents

- From 17 May 2021 visitors and volunteers must wear a face covering in communal areas and maintain social distancing
- Regular visitors and volunteers can be issued with lateral flow tests and asked to complete a test before attending site
- Parents visiting school for a meeting must wear a face covering in communal areas and maintain social distancing

Other control measures remain unchanged

- There is no change to the bubbles and contacts should be minimised as much as possible
- Continue to ventilate rooms as much as possible
- Enhanced level of cleaning continues
- Continue to use hand sanitiser
- Continue to remind pupils to wash their hands regularly
- Promote the engagement of twice weekly lateral flow testing for staff and secondary aged pupils
- Social distancing continues where possible

Updated Risk Assessment

The risk assessment is being reviewed, including these updates on face coverings and ahead of term 6 this will be shared with parents next week, following governor approval.

Returning to 'normal'

The announcement related to face coverings reflects another step towards normality. Following a request from the pastoral team and Curriculum Leaders I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the 'normal' expectations we have as members of #teamnailsea and we appreciate parental support with these.

Uniform – expectations regarding uniform have been regularly explained. At this stage of the year with weather getting warmer the ONLY top layers that should be visible for students at any point they are in the building are:

- the Nailsea school jumper with logo (or blue PE jumper on PE days)
- the optional Nailsea Scholl fleece
- a tucked in shirt with accompanying house tie

Hoodies and hats should not be worn.

For those needing to update their uniform School Togs are running their 10% discount again this year for all year groups, starting 1st June and running through to the end of July.

Homework – It is an expectation that students will complete homework when it is set. 'No homework' will be recorded and parents will be notified through School Comms. Students failing to complete two pieces of homework in the same subject will be issued with a C3 detention. As this is a basic expectation, students that persistently fail to complete and submit homework could be placed on/moved up a behaviour stage.

Online safety

We regularly remind students of the need to be vigilant online and to ensure when using social media that privacy settings are set to private. Young people can unwittingly share information, which could allow them to be tracked e.g. wearing school uniform in videos, using their full name or giving away contact details. With particular regards to the use of TikTok where accounts are public and open to all by default, it is important to change these settings. As one of the most popular apps amongst teenagers, we would strongly urge parents to ensure their children set their accounts to private and know how to report concerning content to the platform provider. Please click [HERE](#) to read a guide to TikTok and how to change settings.

In addition, concerns have been raised nationally regarding Omegle, a free online chatting service, which has recently spiked in popularity. Omegle randomly selects users for one-on-one chats, and users can choose to chat via text or video. With Omegle, it is not hard for younger users to stumble across adult conversations and content. The app is no longer being offered, but children can still access it. While Omegle is supposed to be for users aged 13 and older (with parental permission), anyone can log on to chat with strangers.

As with all online activity, it is important to chat with children about what they are doing online and for them to share their experiences with you. Additionally, it is recommended that you check on the privacy settings that your child uses. For further advice, please click HERE for guidance on parental controls for electronic devices and social media.

Wellbeing Art Tutorials

This week was Mental Health Awareness week and Mrs Lane from the Art department created 3 online art tutorials to complete with the whole family accessed here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtZ9IaFj9JPtFfJzm9knxIw>. Following the step-by-step guides will result in participants generating a piece of art inspired by nature.

The tutorials use materials that everyone should have at home (a pencil, a biro and a fine liner or ink pen). Enjoy a walk with the family, collecting items in nature and have a go at the drawing activity. If you would like to share your work, please tweet @artnailsea. The art tutorials can be found here

Dates for the Diary – updated

- Friday 28th May – End of term 5, 3pm
- Monday 7th June – INSET Day (School Closed to students)
- Tuesday 8th June – INSET day (School Closed to students)
- Wed 9th June onwards – beginning of end of year assessments for years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 (Further details per teaching group to be found on SMHW)
- Monday 21st June – Wednesday 23rd June – 6th Form Induction events
- Friday 2nd July – INSET Day (School Closed to students)
- Wednesday 21st July – End of term 6, 1pm
- Tuesday 10th August – A Level/Level 3 Results issued
- Thursday 12th August – GCSE/Level 2 Results issued

Finally....

it's been a couple of weeks for me to process the final episode of Line of Duty broadcast over the May Day Bank Holiday. (There HAS to be a series 7 in my opinion!) Along with a number of my colleagues, awaiting the lines that Superintendent Ted Hastings was going to come out with was often the highlight of the episode - and he didn't disappoint in his final exchange with Carmichael:

'Whatever you do, do it because you care about truth....You do it because you carry the fire'

As we are approaching the final weeks with year 11 and 13 students as well as preparing for the new intake, be assured, just as Ted advises, I continue to 'carry the fire' to provide the happiest and most successful secondary school experience for your children.

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dee Elliott". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher