



# Nailsea School

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9<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parents/carers

Well, as in many homes around the country, this weekend the focus in the 'House of Elliott' will most definitely be the Euros' Final on Sunday. My assembly this week focused on the great leadership and resilience of Gareth Southgate and I will certainly be watching, possibly from behind a cushion, willing the team on for what would be the first victory at a major tournament in my lifetime!

## **Update following the government announcement**

Earlier this week the Prime Minister shared with the nation his plans for the easing of Coronavirus guidelines and the Secretary of State for Education also shared with schools the steps they will take. This will involve the easing of restrictions to self-isolate, the use of face coverings and on site testing at the beginning of the new academic year.

From a school perspective, all the measures we are currently taking, which includes the use of face coverings for staff in school and the isolation of students when a positive test occurs, will continue until the end of term. It was made clear in the guidance this should be the case. With 8 school days left of the academic year I would urge everyone to continue to follow current guidance, including regularly testing at home. These measures will continue to make a difference in ensuring that we can safely operate until the summer break.

It is highly likely that at the start of the new academic year students will require two on-site tests. This expectation could impact on the start of term arrangements that have previously been shared. I will write to parents to pass on any changes and the plans when the logistics have been finalised. As ever, thank you for your patience and support as we continue to manage this in school.

I know that many families would have breathed a sigh of relief with the Prime Minister's announcement regarding the easing of restrictions. It has been made clear to schools that the vast majority of restrictions will no longer apply in the new academic year. I am hopeful this will ensure students have more consistent time in school and do not need to be isolated, as has been the case this year.

It does remain important that we are disciplined in the run up to the end of the academic year though. As such I would ask that we continue to abide by local and national guidelines. To quote Walt Disney 'All the adversity I've had in my life, all my troubles and obstacles, have strengthened me'.

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### **Acrylic/False nails**

There has been a noticeable increase in the last week of students coming into school with false/acrylic nails. As mentioned several times in my letters home, this is clearly against our uniform policy. Our uniform guidance on the website states:

#### **NAILS**

Nails should be of an appropriate length to comply with Health & Safety guidelines and be natural and with a clear neutral colour

I understand the process of applying acrylic nails and varnish are costly and I urge families to refrain from this until the summer break. Students will be asked to remove these nails and students not meeting this expectation will not be allowed to attend lessons until the issue has been fully resolved. Again, I should stress that this is absolutely the last thing we want as a school as we all place great emphasis on good attendance to school and to lessons. However, I am also a firm believer in high standards and the consistent application of these in order to prepare students for the world of work and life beyond school. Thank you, in advance, for working with us at school in providing a consistent message for our students, your children.

### **Exams and Appeals information for students receiving exam results in Summer 2021**

As a reminder A Level/Level 3 results will be available on 10<sup>th</sup> August and GCSE/Level 2 qualifications will be available for collection on 12<sup>th</sup> August. For students and families that are expecting results this year I would refer them to the summer 2021 section on the exams page of the website which can be found here:

[Exams Information – Nailsea School](#)

### **Last day of term arrangements**

The last day of term will be Wednesday 21st July.

The day will run as follows:

8:40 - 9:35 - Period 1

9:35 - 10:30 - Period 2

10:30 - 10:50 - Break

10:50 - 11:45 - Period 3

11:45 - 12:20pm - Lunch

12:20 - 12:30pm - Tutor time

Students will be dismissed by their tutor at 12:30pm to leave for the summer break. If your child uses transport provided by the school they have been informed about the changes to the timings of the school day in advance.

### **Start of term arrangements – September 2021**

As a reminder the academic year will start for students in years 7, 8 and 12 on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The additional day will aid with the transition process.

ALL students will return to school on 9<sup>th</sup> September.

## PE Uniform expectations September 2021

As ever, at this time of year we turn to passing on some key reminders regarding uniform for the start of the new academic year.

I would like to remind parents about the specifics of PE uniform in this letter, especially considering the agreement that, following parental feedback, students will continue to attend school in kit on the days they have PE. It is therefore even more important that this uniform is that, uniform – the same. As a reminder therefore students should be wearing the following:

Nailsea School PE Kit	
<b>Compulsory Items</b>	
	PE Polo Shirt (Navy & Gold)
	Plain Navy sports shorts (not cycling shorts)
	Reversible Navy & Gold Rugby Shirt
	Trainers
	White sports socks, long Navy socks-needed when wearing shin pads
	A pair of shin pads (for football and hockey)
	A gum shield (compulsory for Hockey and competitive rugby)
	Football boots when playing competitive Football/Rugby
	No jewellery
<b>Optional Items</b>	
	A pair of Navy Blue sports leggings with printed Nailsea logo
	A plain Navy Blue jumper (Optional) (no hoodies)
	Plain Navy tracksuit bottoms (Winter only, optional)
	Hoodless waterproof Navy coat (optional)
	Skorts (optional for games activities only)

## Staying Safe online – advice for parents

Parents may find this guide to online platforms a useful one to discuss with their child at home. As the summer holiday approaches with possible increased screen time, this may be even more important.

[The 6 apps and services that every parent should know about — Parent Zone – Parents' area](#)

## Prevent Leaflet

On behalf of the North Somerset Prevent Board, please find attached the Prevent leaflet on this really important topic, which they have asked that we share with parents.

## Term dates for 2021/22

The terms dates for the new academic year can be found here [Diary Dates – Nailsea School](#)

**Finally...**

this week many in #teamnailsea have been shocked and saddened to hear about the death of a former student, someone that was also well known in the town in a variety of ways. It has been incredibly warming to see how different members of the community, both past and present, have pulled together to support Toby's family and each other. Naturally my thoughts are with all of those directly affected by this tragedy and if any member of the school community needs to access support please do speak to one of the pastoral team. Alternatively if you would rather speak to someone you don't know [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com) offers excellent, free, safe and anonymous advice.

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dee Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'D' at the beginning. A horizontal line is drawn underneath the name.

Mrs Dee Elliott  
Head teacher