



Nailsea School

ASPIRE BELIEVE SUCCEED

17th September 2021

Dear Parents/carers

And so ends the first full week!

I cannot express enough how great it has been to see students accessing specialist areas, the canteen and returning to full vertical tutor groups. I have spent as much time as possible in lessons and the ambition and pride that I am seeing in the way students are responding to their learning is something that is fantastic to see. It has certainly been a superb start.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

With the new term underway the extra-curricular booklet is being finalised so that parents will be able to see the total number of clubs and groups on offer. In the meantime, messages are being passed on through tutors highlighting some great opportunities, as shown at the end of this letter. I know that staff are very excited about the prospect of clubs starting back up and I am sure students will be just as glad this key part of life at school is back in place.

Study Space

Students are being made aware this week of the great opportunity to attend Study Space.

This is being run for

- **KS3 students (years 7- 9) Study Space** - Mondays 3-4pm in ROOM 132 Contact Ms Moran
- **KS4 students (years 10 and 11) Study Space** - Wednesdays 3-4pm in ROOM 132 Contact Ms Duckworth

This is a chance for anyone who finds it hard to work at home to get ahead and complete homework before even returning home. Completing homework will enable students to feel confident about continuing their learning and means they will remember more from their class work. Study space is a positive option and I would urge parents to discuss this supportive option with their child at home. If this is an opportunity anyone wants to access contact should be made with the Head of House to register attendance in advance or students can drop in to room 132 on the designated day.

Student cards and Parent Pay

Many thanks for your patience whilst these two systems were syncing, which you were made aware of through a message earlier in the week. I am pleased to say the card payment system is now working with Parent Pay and so all parents and students can access the money that is on cards for purchases to be made.

A couple of further reminders/points to note regarding student cards and food purchases:

- With over 1000 students on site the use of the card payment ensures lunch service is as quick as it can possibly be. Students should be bringing cards/using cards as opposed to relying on the catering team to look them up on the system which does take considerably longer. Replacement cards can be purchased from Finance (room 101)

Company Number: 8084047

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

- Students should be checking the balance on the account before queueing/purchasing food.
- It should be noted that there will be a delay in money being placed on the card via parent pay and it appearing on the card so that food can be purchased. It is suggested that any money is added through parent pay the night before the school day the card will be used.

Uniform

My assembly yesterday focused on our 5 key values that I shared in this letter last week. It has been wonderful to see so many students taking pride in their appearance, looking smart wearing the Nailsea Uniform. As explained in previous letters home, the bar is being raised this year with this issue and your support is appreciated. I understand there have been some supply issues, beyond parental control with some items and where there have been discussions over this the deadline for all issues to be resolved is Monday 20th September.

Ahead of Monday a reminder that:

- The optional fleece, available from School Togs, can be worn by students as soon as they would like to do so. This can be worn instead of/on top of the Nailsea School jumper. No other jumper/hooded top is to be worn and will be confiscated.
- PE jumpers are blue and black jumpers should not be worn. These will be confiscated if brought to school.
- Coats are not to be worn inside the building and will be confiscated
- Nose studs need to be removed when in school.

Our policy has been made very clear and communicated home and in person several times. Thank you for working with us at school, supporting our expectations.

Lost property

There have been a number of items that have already made their way to lost property, having been left in classrooms or the dining hall. For reference, lost property is held in the Heads of House office on the first floor. Students should visit the room at break or lunchtime where hopefully they will be reunited with their missing items.

School Photos – Wednesday 22nd September

Students in years 7, 9 and 11 will have their school photos updated on Wednesday next week. Students should follow their timetable as usual on the day and the subject teacher for the allotted time slot will escort their groups to the Green Lecture Theatre. The finished photographs can be purchased by parents. Students will need to wear their school jumper for the photograph so please ensure they have this with them on the day.

Homework and Class Charts

As mentioned last week, from Monday 20th September homework will be set for all students through Class Charts. Students have received their log ins through tutor time (Students should speak to their tutor if they have not received them). Parents will receive their access codes within the next couple of days so please look out for this letter in the post.

As also mentioned last week if any piece of homework is not submitted a C3 (30 minute detention) will be issued. Homework at Nailsea School supports students in revisiting, recapping and revising content from lessons during the school day; it is a crucial part of learning, allowing students to consolidate knowledge and skills. As this is such an important aspect of students' learning, non-submission of homework is taken seriously by the school.

It is, therefore, vital that students use Class Charts to access the homework that has been set. For information, there is a guide attached to this letter that you can use as a reference point. In due course the school will be enabling further functionality of Class Charts but in the first instance please refer to the Homework pages as a way to support your son/daughter at home.

Covid-19 vaccination programme

The Department of Education has now issued guidance following much speculation about this programme. A number of parents have contacted me directly and I felt it was important that an overview was shared with the school community on the guidance given to schools.

- The School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) will plan the roll out and will administer the vaccinations.
- Legal accountability for offering vaccines to children sits with the SAIS and not individual schools.
- Any invitation to receive the vaccine will also include a leaflet explaining the benefits and potential side effects of the vaccine. Further information can be found here: [COVID-19 vaccination programme for children and young people: guidance for schools - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-vaccination-programme-for-children-and-young-people-guidance-for-schools)
- Schools will have the same role as in other vaccination programmes: to provide information to SAIS in which children are eligible for the vaccine; to share the leaflet, consent form and invitation letter and to provide a space within the school to enable the vaccinations to take place.
- The vaccination is not mandatory and parents will be asked to give their consent. In secondary schools, some older children may be 'sufficiently mature to provide their own consent'. If this is the case 'every effort will be made to contact the parent to seek their verbal consent'. The guidance states that schools 'have no role in this process'.
- Schools are also not responsible for 'mediating between parents and children who may disagree about whether or not to consent'. The registered nurses in the SAIS will be involved in these discussions
- Catch up arrangements will be in place for any child absent on the date the vaccines are administered.

I hope this has clarified the position of the school and the role it has to play in the school-based vaccination programme. When we have received further details regarding specific invitations and the consent form these will be passed on to families.

Finally.... it has been wonderful to receive a number of emails from parents of students over the last week expressing how well they have settled back into the routines of a more normal school year. Receiving such emails are really appreciated and I always share them with the staff team. I thought I would sign off this week giving you a flavour of some of the comments received from either end of the school:

X's transition to secondary school has been something I've been dreading.....but I genuinely feel he has become part of the Nailsea family already, and I couldn't be more grateful. Every member of your team has been so friendly and helpful - from the site team to the admin staff to the core teachers.... I just wanted to let you know that we feel so supported as a family - something that we've learned not to take for granted.

Year 7 Parent

I would like to thank you for teaching xxx over the past 2 years. She had a wonderful experience at Nailsea School. All the teaching staff should be proud of all the hard work that they put in. Finally, I think it is fair to say that you have helped inspire xxx to take her education further and I thank you sincerely for all your efforts in helping xxx reach her full potential.

Ex Year 13 Parent

Take care and be kind



Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher

Eco-Schools Committee meeting



Who?: All year groups 7-13 and any interested members of staff

When?: Thursday 23rd September, lunch break (bring your lunch)

Where?: Room 121

What?: Meet to discuss how to make Nailsea School a 'greener' place.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Autumn Term

Day	Lunch Time			After School
	Sports Hall		Classroom	Outside
Monday	Badminton - DG			
Tuesday				Year 7 and 8 Netball- JYW Year 7 Rugby- SAT Year 8 Rugby - COM
Wednesday				Female Rugby- SAT
Thursday	Volleyball Club-RG			Years 10 and 11 Hockey-RG Year 9 Netball-HS
Friday				

Nailsea School Music

Monday

Flute Group	10.40am	Room 51
Barbershop Boys	1.00pm	Room 53

Tuesday

Choir	3 -3.45pm	Room 53
Brass Group	1.00pm	Room 51
<u>Vocalise</u>	1.30pm	Room 51

Wednesday

Jazz Band	3 -3.45pm	Room 55
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Thursday

String Group	1.30pm	Room 51
Orchestra	3 -3.45pm	Room 53