



Nailsea School

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21st January 2022

Dear Parents/carers

This week I received the most recent visit report from our School Improvement partner who spent two days with us. As well as visiting 20 lessons he met with several groups of students to talk with them about their experiences at school. Given his role as 'Improvement' partner there are, of course, areas as a school we will be continuing to work on from his visit. However, I thought you would want to see some of the direct quotations from students who were spoken to during the visit:

- 'Teachers are interested in us – in our work and beyond our work'
- 'Teachers encourage us to do better'
- 'I can see how things have got better compared to when I was in younger years'
- 'Nailsea is a good school'

Many thanks to all the students that were involved in the visit. As ever, they are the reason I do the job I do and it is them that continues to give me the impetus for further improvement.

Updated government guidance

On Wednesday, the Prime Minister announced that all Plan B measures will be removed in England, with a full return to Plan A by Thursday 27th January. In education and childcare settings, this means:

From, Thursday 20th January, face coverings are no longer recommended in classrooms and teaching spaces for staff, and students in year 7 and above. They were introduced in classrooms at the start of the spring term as a temporary measure.

From Thursday 27th January, face coverings are no longer recommended in communal areas for staff, and students in year 7 and above.

The government has said that this decision comes in response to national infection data showing the prevalence of COVID to be on a downward trajectory. So, as of yesterday, face masks are no longer required in lessons and from next Thursday, face masks will no longer be required in corridors or communal areas. Students and staff can continue to wear face coverings if they would prefer to do so.

Clearly, it is good news that these measures are now ending and I would like to thank students and parents for your continued support with the management of the pandemic in school.

Guidance on self isolation

Staff and pupils have had the option to reduce their Self Isolation to 5 full days from Monday 17 January. This means if a pupil or staff member has not had a high temperature for 24hrs, two negative LFD results on 2 consecutive days and feels well enough to do so, they can return to school from day 6.

Company Number: 8084047

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

Please see example below

Day	Action
Tuesday 11th January	Receive a positive LFT or PCR Covid-19 Result
Wednesday 12th January	1st full day of Isolation
Thursday 13th January	2nd full day of Isolation
Friday 14th January	3rd full day of Isolation
Saturday 15th January	4th full day of Isolation
Sunday 16th January	5th full day of Isolation – If you do not have a high temperature, you can take an LFD test – Continue to isolate on a negative or positive result
Monday 17th January	Take an LFD test – If you receive a second negative result you can return to the school, if you don't have a high temperature and feel well enough to do so
Following Days	You can continue to take an LFD test each day and once you receive two negative results 24hrs apart you can return to the school. From Day 11 you can return to school even if receiving positive LFD test results if you don't have a high temperature and feel well enough to do so

Ambition

Students in year 11 collected their mock results yesterday, imitating the process that will take place in the summer. I had a number of interesting conversations with students on how they felt seeing their grades all on one page. Many were clear that the amount of work they had put in had a definitive impact on the outcomes at the end. Although this comment is not new news I trust the students have now seen the direct impact of the amount of work they complete. With 4 months to go until the real exams there is still plenty of time to either consolidate their results to date or improve them. Our students all have the potential to do the very best they can with effort.

#AimHigh

Respect

Visitors to the school, including the School Improvement Partner who visited last week, are regularly complimentary about the conduct of our students in classrooms. However, patterns of corridor behaviour and the way students exit and enter classrooms can sometimes be different. Next week students and staff are being reminded about the following routines for both entering and exiting lessons:

Classroom Entry Routines

Teachers will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> welcome students at the threshold of the door and the corridor have planned a 'Do Now' task for students to complete check uniform expectations on arrival

Students will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> enter the room straight away go straight to their seats and take equipment out of bags remove all outerwear and begin the 'Do Now' task

Classroom Exit Routines

Teachers will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dismiss students from the door (at the correct time), helping to monitor the corridor only dismiss once class is silent and ready, row by row check uniform expectations on exit

Students will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure all equipment is packed away and the room is tidy stand quietly behind their seats to be dismissed enter the corridor calmly, keeping to the left and walking purposefully to the next lesson

I am sure you will agree that there is nothing listed here that is a surprise or something that should not already be happening. I look forward to seeing these being adhered to during my visits to lessons next week.

#BePositive

Kindness

Many thanks to all the families that have already thanked a member of staff, as launched last week. This can be a teaching or non teaching member of staff and can be for any reason, big or small. We know staff will really appreciate your encouragement. The link to the form can be found below and will stay live until midday on 30th January

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC_kKVN2UUqnzoslzVoQVW73i_5A2HxBoDhUtN-POA1UMjBHWjROUEQ3U0FVNIA5UFkwVDdNODNIWi4u

#BeKind

Pride

As a reminder, the year 11 **year group photo** will take place on **Thursday 27th Jan during period 1**. Students will need to be in full uniform for the photo with their black school jumper being worn. I hope the students are looking forward to this as much as I am.

#BeProud

Community

North Somerset residents have a number of organisations where support can be accessed outside of school and for families facing a number of issues. As a school, understanding the bigger picture of #TeamNailsea, I would always want to advertise these where I can. St Giles' is one organisation that is holding a webinar for parents in February looking at violent crime. The same group will be visiting the school to work with students in year 9 as part of the ABSolute programme. As such, parents may be interested in following this up by attending the event. The attachment provides some further details for those interested.

#TeamNailsea

Finally...

as you may see on social media we are advertising this week for a Deputy Headteacher to join the senior team here at Nailsea, starting in September. This will be first Deputy Headteacher we will have had at Nailsea for a number of years and the thought of this position being filled is an exciting one. We have continued to make strides since our 2020 Ofsted inspection report and this appointment is a key part of the continued improvement of the school, raising standards and achievement. I will, of course, keep you all informed and the plan is to include as many students and staff in the interview process as possible. Exciting times!

Have a lovely weekend.

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully



Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher