



Nunthorpe
Academy

6 July 2021

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s)

I apologise for the length of this letter but feel this an appropriate time of the year to share updates on a number of issues to ensure clear communication:

Lateral Flow Testing (LFT): It is essential that all students with consent to test ensure they have test kits at home (these can be obtained from your pastoral team), and that they are testing twice weekly – advised Monday and Thursday. There has been an increase in positive test results recently within the locality and we are desperate to keep everyone as safe as possible. Please ensure all test results are reported to the NHS and the academy.

If you receive a positive LFT test please email positivecovidtest@nunthorpe.co.uk and return the information requested so that we can complete a track and trace within the academy. Book a PCR test asap and inform the academy of the result. If the test is negative anyone we have asked to self-isolate will be able to return to the academy and their face to face learning.

Wearing of masks: We have been advised by Mark Adams, Director of Public Health – South Tees, to **reintroduce the wearing of face masks in communal areas and in lessons** due to the recent steep rise in community infections across South Tees and within educational settings; particularly the significant and rapid rise of infections amongst school age groups. This has been driven by the emergence of the more transmittable Delta variant as the dominant variant across South Tees. The reintroduction of face coverings in addition to reinforcement of social distancing and hand hygiene measures will help reduce further and manage transmission within schools.

Please do all you can in supporting us by ensuring that your child(ren) bring a mask to the academy from Monday 5 July and wear them once inside the academy building. Masks need to be worn in communal areas, corridors and in lessons by students and staff.

Diversity within the pastoral curriculum – This half terms pastoral curriculum is exploring all aspects of diversity and has received a very positive response from students and teachers. Please explore our gallery on the website and the summer edition of @nunthorpe magazine to see what our students have been experiencing and displays they have been producing for September to ensure a clear and consistent message of everyone being welcome and differences celebrated.

Nunthorpe Academy
Guisborough Road
Nunthorpe
Middlesbrough
TS7 0LA

Phone: 01642 310561

Web: www.nunthorpe.co.uk

Head of School: Kathryn Kell NPQH
NMAT Executive Principal: Lee Brown NPQH

Company No. 08188507 VAT Registration 142671814





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Everyone's Invited - Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges.

The government's national report for this review was made available on 10 June and since then we have been reviewing our policies, curriculum maps, lesson and tutorial plans and staff training for the year ahead to ensure that we are promoting an appropriate and informed 'ready, respectful and safe' culture across our 11-19 academy. We want to ensure our students feel safe and are prepared to come forward with any instances of 'peer on peer' abuse so that it is made very clear that we do not accept 'sexual harassment, sexual violence or sexual abuse' within our community, whether within the building or in social time. Throughout our pastoral and Life curriculums specifically we will be encouraging students to discuss safeguarding issues including those above in an open and mature manner and making it clear that 'banter', 'just having a laugh' is not acceptable when it is at somebody else's expense.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-sexual-abuse-in-schools-and-colleges/review-of-sexual-abuse-in-schools-and-colleges>

Students can report any concern to any member of staff within the academy however they would then refer the incident to the safeguarding team for advice and next steps. Please follow the link to view our [Safeguarding Team](#) poster to identify any member of staff who your child can safely report to directly if they have an incident linked to sexual harassment, abuse or violence' – definitions are on page 8 of the report. If your child does not feel in a position to report to the academy there is a dedicated NSPCC Helpline. Report Abuse in Education can be contacted by phone on 0800 136 663.

Behaviour Policy – This has been updated in line with the guidance shared by the DfE in their report and will be made available once approved by Trustees by the end of term.

Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Policy – This policy has been updated in line with the guidance shared by the DfE in their report and in line with the guidance this has been made available for parental consultation. Please follow the [link](#) to (a) read the policy, (b) leave any feedback which you would like the academy and Trustees to consider by emailing rsepolicyfeedback@nunthorpe.co.uk The deadline for feedback is Wednesday 14 July.

Summer term concludes on Friday 16 July at 1.30pm: Students will be dismissed on a staggered finish from their year group bubbles from 1.30pm to ensure all students have the opportunity for lunch before we finish for the summer.

I am incredibly proud of the way students have coped with numerous limitations and changes to their academy experience this year and am very hopeful that we will return to some sense of normality which will allow them greater experiences and opportunities, particularly within practical subject areas and with other year groups.

September re-opening – Following a special announcement today from the Rt. Hon Gavin Williams, Secretary of State for Education, students returning to the academy in September will require two on site lateral flow tests, 3-5 days apart on their return. Further information relating to testing will be sent out to parents in due course.



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All updates will be updated accordingly via the academy website, social media and the **Class Charts app**. Please ensure you have downloaded the app prior to September as this will be our primary method of communication from September onwards.

If you have **any change in contact details** please email admin@nunthorpe.co.uk so that all details are up to date prior to the summer break should we need to get in touch with you for any reason.

Our intention is to launch a **new academy website in September** – our current academy website will continue to function until its launch. We hope that this new website will allow users to access important and relevant information and updates from the academy more efficiently and improve our communication to all parents and carers.

Please follow us on Facebook – facebook.com/nunthorpeacademy and Twitter – twitter.com/nunthorpea to ensure you know all of our news as it happens.

I am looking forward to a positive last two weeks of term with students being rewarded by their end of year exam results in the coming weeks.

If you have any concerns or questions please remember to direct them to the relevant teacher or pastoral leader in the first instance. All staff emails are available via the academy website.

Take care and stay safe

Yours sincerely

Kate Kell
Head of School

KK/JSO