



**Nunthorpe**  
Academy

December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

Firstly may I take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support with what has been a difficult half term with both student and staff absence. Thank you for your patience and I wish everyone well over the Christmas break.

We break up from the academy at 2:00pm on Friday 16 December 2022, students will be gradually dismissed between 2:00pm and 2.15pm and return again on Tuesday 3 January 2023.

Please take the opportunity to read this half terms edition of [@Nunthorpe Magazine on the website which shares all the positives of this half term.](#)

**Given the recent press coverage on Strep A I have shared below the DfE most recent updates:**

### **Scarlet Fever and Group Strep A Infections**

On Wednesday evening, the DfE sent an email to all schools about Scarlet Fever and Group Strep A Infections. The Secretary of State for Education has said she is closely monitoring the increased cases of Group A streptococcus (Strep A) and scarlet fever. The DfE is working closely with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), who are leading on the response.

UKHSA is reporting an increased number of cases of Group A streptococcus (Strep A) compared to normal at this time of year. There is no evidence that a new strain is circulating and the increase is most likely related to high amounts of circulating bacteria and social mixing.

To prevent the spread of Strep A, UKHSA advises children, young people and staff to implement good hand and respiratory hygiene practices.

Nunthorpe Academy  
Guisborough Road  
Nunthorpe  
Middlesbrough  
TS7 0LA  
Phone: 01642 310561  
Web: [www.nunthorpe.co.uk](http://www.nunthorpe.co.uk)

Head of School: Kathryn Kell NPQH  
NMAT Executive Principal: Lee Brown NPQH  
Company No. 08188507 VAT Registration 142671814

*Ready, Respectful, Safe*





**Nunthorpe**  
Academy

**Also released this week is the Ofqual letter to students in Year 11 and 13 undertaking exams in summer 2023:**

**Ofqual - Letter to students:**

Dear student,

You have shown so much resilience during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and continue to do so as we move towards normality as a country.

As Chief Regulator my job is to make sure that the exams and formal assessments you take are as fair as they can be, setting you up for the right opportunities in the next stages of your education, employment and life.

I've listened to students who were taking their qualifications in the summer of 2022 and the arrangements for 2023 have been made very much with that feedback, and your best and long-term interests, in mind. Below you will find a summary of what we are doing to support you in your forthcoming exams and assessments - please click the link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-letters-arrangements-for-exams-and-assessments-in-2023/letter-to-students>

[Letter to students - GOV.UK](#)

Information for students and parents and/or carers. Dear student, You have shown so much resilience during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and continue to do so as we move towards normality as ...

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

**Clear lines of communication: The academy's lines of communication are through Class Charts:**

As I'm sure you are aware, our primary means of communication to parents / carers and students is Class Charts. This is used for:

Awarding of achievement points.

- Setting of home learning
- Allocation of behaviour points.
- Communication of sanctions

It is important that you and your child both have access to this, either via the mobile app or through the website: <https://www.classcharts.com/>.

Please contact your child Pastoral Manager, emails available via the website, if you are having difficulties accessing or require access codes.



**Nunthorpe**  
Academy

**Attendance:**

**TO REPORT A STUDENT ABSENCE, PLEASE CALL 01642 310561, SELECT OPTION 1 AND LEAVE AN ANSWERPHONE MESSAGE BY 8:00am.**

INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

**STUDENT'S FULL NAME**

**YEAR GROUP**

**FORM GROUP**

**REASON FOR ABSENCE**

**EXPECTED DATE OF RETURN.**

We will no longer be accepting notifications via email, Class Charts or any other communication channels.

**Please note you are required to contact the academy each day that your child is absent.**

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving you the best possible start in life. Students who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and do less well in exams. Good attendance shows potential employers that you are reliable. Research suggests that students who attend school regularly could also be at less risk of getting involved in antisocial behaviour or crime. Below is a table showing how your percentage attendance equates to the amount of school time missed.

95%	10 Days	20 Sessions	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	20 Days	40 Sessions	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	30 Days	60 Sessions	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	40 Days	80 Sessions	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	50 Days	100 Sessions	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	60 Days	120 Sessions	12 Weeks	300 Lessons
65%	70 Days	140 Sessions	14 Weeks	350 Lessons

**The DfE have also recently shared the Attendance Action Alliance guidance:**

Members of the Attendance Action Alliance have worked with the Department for Education to develop a short [school attendance guide](#), which helps parents understand how they can work with their school and local authority to support their children to attend school and get the right support. It can also be found on both the Office of the Children's Commissioner Page for [parents](#) and page for [schools](#).



**Nunthorpe**  
Academy

Advice from Cleveland Fire Brigade in respect of Frozen Water Safety:

**Following the devastating news that emerged from Solihull over the weekend and the temperatures continuing to stay around freezing over the next few days, we wanted to reiterate the warnings about staying away from frozen water.**

**It can be tempting to walk or play on frozen water, but the ice can easily break and it is never clear how thick the ice is.**

**✳️ If the ice breaks and you or someone you are with falls in, the temperature of the water can lead to cold water shock (an involuntary response which seriously affects your movement and breathing.**

**♥️ The water temperature can lead to hypothermia, a serious reduction in your body temperature, which can cause heart failure.**

**👤 This can happen to even the strongest swimmers.**

**⚠️ If you see someone in trouble, DO NOT ENTER THE WATER!**

**👉 Call 999 immediately and try and reach them with an object from dry land.**

**Please take notice of the warnings and stay off the ice!**

**✗ Never venture onto frozen water. Even if it appears thick from the bank, it can become thinner very quickly and there is no way of knowing if it will support your weight.**

**✗ Adults – set a good example to children by staying off the ice.**

**✗ If a dog or other animal ventures onto the ice, or falls through it, do not go onto the ice to rescue it – you are likely to end up in the freezing water.**

**✗ Never throw sticks or balls onto the ice for your dog – keep them on a lead near frozen water. Over 50% of ice related drownings involve the attempted rescue of a dog!**

**✗ If you do see a person or animal in trouble in icy water, stay on the bank and phone 999. If you can reach the person with a branch, clothing tied together or other items then you could try to do so but stay firmly on the bank.**

**✗ Do not become a victim – phone 999!**

**Our message is simple – stay safe, stay off the ice.**



**Nunthorpe**  
Academy

**Key dates for Spring Half Term:**

Wednesday 4 January 2023  
Wednesday 11 January 2023  
Wednesday 1 February 2023  
Wednesday 15 February 2023  
Friday 17 February 2023

Year 9 Parent Review Evening  
Options Evening and Careers Event  
Year 11 Parent Review Evening 2  
Year 12 & 13 Parent Review Evening  
PD Day – School closed to students

I wish you all well for the festive season. Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Kate Kell  
**Head of School**

**KK/JSO**