



Nether Stowe School

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14th October 2020

Oct Half-Term Update

Dear parent or carer,

I hope you are well. I would firstly like to thank you for your excellent support over what has been a challenging, demanding, very different, but very rewarding, half-term.

It has been wonderful to have pupils in school and to see a continuance of fantastic learning. As we approach the half-term break, I wanted to take a further opportunity to outline some important information and key messages.

Face-coverings

Pupils have responded exceedingly well to the need to wear face-coverings and I would like to thank you for your further support in promoting our aims. Reception have only a very limited number of replacement face-coverings each day. It is important, for the continued safety of all pupils and staff, that every pupil has their own face-covering, and at least one spare, with them every day.

Virtual Open Evening

Thank you for the great feedback with regards to the virtual open evening, available via the website and social media: this will remain live for the rest of the year and I encourage you to share this excellent showcase of our students and school as widely as possible. Please click [here](#) to access the page. Should there be any questions, a senior member of staff will be able to provide a personal response.

School Management Plan.

We have been extremely pleased with the way that pupils and staff have responded to very new ways of working. As systems and protocols have become successfully embedded, it has allowed us to make further adjustments to the current systems without compromising current safety protocols.

The vast majority of the current core arrangements will remain in place and unchanged, including:

- Staggered start times in the mornings and staggered dismissal at the end of the day.
- Each year group will have separate break and lunchtimes. The amended lesson timings will be retained.
- Face-coverings will be expected for all movement inside school and between lessons unless a pupil has a recognised exemption.
- Pupils will be expected to sanitise their hands at the start of the lesson as well as being responsible for wiping down their work area

The only change is that, with effect from **Monday 19th October**, pupils will now move from lesson to lesson to their specialist room in accordance with the timetable. Pupils will be provided with an updated timetable on Friday 16th October, in an extended tutor period, in readiness for the change.

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Attendance

Good attendance at school is simply an essential bedrock of academic success. Attendance has been pleasing since the start of term, but we can always improve. Every day missed impacts upon learning and progress. We appreciate that anxieties may exist around attending in the current context but we have robust measures in place in school and the current government guidance can be found [here](#).

It is important for me to emphasise that attendance at school is compulsory and that it is the parent's or carer's duty to ensure good attendance. If you require further support, please contact your child's pastoral head.

Set Changes

Following assessment and review, there will be changes to the setting arrangements in some KS3 classes after half-term.

Self-isolation

As a reminder, the current guidance on self-isolation is as follows and is available [here](#) on the NHS website. You must self-isolate immediately if:

- You have any symptoms of coronavirus (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- You've tested positive for coronavirus – this means you have coronavirus
- You live with someone who has symptoms or tested positive
- Someone in your support bubble has symptoms or tested positive
- You're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace

In short: pupils **must not** attend school if they are displaying any of the Covid symptoms above and your proactive support in this regard will help us to ensure the continuity of school provision.

For pupils who do have to isolate, lesson content is available via the Student and [Plan B](#) link on the website. If you experience any problems accessing the resources, please contact: ITAdvice@atlp.org.uk. When emailing, please remember to state the school name, full pupil name as well as the nature of the problem.

Uniform

The standard of uniform has been excellent since the start of the year. Thank you for your support in upholding our excellent standards. If there are any issues, please contact your child's pastoral manager proactively so that this can be addressed and supported as quickly as possible.

Staff Training

An important reminder: **Friday 23rd October** is a designated staff training day. School will be closed to all pupils.

Most importantly, I would like to wish you a restful and relaxing half-term break, when it arrives. Thank you for your support.

Best regards,

Glyn Langston-Jones
Headteacher

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