

Dear Parents/Carers

I do hope you are all staying safe and well and that your son/daughter has enjoyed coming back to school. All our Elizabethan Staff are delighted to have our students back in the building again. We have been so impressed with how the students have adapted to their new environment, the new routines and the respect and support they have shown for each other. I wanted to thank parents for all you have done to assist with a smooth start to the term. This includes ensuring your child is correctly dressed, has the right equipment and arrives at the appropriate time. I intend to send out regular fortnightly newsletters this half-term so that you have all the information that you need. If you do have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. I have outlined below a few reminders so that we can continue to operate safely for all students and staff. I apologise for the list of rules, but we must all do everything we can to stay safe and enable the school to continue to remain open for all our students during this pandemic, by following the control measures in our risk assessment:

1. Please ensure students arrive at the appropriate time. We have staggered these to maximise safety, so please do not allow them to arrive early, particularly where they walk to school.
2. Please ensure your drop off away from the school entrance. **Only parents of children with Special Needs or who are transport vulnerable can park on the school premises in the designated slots. No other parent can park on the school premises.**
3. Please ensure when collecting and dropping off children that you do not congregate by the gate.
4. Please ensure your child arrives in PE kit on the days they are doing PE.
5. Please ensure your child wears their lanyard, this is allowing us a quick visual check that students are in their designated areas and not compromising our bubble structure. There will be some useful information distributed which can be stored in the plastic wallets enabling quick access.

Stay safe

Mrs C Horrocks
Principal

Teaching and Learning

As students and teachers return to class, the way in which we have to work is very different in the classroom. Your child may have commented on the different room layout where all the desks are in rows facing forward or the fact that the teacher has to stay at the front during lesson time and that things like class books cannot be shared easily. Whilst all of this is true, it does not and will not stop us teaching or the students learning in a positive way.

Each student has been issued with a whiteboard, pen and eraser. It is important that they remember to bring this to each and every lesson. As the teacher cannot move around the room, as they usually would, more questioning will take place in lessons than ever before and the whiteboard is a perfect tool for the teacher to get lots of quick feedback from the students. It is also important that the students take lots of pride in their classwork and maintain high levels of presentation. They must aim to write everything down carefully that they are instructed to and then give each and every task their best shot. Teachers will, at the moment be covering the key topics in each of their subjects, so it is important that they listen carefully and respond positively.

Homework will continue to be set by teachers weekly and this can be viewed on Go4Schools. Lots of the homework we will be setting is to support and develop our students as independent learners. Homework tasks that ask the child to produce a cheat-sheet, flip-cards or notes on the work completed that week will become more common. This is to support our 'low stakes' testing approach to learning. This means that your child may well get regular, smaller, mini-assessments set by their teacher where they can bring along the homework; the cheat-sheet or notes to help them when answering a few questions on the topic of the week. This strategy is designed to help students understand that preparing for assessments leads to greater success, especially longer term.

Assessment

Year 7 CAT Testing.

We need to complete a set of assessments with our Year 7 students so that we can calculate their GCSE Target grades. The data that we use is normally collected in Year 6 but circumstances are such that the tests were cancelled. All the students in Year 7 will be required to complete three separate tests online, each test will take approximately 45 minutes and they will be spread out over a three-week period. CAT Tests are widely used to assess students, they will complete assessments on numeracy, literacy and problem solving. If you have any questions about the tests, please contact me at mason@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk.

Year 12 Baseline Tests

The students in Year 12 have now settled in nicely to their chosen courses. Over the next two weeks, they will be completing various assessments to check the suitability of their choices. The data that is collected will be used to support them in their transition from Level 2 to Level 3 qualifications. If you need any further details, please contact Mr Dainty at daintyl@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk.

November resits (Year 12 only)

As per the information provided on GCSE results day, the deadline for the Academy to enter any students for the November GCSE resits examinations is **17th September**. If your son/daughter is considering resitting any exams you must have let us know prior to this deadline, please email wardk@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk for further details.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs every morning from 8.10am until 8.30am in FT1, to provide hot food for children in receipt of free school meals. Students can choose between toast with butter and jam or a ham and cheese toastie.

Lanyards

Students who lose their lanyards, must buy a replacement for 50p from Mrs Whinfrey in the Finance Office.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is concerned with:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children have the best outcomes

Children includes everyone under the age of 18 and as such we take our responsibilities in this area very seriously. Our dedicated Safeguarding Team is trained to the highest standards and consists of key staff who have the most consistent interactions with our young people ...

- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Miss A Clark
- The Deputy Leads are Mrs S Wheatley and Mr F Ciardulli
- The Designated Officers are Mrs C Horrocks, Mr L Dainty, Ms D Ager, Mrs S Glaister, Mrs N Mason and Mrs S Steed.

You can contact a member of the team directly at school and you can raise concerns via the safeguarding@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk email address anytime.

The following website is a useful resource to direct your children to if they are worried about anything as it signposts to local sources of support <https://www.healthforteens.co.uk/>

SEND

It has been lovely to see all your children back in school where we can get their learning back on track. The Year 7 and 8 Nurture Groups have been engaged in doing lots of practical activities with engineering designs for the Year 7's and some fabulous PE activities with the Year 8's including tennis. Our Year 11 students have got straight back into the business of learning and look extremely grown up now, what a difference this time off has made to them. Staff are working closely with the SEND Department to ensure that we are supporting the students in the best way for them at this time, but if you have any concerns please either email the teachers directly, their Head of House if it is a pastoral query or the SEN department at either AgerD@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk or WheatleyS@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk.

Brilliant Schools

All our students are taking part in the Brilliant Schools Wellbeing Tutor Period programme this term. In order to support the students, the brilliant Dr Andy Cope (The Dr of Happiness) is delivering a 'live' Zoom session on 'The Art of Being Brilliant' for all our parents. The event will take place on Monday 5th October 7.00pm-7.45pm. To access this event via Zoom (you will need to download the app to your computer/smartphone), and the Meeting ID and Password will be emailed to all parents.

We also have an additional Brilliant School Video called Top Ten Tips to being a brilliant parent – please follow the link below to access it.

<https://www.brilliant.school/courses/parents-top-10-tips?ex=1&ac=1599726877>

School photographs

These are scheduled for Monday 21 September and we will schedule all students to have their individual photograph taken. They will be issued with a proof and you will be able to order a variety of sizes and packs. All students must be in full school uniform on this day, even if they have PE scheduled. The PE staff will adapt their lessons to accommodate this.

Careers

I am pleased to announce the latest Decisionz magazine is available for Year 11's and their parents to support the decision-making process for life after Year 11. If any parent would like to discuss options available then please feel free to get in touch on shemilts@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk to make a phone or Teams appointment.

<http://magazine.decisionz.co.uk/books/tkcy/#p=1>

Covid-19

Please be aware that from Monday 14 September students and staff will be required to wear masks on corridors and in communal areas. This is in response to an increase in locally reported cases and to stop the spread of the virus.

Please do not send your child to school if they are displaying symptoms of the virus.

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.

Main symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

What to do if you have symptoms

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service if:

- you're worried about your symptoms
- you're not sure what to do

[Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service](#)

Call 111 if you cannot get help online. Do not go to places like a GP surgery, hospital or pharmacy.

If you are likely to experience barriers getting a test. e.g. due to transport issues please let the school know as we have a limited number of testing kits for families who meet these criteria.

School response to a child displaying Covid 19 symptoms-

The Elizabethan Academy will follow the Nottinghamshire County Council Covid 19 advice outlined below:

1. Immediately isolate the symptomatic pupil.
2. Arrange for the pupil to be collected from school.
3. Use PPE whilst the child / young person is awaiting collection if 2m distance cannot be maintained: gloves, apron, fluid-repellent Type IIR surgical mask, and eye protection if there is a risk of splashing to the eyes (e.g. if the pupil is vomiting).
4. Tell parents / member of staff to book a test and follow isolation guidance ([link](#)) until the result is received (and thereafter, if the test result is positive or still symptomatic). Tests are available via the online coronavirus test booking service ([link](#)) or by calling 119 if unable to access the online service.
5. Tell parents to notify the school immediately of the result of the test:
 - Those who receive a negative test result may return to school if they feel well and no longer have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.
 - Those who receive a positive test result should follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection' ([link](#)): continue to self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. They must continue to stay at home if they still have a high temperature.

It is always essential that we have emergency contact information for students. Please ensure that you have provided the school with two emergency contact numbers.