



Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form



Executive Headteacher and CEO of NEMAT: Rob James

16 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We can definitely say it has been a year like no other and we must hope that next year provides us with the opportunity to return to a more 'normal' way of life. Whilst many of the extra-curricular activities, trips and visits have had to be put on hold for the time being, we still have much to celebrate. We have popped on odd socks to raise awareness of bullying, dressed down to raise money for Children in Need, and worn our Christmas jumpers for Save the Children. We are particularly proud of how students have *shown racism the red card*. Nine students in Year 9 have shown great resilience and successfully completed a gruelling academic assessment with the Brilliant Club in their spare time. Finally, it has been wonderful to welcome new Year 7 and Year 12 students to the Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form family.

As you have probably seen in the media, schools have been asked to support Test and Trace in identifying close contacts if a member of the school community tests positively over the first six days after we break up from school on Friday 18 December. If your son or daughter develops COVID-19 symptoms and then tests positively, please could you email enquiries@notleyhigh.com with their name, date of the first symptoms, date of test and when the result was received. As school is closed, we will be checking the emails at key points in the day. Thank you for your support with this.

At the end of this exceptionally challenging year we would also like to celebrate the staff, particularly their contribution to supporting students and their families. The messages of thanks parents and carers have sent to the whole staff or specific individuals have been greatly appreciated.

There is lots of useful information in the attached newsletter, specifically a letter from Essex County Council detailing specific support available to families during the Christmas period.

At times, we know not everyone has agreed with the decisions we have made, but we are attempting to ensure all members of our community stay safe, as we deliver the best possible educational experience. We hope to gradually reintroduce many of the activities that are such an important part of the overall school experience, that contribute to developing a broader understanding of the world in which we live. This will be done when it is safe and in line with government guidance.

A key factor in our decision making is allowing opportunities to be created to engage and excite which allow the students to become curious. Staff have been creative in their use of online technology. Parents and carers have told us the students have had positive experiences when they have taken part in the lessons delivered via remote learning. Apart from a few technical issues, the online parent-teacher consultations have also been well received by the majority of parents and carers.

"Working together, achieving together"

Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form, Notley Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 1WY

☎ 01376 556300 ☎ 01376 550991 ✉ enquiries@notleyhigh.com 🌐 www.notleyhigh.com

Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form is an academy within the North Essex Multi-Academy Trust and a company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 7687474). Registered office as above.





Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form



Executive Headteacher and CEO of NEMAT: Rob James

As normal during the term there are staff changes for a variety of reasons. This term we say goodbye to Mrs M Puleston - Director of Maths and Computing, Ms S Monro - Head of Faculty for Art, Design & Technology, Mrs J Newell - English Teacher, Ms P Dunnett - History Teacher, Mrs H Salmon - Notley Sports Centre Lettings Supervisor and Miss M Collins – Catering Supervisor. On behalf of the students, staff and governors we would like to offer them our best wishes for the future.

We have a number of new colleagues who have joined us during the term and will join us in January. We welcome Miss L Hepworth – Catch Up Facilitator, Mrs K Moore – Science Technician, Ms S Lewis – Art Teacher, Mrs E Hammond – Maths and Computing Teacher, Mr W Quail-Larson – Humanities Teacher, and Mrs S Kirk - English Teacher.

The final day of this term is Friday 18 December with students in Years 7 – 11 being dismissed at 3.15pm. A reminder that the first day back for students is Tuesday 5 January 2021.

We would also like to remind everyone that we are working hard to encourage our students to have high aspirations and pride in themselves as well as the school. Please support us by ensuring they attend school on time, are fully equipped for lessons and wear the correct uniform.

No doubt next year will be just as challenging as 2020, but in different ways. The promise of several new COVID-19 vaccines will take time to take effect. During that time, we will still have to implement to control measures in school and ask for your continued support.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone 'Merry Christmas and Happy New Year'.

Best wishes.

Yours faithfully

R James
Executive Headteacher

C Cusick
Head of School

“Working together, achieving together”

Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form, Notley Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 1WY

† 01376 556300 † 01376 550991 • enquiries@notleyhigh.com † www.notleyhigh.com

Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form is an academy within the North Essex Multi-Academy Trust and a company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 7687474). Registered office as above.

