



NBHS WEEKLY UPDATE

Friday 4th February 2022

Message from HT

A busy week here at NBHS. At the start of the week, I met with Mr Burgess, Mr Burns our SDS Careers Advisor and Ms McLennan our DYW Coordinator to begin to plan a programme in May for young people who may be engaged in courses with very few final examinations and for whom final exam study leave could provide an opportunity to engage in employability learning and skills development. It was a very positive and productive meeting and we are keen to connect with local businesses and employers as partners in our programme.

I covered the most wonderful S2 Maths class on Wednesday – one young person asked me if I thought I'd made a positive difference to school since becoming HT, to which I replied "you tell me!" He conceded that I had set a friendly, positive tone with the pupils – I took that as a compliment.

This week, I also made a short video for our P7 parents which featured images of our school – the theme was "NBHS is about..." people, learning, kindness, diversity, support, ambition, health, success and more. You get the gist! We are also working on improvements to our website – watch this space.

The week concluded with a professional learning visit from 2 members of staff from a school in another local authority who had heard of NBHS's approach to learning and teaching and had read our inspection report. It was wonderful to engage with fellow teachers in conversation about school improvement and to have North Berwick recognised as having great practice to share.

Have a lovely weekend!
Mrs Moore

East Lothian Works Information

East Lothian Works provides a range of vocational courses for pupils. The attached FAQ and the video below provide further information:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqwngjJBXC8>

Mr Jones

SQA update – 3rd February, 2022

This week we communicated directly with Senior Phase Parents/Carers and Pupils to inform them that on 3rd February, SQA announced further support for learners taking National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher exams this year:

[Support services for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher learners \(sqa.org.uk\)](https://www.sqa.org.uk)

Following discussion with partners across the education system, and agreement by the SQA Board of Management, it has been announced that the SQA is now moving to 'Scenario 2' of the 2022 National Qualifications contingency arrangements.

This means that some revision support will be published for learners during week beginning 7 March to help them with their revision in the final run up to their exams.

SQA will provide revision support for all courses that have an exam. This will be tailored to reflect different types of question papers, any modifications to the question papers that are already in place, and the type and volume of content that is assessed in each question paper.

The type of revision support in place for each subject/level is summarised in this table:

[Modifications and revision support 2022 - table- SQA](#)

Please be reassured that all of our teachers will work very closely with our young people to ensure they are prepared for their SQA exams, know exactly what is expected of them in all of their subjects, and have clear understanding of what revision support has been put in place.

Shortly after the February holiday Mrs Moore and Mr McCallum will speak to senior pupils about some of the other supports that are in place for learners in this year of National Qualification delivery: exceptional circumstances, grading and the appeals service.

Student Success

Rebecca O'Connor 3C1

Rebecca plays badminton with Lothian Disability Badminton and played at the Scottish National Badminton Saturday 29 January and won 2 gold medals - she won the singles in her division and also the doubles, many congratulations Rebecca!

East Lothian Schools' Cross Country - Vogrie Country Park - 2 February

Congratulations to the following NBHS runners, who all placed in the top 3 in their races -

- Cerys Wright and Freya Brown - 1st equal - S1 Girl
- Heidi Hunter, Rosie Boot, Cerys Wright and Freya Brown - 1st - S1 girls team event
- Innes Wright - 1st - S3 Boys
- Rachel Stevens - 1st - S3 Girls
- Lois Thomson - 2nd - S3 Girls
- Maja Thomson - 1st - Senior Girls
- Oliver Stevens - 2nd - Senior Boys

Well done to the other NBHS runners too - Hamish Mitchell, Zak Swiercz

School Hockey Club

Congratulations to Caitlin and Niamh John and Iona Syme who represent the school hockey club and CALA hockey. They have just won the National 2 Indoor league, earning them a promotion into National League 1 for next season. Well done girls!



Total Adventure - East Lothian Secondary Schools

Booking for the following activities will open on Booking Live on 1 April, for Surfing and Sailing, and 1 May for Paddleboarding - <https://eastlothian.bookinglive.com/home/active-schools/active-schools-total-adventure/>

Any questions, see Miss Parry in the P.E. Department, or email cparry@elcschool.org.uk

Surfing with Coast 2 Coast Dunbar 01/04/22

Sailing at Whiteadder Water Sport Centre 01/04/22

Paddleboarding with Coast 2 Coast at Dunbar 01/05/22

N5 Administration & IT

Students will complete their assignment (worth 64% of their final grade) on the following dates and times:

Monday 7 March 2022 – 09:20-10:50

Tuesday 8 March 2022 – 08:40-10:10

NOTE – students who have assessment arrangements will finish slightly later.

Senior Phase Information Evening

These videos and presentations are now live and can be accessed on the school website at this link: <https://www.edubuzz.org/northberwickhigh/2021/12/02/senior-phase-virtual-information-evening/>
These will remain online for you to watch at a time that suits you.

Mr Jones

Absent Pupils Accessing Learning

We appreciate there is a need to ensure provision for learning is in place for young people self-isolating or awaiting PCR test results. As Google Classroom (GC) has been set up for every class, key power points or topic overviews are being routinely posted in class spaces. Assignments and home learning are also often posted for young people to access. Pupils can give parents/carers permission to access Guardian Summaries.

Please encourage your young person to check their Google Classrooms in the first instance. We're keen to encourage pupils to do this, if they are able to, including if a parent/carer receives a homework notification.

It is not currently possible to post coverage of every individual lesson online – pupils are very welcome to see their teacher upon their return should they require additional support.

Wherever possible, and if there is a concern, parents should contact communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk so that their query can be forwarded to the appropriate member of the extended leadership team.

As with everything at the moment, please know we are doing our absolute best to meet needs within the context we must currently operate.

Nationally, there are supplementary online learning offers available to all pupils as follows:

The E-Sgoil online offer for Senior Phase learners can be accessed on GLOW and instructions for this are on our own school website: <https://www.edubuzz.org/northberwickhigh/wp-content/blogs.dir/894/files/2020/10/GLOW-e-Sgoil-User-Guide-2020.pdf>

- For BGE learners, there are resources on West-OS, also accessed through GLOW – the app will appear on the pupils' launch pad
- The National E-Learning Offer (NELO) can be accessed here: <https://education.gov.scot/nelo/> . This includes Learning Spaces for courses which can be accessed here: <https://www.thinglink.com/card/1421866155961745410>
- SCHOLAR resources for seniors can be found here: <https://scholar.hw.ac.uk/>

Please encourage young people who are well enough to do so, when isolating or awaiting PCR test results, to check these additional sources of support for their learning. They have been well-received by pupils and cover a large number of topics, themes and subjects.

Online learning resource

An overview the various online learning resources that support pupils' home learning can be found on the school website: '**Learning at NBHS' main menu; 'Online learning resources' sub menu.** The presentation includes detail of Glow, e-Sgoil, West-OS and Scholar resources.

Covid Mitigations

The latest schools guidance from the Scottish Government appeared on **1st February** and largely reverts to pre-Omicron guidance, similar to December 2021. It continues to recommend the following:

- Secondary pupils are encouraged to take a Lateral Flow test regularly – tests are being distributed more efficiently in school now, in accordance with the updated guidance; any young person is still able to request test kits at reception if that's easier for them.
- Face coverings remain a vital Covid mitigation. All young people and staff are encouraged to bring them from home and must wear them appropriately, unless exempt. (We are finding an increasing number of young people are expecting to pick up a mask at reception on a daily basis!)
- Hand hygiene remains important – sanitiser is readily available in school.
- Distancing remains in place for pupils-teachers and adult-adult. For us at NBHS, something that really helps create smooth movement around school is our one way system – staff have been asked to remind pupils regularly to adhere to this.
- Ventilation remains important



Key Changes to Self-Isolation Guidance summary (6th January)

Positive cases are advised to self-isolate for 10 days. However, if the individual returns two consecutive negative LFD tests taken at least 24 hours apart with the first test no earlier than day 6 they may end isolation before the end of the 10 day period if they have no fever.

Close contacts who are fully vaccinated, having received 3 doses of the vaccination (plus 14 days) or are aged under 18 years and 4 months, can take daily LFD tests for 7 days instead of isolation - provided the tests are negative and they remains without symptoms. If someone has not received 3 doses of the vaccination, they will need to book a PCR test and even if this is a negative result, they will need to isolate for 10 days.

Advice on confirmatory PCR tests where people test positive on a lateral flow device (LFD) test they are now not advised to get a PCR test to confirm infection but to follow isolation advice as it applies to them as a positive case – there is an exception for people who may be eligible for the Self-Isolation Support Grant who are advised to take a PCR test to ensure they can confirm their infection to be potentially eligible for financial support.

Parents coming into school building

Please note that the following COVID-19 mitigation measure remains in place during this time: parents and carers cannot come into the school building. Unfortunately, this means that if your child forgets something, you cannot drop the item off at school for them.

We also continue to adhere to national and local advice regarding any school excursions, events and activities.

Attendance Mailbox

Separate from the East Lothian COVID-19 email address mentioned above, we would like to remind you that NBHS has a dedicated email address for all attendance matters. There is no need to phone the school – just send an email to the attendance address below, giving the detail of absence, appointments etc. **Please be sure to include the reason for your child being absent from school;** we need this information to ensure that all absences are recorded correctly. We recommend that you add this email address to your contacts so this it is quick and easy for you to access:

attendance@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk

NBHS Communications

Just a reminder that if you wish to contact school you should email us at the communications email address below, or contact your child's guidance teacher directly. If your child is absent from school, please contact the dedicated absence line

communications@northberwickhigh.elcschool.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

- Mid-term break Monday 14th- Friday 18th February
- Staff only inservice day Monday 21st February – **pupils return Tuesday 22nd February**
- Rolling Monday – Wednesday 23rd February
- S5/6 Virtual Parents' Evening – Thursday 24th February
- Next Parent Council meeting – Monday 7th March