



WC: 04/09/2023

Dear Parent/Carer

We have loved having your children back with us at NUSA this week. It has been excellent to see how well they have settled in. Thank you for ensuring that they are all prepared with the correct uniform and equipment. We understand that some items are still on order and look forward to seeing everybody fully equipped asap. Just a little reminder that only NUSA school skirts should be worn to school.

In our assemblies this week, we have looked at how all students have 'choices'. Ultimately, as our children begin to get older, they have more jurisdiction over what happens in their lives. This is why it is so important that we all help them make the right choice. Whether that be completing homework, revising, supporting with friendships or ensuring they are prepared for school, they need as much support as possible from both home and school to ensure that they leave us as successful as possible.

We will spend this year focusing on developing our work on our NUSA values. These are integrity, purpose, grit and being NUSA 24/7. I will write to you over the coming weeks about what we are doing with these values within school so that you can support at home.

Attendance:

There is an obvious and very direct link between progress and attendance. Our GCSE results this year showed that students who attended the most got the best grades. Whilst ability naturally comes into the grades students receive at the end of Year 11, it is evident that the more they attend school, the greater progress they make. I know that you all want your children to make the best progress possible, so please help us to help them by ensuring they are coming to school every day. Obviously, if your child is sick, it is important that they rest and recuperate. However, there may be occasions where a child wakes up feeling a little under the weather but by 10am, they feel fine again. It is on days like this that they should absolutely be coming in to school so that they can be learning and making the best progress possible.

Offer of training for Parents/Carers:

Be a life saver - Attend our free awareness session on CPR and the use of a Defibrillator (AED) in October 2023.

We are delighted to be hosting 2 sessions in October in partnership with East Midlands Ambulance Service on CPR (CardioPulmonary Resuscitation) and use of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator). Part of the East Midlands Ambulance Service's Cardiac Arrest Strategy is to raise the awareness of the public, of what to do if they were in the unfortunate position of dealing with a cardiac arrest. The sessions will take place in school on Monday 16th October at 4pm or Tuesday 17th October at 5pm. If you would like to reserve your free space, please [click here](#) to complete the form. Spaces to the session will be allocated on a *first come first served* basis. You will receive a confirmation email if you have been allocated a space. Where you are allocated a space, please ensure you attend, as it is really important that as many people as possible have awareness of this topic as it really can save a life, so please only reserve a space if you are sure you can join us. We look forward to seeing you, be sure to click above to reserve your spot.

ISTs:

Here at NUSA we call 'homework', 'Independent study time'. For Y7-9, we will be trialling setting ISTs in Maths only for our first term. This is because we want to focus on the quality of IST we receive for maths and trial a new rewards system for completion of 'homework'. This does not mean that your child should not do any other work at home and they are more than welcome, and should be encouraged, to regularly recap their knowledge of other subjects. At the end of the term, we will be launching a full IST programme for all students in Y7-9.

ISTs for Y10-11 will remain the same and are expected to be completed for every subject.

Medical passes:

Every term we review the issuing of medical exemption passes for students who require more frequent visits to the toilet. If your child needs to be issued with a medical pass, please contact your child's Head of Year to arrange this to be issued.

Reading at NUSA:

We at NUSA have started the academic year picking up where we left off, with a love of reading. On our website, we have a wide range of subject specific vocabulary that you can read through with your child. The link can be found by [clicking here](#). Alternatively, you can scan the QR code below.



We will be sharing your child's reading age with them via their email and their reading ages will still be available on their reports. Should you have any questions regarding reading, please do not hesitate to email us at reading@nusa.org.uk

Revision guides:

If your child is currently studying for GCSE exams (year 10 or 11) and would like to purchase revision guides at a reduced cost, they can do so by completing the order form and taking it, along with the correct amount of money to Vera in A119. Order forms can be collected from tutors, Mrs Huskisson-Moore or Vera. Revision guides are available for a range of subjects including maths, English, Science, drama, Spanish, sport, history, geography, psychology and catering and are an invaluable tool to support students maximising their progress.

SEND Drop ins:

We offer a number of 'SEND drop ins' throughout the year for parents/carers. These are open to any parent/carer who may want to discuss their child's SEND needs further or parents/carers who have concerns that their children may have SEND needs that are yet to be diagnosed. If you wish to book an appointment in one of the slots below, please contact reception.

Wednesday SEND Drop in dates:
13/09/2023
27/09/2023
11/10/2023
25/10/2023

Coming up at NUSA:

Date	Event
27/09/2023	Year 6 Open evening
28/09/2023	Year 7 & Year 12 Settling in event
06/10/2023	INSET Day
16/10/2023	Community CPR & Defib Training - Ticket Only (information above)
17/10/2023	Community CPR & Defib Training - Ticket Only (information above)
19/10/2023	Nusa Sixth Form Open Evening

Safeguarding corner:

This week's safeguarding corner comes from the NSPCC and focusses on online safety.

Online safety

Resources for parents and carers



NSPCC resources

- For guidance on a wide range of topics, visit the NSPCC's online safety pages: nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety
- For practical tips and real-life case studies, watch the NSPCC's parenting online series: youtube.com/user/nspcc
- Use Talk PANTS resources to help you speak to younger children about sexual abuse online, in an age-appropriate way: nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule

Reporting sites

- Contact CEOP if you're concerned about someone making inappropriate or sexual contact with a child online: ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
- Report sexual images and videos of children shared online to the Internet Watch Foundation
- Report anything online which causes someone distress or harm to Report Harmful Content: reportharmfulcontent.com

Resources for children and young people

- They can visit the Childline website for advice and information: childline.org.uk
- Call Childline on 0800 1111 to speak to one of our counsellors about anything worrying them
- Share experiences and get peer support on the Childline message boards: childline.org.uk/get-support/message-boards
- Contact Young Minds crisis messenger (Text YM to 85258) or visit the Young Minds website for advice about mental health: youngminds.org.uk
- Visit Childline's online and mobile safety page to learn how to stay safe online: childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety
- Use the Zipit app to navigate unwanted intimate chats: childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/sexting/zipit-app
- Watch films on lots of different topics on Childline's YouTube Channel (aimed at young people aged 13-18): youtube.com/user/childline

Have a wonderful weekend

Emma Howard
Headteacher