



Introduction of Face Mask Policy in School – Monday 19 October 2020

Dear Parents / Carers and Students

I am sure you are keeping up to date with all the news regarding COVID-19 and will be aware of the government's announcements regarding our local area moving to 'Tier 2' restrictions. When I wrote to you in September I noted that additional safety measures and routines may be necessary should there be a change in local Covid-19 circumstances. We are now at this point, with an increasing number of confirmed cases of Covid-19 in our communities.

From Monday 19 October 2020 students and staff will be expected to wear a face mask at specific times of the school day. The following guidance will be shared with students during Monday morning Challenge Time from 8.30 am. – 9.00 am.

Students will be expected to wear a face mask:

- as they arrive into school and as they walk into their 'designated bubble area'
- as they walk inside the buildings from one area of the school to another
- On the corridors
- if moving around an indoor classroom
- if in an indoor social area when not eating
- as they use the toilet facilities

If a student wishes to wear a face mask during a lesson because it makes them feel safer, more comfortable, etc. then we will, of course, be respectful of this. Students will see members of staff adopting the same protocol, with some teachers choosing to wear visors during lessons.

As noted above, staff at the school will also be wearing face masks / visors, particularly when moving around the school and when on duty. It may be necessary when on duty for staff to remove face coverings in order to undertake their duty or communicate effectively, they will however be following social distancing rules wherever possible.

We are mindful that we are a community whose youngest members are 11 years old, therefore face masks must be appropriate for a school setting, with no inappropriate slogans etc. The Behaviour policy will be actioned when students do not meet our expectations in order to safeguard our community.

Face masks should be worn and removed correctly, link below which provides advice on the wearing of face masks: www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-51205344 www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMSqc9SpbJc

Please ensure that you provide your child(ren) with a face mask in readiness for Monday 19 October. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to provide students with a face covering.

A very small number of students and staff will not be wearing face masks due to confirmed personal medical reasons. Please provide evidence from health professionals if you request this for your child(ren) by contacting the school office via email or telephone. These situations will be managed sensitively.

Members of the community who visit the school will be expected to wear a face covering.



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Travel on buses

By law face masks must be worn on the public and school transport as previously indicated, however, should your child wish to keep their face mask on as they depart the bus that is advisable.

Thank you for your continued support in helping to keep our school and community, safe and well.

Mr Andrew J Knowles
Headteacher