

Dear Parents and Carers

### Face Coverings in School

Earlier this week the Government issued guidance regarding face coverings in schools. The main points from this guidance are:

- Schools have the discretion to require face coverings for pupils and staff in communal areas where social distancing cannot be safely managed, if they believe that it is right in their particular circumstances.
- The use of face coverings in the classroom should still be avoided because they “can have a negative impact on learning and teaching”.
- For schools and colleges in areas where local restrictions apply, face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain.

In light of this guidance we have decided that students **must** bring a face mask to school. Students will wear face masks when directed to by teachers. The plan we have put in place keeps students in bubbles and has minimised the amount of movement around the school site meaning that face masks will not be required most of the time. However, students having face masks with them will give us the flexibility to ask students to wear them on corridors and in communal spaces if we feel it is necessary, for example at breaks and lunchtimes .

Students should also bring a small plastic bag, envelope or paper bag to store face masks in safely.

Students will not be asked to wear them in classrooms. However, students can choose to do so if they wish too.

There may be some students who cannot wear masks for medical reasons and these children will not be required to wear them. If your child cannot wear a mask, please send them to school with a letter explaining this.

As a school the safety of students and staff is our priority and I hope that you understand the reasons for our decision.

Yours sincerely

Vicki Jackson

Headteacher