



6 October 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Wearing face coverings and COVID-19 update

I wanted to write to you with regards to COVID-19 cases within the school. We are experiencing numerous cases of COVID-19 within all year groups, but as confirmed by Public Health, we are still below the threshold for intervention which is currently set at 10% of a cohort. However, we will not be complacent and will keep striving to ensure the safety of our students, families and staff.

In order to protect our community and minimise disruption to learning, we are now asking that all students (unless exempt) wear face coverings when moving around indoors within school from Friday 8 October. We, therefore, request that students wear face coverings in all inside spaces when moving around. We would also recommend that students wear face coverings in classrooms, but this is up to the student if they feel comfortable to do so. This interim measure will help to keep our community safe. I will also be asking staff to wear face coverings in order to help protect our students.

We are aware of a growing number of cases in Year 7 and are monitoring this closely as the number of cases is approaching the threshold. Please can I reiterate the need for students to test regularly and for those in Year 7, we have been advised to ask you to take your child for a PCR if they are feeling unwell – even if they only have cold like symptoms. I am pleased to report that our efforts have been working as we have seen a drop in cases in Year 10 following the introduction of additional measures last week and have therefore avoided a significant outbreak in this year group.

Having liaised with Public Health at the Local Authority, they agree that asking all students to wear face coverings indoors when moving around the school site is an advisable measure to protect our community.

From Friday we would ask all students to ensure they bring a face covering to school, unless medically exempt.

I would also like to reassure you, based on my conversation with Public Health today, that it is likely that we will start to see the COVID vaccinations of our students help to reduce the spread of COVID-19 within the school.

I am grateful for your support in helping to keep our community safe.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gibson
Headteacher