

13 May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Changes to National Guidance on the Wearing of Face Coverings in Schools

On Monday, 10 May 2021 the Department for Education (DfE) updated its guidance to schools regarding the wearing of face coverings in schools. This guidance now states that from Monday, 17 May 2021 it is no longer necessary for students in secondary schools to wear a face covering and that school staff are now only expected to wear a face covering in communal areas and corridors where social distancing cannot be achieved, although we will support any of our staff who choose to continue to wear a face covering.

This means that from Monday, 17 May 2021 your child will no longer need to wear a face covering in school. However, if they wish to continue to wear a face covering in corridors and communal areas, then, of course, they may do so.

Directors of Public Health may decide to take additional steps to further reduce the risk of transmission in areas where cases are high or increasing and may advise the reintroduction of face coverings in school. This may include face coverings in communal areas (for students) and/or classrooms (both students and staff).

Please be aware that other control measures, including additional cleaning, hand washing/sanitising and *year group* 'bubbles' will remain in place in school in line with national and DfE guidance and in line with the school's revised COVID risk assessment that can be found on our website.

Yours faithfully



Dave Cavill
Principal