

26th August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are looking forward to the return of all pupils and as was explained in July, we have followed the guidelines to ensure our school is as safe as possible.

The Chief Medical Officers from all four nations in the United Kingdom have made it clear that the overall risks to children from coronavirus (COVID-19) in relation to education settings is low and that the risks associated with not being in school certainly outweigh those of being in school. The World Health Organisation published a statement on 21 August about children and face coverings. They now advise that “children aged 12 and over should wear a mask under the same conditions as adults, in particular when they cannot guarantee at least a 1-metre distance from others and there is widespread transmission in the area.”

Nationwide, the government is not recommending that face coverings are necessary for all schools. We have taken the decision to encourage but not require our students to wear face coverings outside the classroom as we believe it will be difficult to maintain social distancing in our corridors and social areas. In addition, on top of our hygiene measures and the system of controls recommended in the full opening guidance to schools, permitting the use of face coverings for students will provide additional confidence to parents to support a full return of students to our school. We expect all students to provide their own face coverings. Students should not wear face-coverings in class unless there is a special reason.

It is vital that face coverings are worn correctly and we will be providing clear instructions to our students on how to put on, remove, store and dispose of face coverings, to avoid inadvertently increasing the risks of transmission. Safe wearing of face coverings requires cleaning of hands before and after touching – including to remove or put them on – and the safe storage of them in individual, sealable plastic bags between use. Where a face-covering becomes damp, it should not be worn, and the face-covering should be replaced carefully. If students are wearing face coverings on their way to and from school, they should change their face covering before entering school.

You will appreciate that the guidance from Government is being constantly updated. We will let you know if our approach to the wearing of face coverings changes.

Yours faithfully



Steve Fisher
Executive Headteacher