

16th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a school we are delighted to see the students return with such a positive attitude and desire to catch up after such an unusually long time out of school.

We are aware that the ever-changing guidance to both schools and to the wider community is leading to some confusion and it is, we believe, very understandable. Schools are subject to very different guidance on how to distance, from that being put in place for most settings.

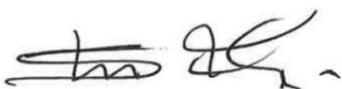
The guidance from the Government was that face masks do not need to be worn in schools unless there is a lockdown in that area, at which time they should be worn in corridors and when moving around school. From the outset we have said that any student who wishes to wear a mask may do so, and that continues to be the case.

From Monday, we are moving to a position of **strongly recommending that all students wear a face mask** and **strongly recommending that our members of staff wear a visor or face mask when moving around inside the buildings**. Students will be asked to supply their own face mask and these will not be supplied by the school. Any face mask worn in school, must not be the same one that is worn outside in order to reduce the chance of transmission. Dedicated bins are available for the depositing of disposable face masks. Reusable face masks must be kept in a clean plastic bag to ensure they remain effective. We are taking this action in order to provide further reassurance and peace of mind to students, parents and members of staff. As it is not mandatory to wear face masks in schools, we are not insisting that all students wear them at this stage; we are aware that some may have legitimate medical reasons for not wearing them and we will respect that.

We would hope that you would see this as a positive step and support us in implementing this measure. We have, at the time of writing this letter, not had a single confirmed case of COVID, but we are not complacent in believing that this will always continue to be the case.

We thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours faithfully



Mr Steve Fisher
Executive Headteacher