

14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May the Government announced changes to the Covid restrictions in line with Step 3 of the national roadmap. Within the changes are recommendations relating to the wearing of face coverings in schools. A summary of, and a link to the recommendations are below.

Since the announcement we have analysed the Guidance and also communicated with local Public Health England Officials.

In summary:

- Whilst the guidance recommends students do not need to wear face coverings on the Academy site from 17<sup>th</sup> May, we will still offer students the choice whether they still wear a face covering. The Academy will still have a supply of face coverings available for students who wish to wear them.
- Students must continue to wear face coverings on transport to and from school.

All other methods of operation that we have had in place throughout the Academic year remain at this time, such as students being educated in Bubbles, Year Group Zones, social distancing, hygiene expectations and twice weekly lateral flow testing. I am sure students will continue to respond in the mature manner they have all year to the different ways we have to structure the Academy day and work within Covid restrictions. If and when there are further changes we will update you.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to make contact with the Academy.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Keogh  
Principal

## **Latest extract from Schools Coronavirus Operational Guidance update May 2021 p.10:**

### **2. Ensure face coverings are used in recommended circumstances**

*Based on the current state of the pandemic and the positive progress being made, it is no longer necessary to recommend the additional precautionary face covering measures put in place from the 8 March. From 17 May, in line with Step 3 of the roadmap, face coverings will no longer be recommended for pupils in classrooms or communal areas in all schools.*

*Face coverings will also no longer be recommended for staff in classrooms. In all schools we continue to recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff and visitors in situations outside of classrooms where social distancing is not possible (for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas).*

*The reintroduction of face coverings for pupils, students or staff may be advised for a temporary period in response to particular localised outbreaks, including variants of concern. In all cases, any educational drawbacks should be balanced with the benefits of managing transmission.*

*Children and young people aged 11 and over must still wear a face covering on public transport. In accordance with advice from PHE, they must also wear a face covering when travelling on dedicated transport to secondary school or college. This does not apply to children and young people who are exempt from wearing face coverings.*

The latest 'Face Coverings in Education' Guidance can be found [here](#).