



4th November 2020

Dear Parent,

Use of masks in school

As we are, imminently, beginning a second national lockdown we have reviewed our policy on wearing masks in school. The colder weather and higher infection rates raise the risks indoors and, although not without risks themselves, masks provide some protection from aerosol transmission.

From Monday 9th November we will encourage and recommend the wearing of masks outside of lessons. We will not make this compulsory or enforce it but will recommend their use. There are good reasons why some students and staff may not be able to wear masks.

Masks need to be clean, washed or changed regularly and should be handled with clean hands (sanitizer can be used for this). Students should put masks on when leaving lessons and take them off when arriving before sanitizing their hands. They should try to avoid touching the front of the mask and wear it covering their mouth and nose.

DFE guidance on the wearing of face coverings is as follows:

Access to face coverings

It is reasonable to assume that staff and young people will now have access to face coverings due to their increasing use in wider society, and Public Health England has made available resources on how to make a simple face covering.

However, where anybody is struggling to access a face covering, or where they are unable to use their face covering due to having forgotten it, or it having become soiled or unsafe, education settings should take steps to have a small contingency supply available to meet such needs.

No one should be excluded from education on the grounds that they are not wearing a face covering.

Safe wearing and removal of face coverings

Schools should have a process for removing face coverings when those who use face coverings arrive at school, and when face coverings are worn at school in certain circumstances. This process should be communicated clearly to pupils and staff.

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.



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Where a face covering becomes damp, it should not be worn and the face covering should be replaced carefully.

Pupils must be instructed not to touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing it and they must dispose of temporary face coverings in a 'black bag' waste bin (not recycling bin) or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them, and then wash their hands again before heading to their classroom.

Further guidance on face coverings

- [Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care provides](#)
- [Face coverings in education settings](#)

I hope that you will help and support us in this.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rob Corbett', written over a horizontal line.

Rob Corbett, Headteacher



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