

19th October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to update you on our Covid-19 safety practices following the steep increase of cases both in the local area and nationally. These guidelines will take effect from **Monday 1st November** and will be reviewed on a fortnightly cycle. Further communication will be sent if changes are due to occur.

Continuation of current guidance

In line with my letter sent before the start of term we continue to follow the governmental guidance for the safe operation of schools and academies. These include:

- We encourage regular asymptomatic testing twice weekly for staff and students. Anyone receiving a positive Lateral Flow test result should self-isolate and arrange for a confirmatory PCR test.
- We ensure regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and classrooms that are free are cleaned during the school day.
- We promote good hygiene, including hand washing and covering the nose and mouth when coughing/sneezing.
- Keep occupied spaces as well ventilated as possible.
- We encourage vaccination for eligible staff and young people where appropriate.

Changes to face covering guidance

Even with the above practices in place we feel there is still the need to increase our in-school measures. Due to this we will once again be asking students and staff (except those who are medically exempt) to wear face coverings on site in **all areas** including classrooms. This excludes time when eating or drinking at break and lunch. We would also encourage the use of a face covering on the journey to and from school.

Face coverings must be used appropriately, covering the nose and mouth. They can be plain or patterned but must not display any offensive images or designs. Scarves and bandanas will not be appropriate as they do not fit securely around the side of the face. If a student attends school without a face covering or exemption, parents/carers will be contacted to bring a suitable covering in.

If you would like your child to be exempt from this requirement then please can you write a note in their contact book. Students with this note will be offered a badge or card to identify their exemption.

Any student wishing to continue or start to wear a face covering in class or around the school before half term will be supported in that decision and not discouraged unless they are wearing it inappropriately.

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Headteacher: Mr C Pranker, BSc (Hons), NPQH

Further additional measures

In addition to the changes to our guidance regarding face coverings we will also need to make the following changes:

- Students will again be asked to clean their hands at the end of lessons and when they enter the buildings.
- We will reduce large year group gatherings such as assemblies unless strictly necessary.
- Parents evenings and events will return to remote platforms unless the risks can be suitably managed.

It remains essential that if your child is displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 they **do not attend school** and get a PCR test without delay. Further NHS information on this can be found [here](#). Please report test results to the school via school reception.

I would again, like to thank everyone for their continued support in making the school safe for all that attend it and the wider community.

Yours faithfully



Mr Prankerd
Headteacher

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