

Ref: DSM/TKE/DSM/Parent/GD2020-2021/01

13 May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Changes to National Guidance on the Wearing of Coverings in Schools

On Monday, 10 May 2021, the Department for Education (DfE) updated its guidance to schools regarding the wearing of face coverings in schools. This guidance now states that from Monday, 17 May 2021, it is no longer necessary for students in secondary schools to wear a face covering and that school staff are now only expected to wear a face covering in communal areas and corridors where social distancing can not be achieved, although we will support any of our staff who choose to continue to wear a face covering.

This means that from Monday, 17 May 2021 your child will no longer need to wear a face covering in school. However, if they wish to continue to wear a face covering in corridors and communal areas, then, of course, they may.

Where cases are high or increasing in areas, the Directors of Public Health may decide to take additional steps to further reduce the risk of transmission and advise the reintroduction of face coverings in school. This may include face coverings in communal areas for students and/or classrooms for both students and staff.

Please be aware the other control measures already in place, including additional cleaning, hand washing/sanitising and year group 'bubbles' will continue to remain in place in school, in line with national and DfE guidance and in line with the school's revised COVID risk assessment, which can be found on our website.

Yours faithfully



Darren Smith
Principal