

28 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your family are well and continue to stay safe.

I am writing in follow up to Saturday's announcement by the Prime Minister and the subsequent guidance we received from the Department for Education late Sunday afternoon.

As you will no doubt be aware, schools have been asked to re-introduce the use of face coverings in all indoor communal areas. As a result we will be asking all students, staff and visitors, from Tuesday 30 November 2021 to wear a face covering when accessing any indoor communal area unless they are exempt. This includes all corridors, whilst queuing or waiting to use our canteens and when accessing any indoor social areas. Students and staff will not be expected to wear face coverings in classrooms, unless they wish to do so.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind parents and carers about the key controls we continue to have in place across our school to keep each other and our school community safe. These include:

- The promotion of good respiratory hygiene throughout the school ('catch it, bin it, kill it').
- Frequent opportunities for hand sanitation to reduce the transmission of the virus. All of our classrooms and communal areas are fitted with sanitising stations; staff and students sanitise their hands upon entry and exit.
- Increasing ventilation in our classrooms and communal areas by ensuring that windows are open, as well as encouraging students to use our outdoor spaces during break and lunchtimes as much as they can.
- Continuing to use additional cleaners to carry out an extensive cleaning programme throughout the day (in addition to the end of the school day). This ensures any communal areas and frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and sanitised.
- Retaining aspects of the one-way system when students are moving around our site.

I would again remind you of the benefits of all staff and students continuing to take regular LFT tests at least twice every week, letting us know at once if the test is positive. This is a really important way of picking up cases quickly and preventing spread of the virus. Lateral flow tests continue to be given to students to take home. Alternatively, they are also available to order online at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

Please remember that students must stay off school and take a PCR test immediately if one of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are evident. These include: a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

Can I thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this or any other school issue further

Yours faithfully,



Richard Williman
Headteacher