

6 November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Since my last communication I hope you and your families have remained well. Once again I would like to thank you for your continued support. Our children are still working incredibly hard and we have been very impressed with their attitudes since we returned.

As I am sure you would expect, we forensically review any new guidance or information that is made available to us and update our risk assessments accordingly. This is to ensure we are keeping our children and staff as safe as we possibly can. As we enter into another period of national lockdown, I would like to update you on a change we have made to our working practice. From Monday 9 November 2020, staff will be expected to wear a face covering or visor whilst in school except for when they are teaching.

Government guidance still states that primary school children do not need to wear a face covering. However, if you would like your child to wear a face covering whilst on site they will be able to do so from Monday 9 November. Children will be expected to remove face coverings during lessons and will be subject to the strict protocol and hygiene rules set out below:

1. Face coverings should cover the wearer's nose and mouth and loop around each ear. Face coverings must be appropriate: bandanas and scarves are not permitted and face coverings should not have slogans or logos on them.
2. Face coverings should be provided by the wearer.
3. Face coverings should not be worn when damp/wet and when not in use are to be placed in a clear, resealable zip-lock plastic bag, which will be provided by the academy.
4. In line with government guidance, face coverings will not be worn in the classroom.
5. If your child chooses to wear a face covering, it should be put in position prior to entering the academy gates. The face covering should remain in place until the wearer is in the classroom. Hand sanitiser must be applied prior to removing the face covering and placing it in the zip-lock bag. Hand sanitiser must then be applied again.
6. Once a face covering is in place on the wearer's face, the wearer should refrain from touching the covering/their face as much as possible. Where the wearer needs to remove their face covering they must follow the sanitise – remove – sanitise rule (to remove the face covering) and the sanitise – apply – sanitise rule (to reapply the face covering).

Please remember, this is entirely optional and is not something that our academies will be enforcing.

Finally, can I take the opportunity to remind all parents/carers that we strongly advise all adults to wear a face covering when dropping off and picking up children. This is to keep our staff, children and other parents as safe as possible.

Thank you again for your support.

Yours faithfully



Simon McCarthy
Executive Principal: Primary Education