

Dear Parent

FACE COVERINGS – SECONDARY SCHOOLS

As you will be well aware, the Deputy First Minister announced on Tuesday a change in the guidance around face coverings in schools, following updated information from the World Health Organisation. As of Monday 31st August, all secondary school pupils and staff will be required to wear face coverings in corridors and communal areas. Face coverings will not generally be required in classrooms or other learning and teaching environments, but pupils are of course welcome to wear face coverings in lessons if they wish to do so.

It is expected that pupils and staff will provide their own face coverings; however, I have a small stock of face masks in the school for pupils who may forget to bring one, or whose own face covering is lost or damaged during the course of the day.

Pupils will be asked to wear face coverings at the following times:

- On arrival at school and when leaving the school building at the end of the day
- In all communal areas (social areas, toilets etc. where social distancing is difficult to maintain)
- In all corridors when going to class or moving from class to class

Face coverings must also be worn if pupils are using public transport or visiting shops before or after school.

It is important that face coverings are used correctly. I shall speak to pupils today to advise them of the new rules surrounding face coverings and of a number of key guidelines for their proper use, notably the following:

- Face coverings should cover the nose, mouth and chin
- Face coverings must not be shared with others
- Hands should be sanitised before putting on or removing the face covering
- To avoid possible contamination, face coverings should not be placed on surfaces when not in use
- Face coverings should be washed each day at 60 degrees or above
- Disposable face coverings should be disposed of safely and hygienically

All pupils and staff are expected to follow the above rules, other than those who are exempt from wearing a face covering. If your child falls into this category, please advise your child's pupil support teacher as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully

William Inglis
Head Teacher