



Bellahouston Academy

School Policy in relation to the wearing of face-coverings.

- From Monday 31st August, pupils and staff will be required to wear a face-covering in the communal areas of the school where social distancing is not possible. In our school, this will include the following times and areas –
 - At the beginning and end of the day as pupils arrive and leave.
 - At the beginning and end of the Interval as pupils leave and return to classes.
 - At the beginning and end of the lunch-break as pupils leave and return to classes.
 - At all Period change-overs.
 - In the Fuel Zone queue.
 - In P.E./G.S.O.S. Changing Rooms
 - On P.E./G.S.O.S. minibuses.
 - In the Wet Weather Zones.
 - In toilets.
 - In corridors during Period-time if out of class on legitimate business.

- **EXEMPTIONS**
 - Pupils and staff will be exempt from wearing a face-covering if
 - they have a disability or health condition which means that they cannot put a covering on.
 - the face-covering would cause distress or anxiety.
 - they need to communicate with someone who relies on lip-reading.
 - Pupils in this category will be identified by
 - parents/carers informing the school that their child is in one of the above categories.
 - Pastoral Care/Pupil Support Staff identifying pupils who may be in this category.
 - Pupils in this category will carry a card to identify them as exempt.
 - Staff in this category should inform the Head Teacher.

- **ROLE OF THE STUDENT TUTOR**
 - The role of Student Tutors will be very important in helping to monitor and reinforce compliance. There may also be a role in the identification of those pupils who may fall into one of the above categories, in which case they would contact the relevant PT Pastoral Care.

- Student Tutors will provide reminders about the school's policy, details of which will appear on the Daily Bulletin, as well as on the plasma screens. It will also form part of our PSHE courses.
 - During Tutor Group Periods, Student Tutors will inform the relevant PT Pastoral Care of any pupil who may not be in possession of a face-covering and the PT PC will issue one from a whole-school stock. The current additional 5-minute allocation to Tutor Groups will assist with this process.
- **COMPLIANCE**
 - The period between Monday 31st August and Friday 4th September will constitute a 'period of grace' in which pupils will be expected to become compliant with the policy.
 - Discretion and sensitivity will require to be exercised by all staff in relation to ensuring that pupils wear their face-coverings as outlined above. Where it is clear that instances of non-compliance are deliberate and wilful, we will look to liaise with parents/carers about the relevant issues.
- **PUBLICITY**
 - Details of the policy, including how to put on and wear a face-covering safely, will be put on the Daily Bulletin and plasma screens. The main points will also be reinforced in PSHE.
 - The School Website and School App will also be used to publicise the school's policy.
 - A 'Q&A' document will be devised and sent to all parents/carers, covering many of the main issues.
 - The policy will be discussed with parents/carers at the next meeting of the Parents' Council, which will take place via Zoom at 7 p.m. on Monday 31st August.
- **MONITORING AND REVIEW**
 - Compliance across the school will be monitored on a daily basis and we will look to receive feedback from pupils, staff and parents as we move forward.
 - As ever, if something isn't working, we'll look to improve or replace it.