



Dear parents/carers,

As you will know, the governments advice on face coverings in school will change from today.

From Thursday 27th January, face coverings are no longer statutory in communal areas for staff and students in year 7 and above.

This decision comes in response to national infection data showing the prevalence of COVID-19 to be on a downward trajectory. Whilst there are some groups where cases are likely to continue rising, it is likely that the Omicron wave has now peaked nationally. There remains significant pressure on the NHS but hospital admissions have stabilised, and the number of patients in Intensive Care Units (ICU) remain low and are falling.

This means it is right we remove the most stringent restrictions around wearing face coverings from education, but the virus is still with us, and continuing with proportionate protective measures remains vital to protect education.

We will continue to encourage students to wear face coverings in communal areas, however this will be at the student's discretion. We will monitor our local data on a week-to-week basis and will inform you if we feel it right to reintroduce this measure again at Harrogate High School.

If you have any questions on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Sukhraj Gill
Head of Academy

