



Dear Parents/carers,

### Re introduction of Face Coverings.

I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

As you may be aware, unfortunately, coronavirus cases are once again on the rise which is affecting the school community largely, in both teachers and students.

We are eager for the school and all year groups to remain open throughout this difficult time, in order to do so we are having to rely on an increased number of supply teachers to cover the high levels of staff absences that we are experiencing, therefore I want to apologise for any disruptions to lessons because of this.

In order to try and prevent an increase of numbers, I have taken the decision to temporarily **reintroduce face coverings for staff and students** in busier communal areas (corridors, dining hall unless eating, assemblies, etc.). We will keep this regularly under review and will update parents/carers as appropriate. This will come into effect on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March, therefore students are to come to school with face coverings from tomorrow.**

**Please see the second page of this letter for further information on the current Coronavirus recommendations for your reference.**

Our aim is to always keep school open, however there may be instances in the future where we find ourselves needing to close year groups if cases continue to rise and the difficulty with obtaining supply teachers continues. If there does come a point where we must consider closing year groups, I will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible, however please be mindful that we are monitoring this on a day-to-day basis.

Previously, the decision has been made to close older year groups, however the decisions moving forward will be based on data with regards to number of cases per year group.

Once again, I want to apologise for any disruptions caused and to thank you for your continued support throughout these unprecedented times.

Yours Faithfully,

**Mr S Gill**  
Head of Academy





Since 24th February 2022, close contacts are no longer required to undertake daily LFD testing for 7 days (or isolate if an unvaccinated adult). Instead, you are advised to carefully follow the general guidance [Coronavirus: how to stay safe and help prevent the spread](#) to limit the risk of further spread of COVID-19.

This includes:

- Getting vaccinated (as appropriate according to age)
- Letting fresh air in if you meet with others indoors, or meeting outside where possible
- Continuing to wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces, especially where you come into contact with people you do not usually meet
- Staying at home if you are unwell
- Taking a test if you have COVID-19 symptoms, and staying at home and avoiding contact with other people if you test positive
- Continuing to use lateral flow tests as a way to manage your personal risk and the risk to those around you. This may be particularly important before visiting people who are at higher risk of severe illness if they get COVID-19
- Washing your hands regularly and following advice to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' There is additional guidance for contacts who live in the same household or who have stayed overnight in the same house as someone who has tested positive with COVID-19: COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)).

Anyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19 should stay at home and take a PCR test (until 1st April 2022 you can continue to order PCR tests from the [government](#) site. The main symptoms of COVID-19 are a recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

However, other commonly reported symptoms of recent variants include headache, sore throat, tiredness, and cold-like symptoms, so please be aware of these as well and stay at home and seek further testing if you are in any doubt.

