

5th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

During Term 2 we were incredibly proud of how our students responded to the new requirement to wear masks in communal areas and I have no doubt they will once again do what is asked of them for the benefit of our school community.

Following further guidance regarding the use of face coverings in schools I am writing to confirm our expectations of students as they return to school from 8th March.

As previously communicated, we expect the wearing of face coverings when students and adults are indoors and unable to maintain 2m distance. This follows specific government guidance on the use of face coverings in school from 8th March, is a proportionate response to the current situation and is in line with the expectations on the use of face coverings in wider society.

Government advice on schools reopening states “The use of face coverings in recommended circumstances is one element of the system of controls and must be implemented in line with other guidance ... face coverings should be worn in classrooms.”

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/965446/Face_coverings_in_education_-_March_2021.pdf

In England, the government requires the wearing of a face covering in almost all indoor settings including: public transport; shops and post offices and banks.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

We are, however, aware that some students and staff may be exempt from wearing a face covering due to a disability or other social, behavioural, emotional or medical need, or if wearing a mask will cause severe distress. We know that some parents have already informed us where this is the case and we have facilitated students not having to wear a face covering in these circumstances. Please contact the school at office@goodwinacademy.org.uk if your child is exempt from wearing a face covering.

Failure to follow our face covering rules is a breach of our health and safety requirements and the measures we are putting in place to keep our community safe. Therefore, we will be using our behaviour policy to support compliance where students are not wearing a face covering, and are not exempt from doing so, including:

- Students will receive verbal reminders of the need to wear their face covering indoors.
- Students will have the opportunity to reflect on the importance of mask wearing.
- Staff will encourage, educate and remind students.

- In the event of continued failure to comply with the expectations the student will be removed from the setting to an area where they can work in a safe, socially distanced way. We will then support the student to understand why it is important for them to wear their face covering. We will also look to engage parents in supporting us in enforcing this expectation.
- Should a student repeatedly refuse to comply with the expectation to wear a face covering then our behaviour policy will be used including escalating sanctions.

This policy will be reviewed at the end of this term.

Can I please ask that you send your daughter/son into school with enough masks to last the day and spares in case any become damaged. We only have a limited number of spare masks to give out in an emergency.

There will be no remote tutor times (8:30-8:50) for the week of the 8th – 12th March. AM/P1 tutor time will start on the days that the year group returns to site.

Many thanks for your support and understanding in our efforts to keep our whole community safe. I look forward to welcoming our students back from Monday 8th March.

Yours sincerely,



Mr S Smith
Principal