

14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**Important Communication Regarding COVID-19 and Face Coverings**

Dear Parents and Carers,

The mandatory wearing of a face covering has been in place since the return to school in March, this will end as part of the phasing out of lockdown measures.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced that, as of Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, face coverings will no longer be recommended for students in secondary school communal areas and classrooms.

In addition, face coverings will also no longer be recommended for staff in classrooms, though the Government continues to recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff and visitors in situations outside of classrooms, where social distancing is not possible.

All other protective measures - such as well-ventilated areas, regular hand washing, easy-access to sanitiser, social distancing, seating plans - will remain in place along with regular rapid testing which will continue to help identify and isolate asymptomatic cases when they do occur.

To summarise, as of Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May it will not be mandatory at Goodwin Academy for students or staff to wear a face covering in their classroom lessons. We are confident that our risk assessments, and already well-established protective measures, will help to keep our school community safe as we see the phasing out of lockdown measures nationwide.

Should your child wish to, we will of course support their choice to continue to wear a face covering during lessons and in communal areas.

As we start to relax more of the restriction in school, I would like to inform you that from Term 6 we will be reinstating morning Form Tutor period from 8:30-8:50am with students then going to their period one lesson at 8:50am. This is an opportunity for students to have additional time to focus on mentoring, develop numeracy and literacy skills and discuss current affairs that may have arisen in the news. The role of the Form Tutor helps to support students to be their BEST from the start of everyday and also gives students an additional friendly face who they can share their experiences of the day and discuss any worries they may have.

Thank you once again for your continued support. We understand this recent change may receive mixed feelings, should you have any questions do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Mr S Smith  
**Principal**