



2nd September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to last week's correspondence on school re-opening, please see an update on a number of aspects.

Wearing of face masks

As you may be aware, the government recently changed their advice surrounding the wearing of face masks in schools. The previous advice was that the wearing of masks should not be necessary in any school. This has now been updated and the Department for Education have stated:

'Nationwide, while the government is not recommending face coverings are necessary, schools will have the discretion to require face covering in communal areas if they believe that is right in their particular circumstances.'

In addition, the government will advise additional measures are taken in areas where the transmission of the virus is high. In these areas, defined as areas of national government intervention as listed on gov.uk, the government's guidance will state face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils in secondary schools when moving around the school, such as in corridors and communal areas such as the school courtyard, where social distancing is difficult to maintain. It will not be necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures already mean the risks are lower, and where they can inhibit learning.'

The Chesterfield area has a very low rate of Covid-19 infection and transmission and as a school we are taking a number of precautions to minimise any risk, as outlined in previous correspondence and on the website. Therefore, in line with the above government guidance, we will not be making the wearing of masks mandatory in any area of the school.

However, we recognise that some students and staff will feel more comfortable wearing a face mask in corridors and communal areas. In such cases the wearing of a face covering will be allowed. Please note that masks must be plain in appearance, with no logos or motifs, and must be worn appropriately and sensibly.

Use of water bottle fillers

We are now able to allow the use of our water bottle filling stations. Students are advised to bring a water bottle to make use of this facility. Note that water fountains will not be in use.

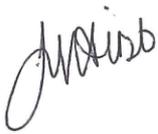


Uniform

The latest government guidelines states that normal school uniform will apply, with the changes previously outlined. Please remember that from September all Year 7 to 11 students should wear black or grey socks with trousers and black or grey tights with skirts.

Thank you once again for support at this time. All staff are very much looking forward to welcoming our students back to school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Hirst', written in a cursive style.

Mr K Hirst
Headteacher