

Principal: Mr T Johnson

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4th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your family are keeping well and that you enjoyed the winter break.

As you may already be aware, the Government has released new guidance which recommends that secondary school students wear face coverings in the classroom and within teaching spaces, upon returning to school this term.

This is to help limit transmission of Coronavirus – particularly in light of the recent Omicron variant surge – and importantly, to minimise disruption to learning as much as possible, which continues to be our main priority.

The re-introduction of face coverings within teaching settings is said to be a temporary measure which the Government will keep under continuous review. There will be a full assessment of the guidance on 26<sup>th</sup> January, at which point the wider Plan B regulations for England will also be reviewed.

Your child will therefore be expected to wear a face covering inside the classroom from now until at least 26<sup>th</sup> January unless they are exempt. This measure will go alongside our existing safety protocols which includes wearing masks in communal areas and corridors across the school site.

Disposable masks will be available from school if your child if you are having issues accessing an appropriate face covering for your child.

It may be that we need to write to you again once the beginning of term starts, if there are any further developments regarding our precautionary safety protocols. However, for now I wanted to ensure you were aware of this new guidance and the Academy's expectations in advance, so that your child comes to school this week with an appropriate face covering. Your support in helping us to implement this is greatly appreciated.

Ensuring the health and safety of our students, staff and wider school community is essential. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support, understanding and cooperation as we embark on a new year and new term which we hope will be a positive one, despite some of the inevitable challenges ahead.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Todd Johnson Principal