



Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may have already heard from the media, the government has announced today that face coverings are to be mandatory for students and adults in corridors and communal areas within all secondary schools. While it is being wildly reported that this is from tomorrow, the guidance does allow for schools to implement this from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

Therefore, from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November face coverings must be worn by all students and adults in corridors at lesson change and in communal areas (such as the Year 12 or 13 Study Areas). This will allow families to make arrangements to purchase additional masks and, where there are students with special educational needs, anxiety, etc., to give families time to support children to prepare for this change.

We do however strongly recommend mask usage from tomorrow.

Children and adults who are medically exempt will not be required to wear a mask. We would encourage the use of the available exemption cards and carrying one will help staff support your child if they are in this category. If you have concerns about how your child will cope with this change then please contact their Year Leader.

The guidance also states that out of school activities must close unless their primary purpose is for childcare. As our extra-curricular opportunities cannot be classified as providing childcare, regrettably we will have to cancel all before and after school activities until December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Guidance regarding extremely clinically vulnerable children has also changed. We will contact the parents of children who were previously identified as extremely clinically vulnerable to discuss this with you in person.

I know that many families will be pleased by the face covering change while others will see this as challenging. I appreciate your support to allow us to implement this new guideline.

Best wishes,  
Nick McSweeney