



2nd September 2020

Dear parent

It is less than a week since my last letter and already much has changed in the world of education. It is proving challenging to keep on top of the latest government guidance and I now need to offer further clarification for when we re-open our schools to pupils next week.

You will, I am sure, know that the restrictions imposed on Kirklees about a month ago have been lifted in most areas. This includes your son or daughter's school.

This means that face coverings for secondary school pupils are not compulsory but are a matter for each school to decide. We have reviewed our position and are now **recommending** that secondary school pupils wear a mask in areas where it is difficult to maintain a safe social distance. This includes walking on corridors between lessons. However, our schools already have measures in place to ensure contact between different pupil groups is unlikely and we are not going to insist on pupils wearing face coverings. Pupils should not normally wear face coverings in lessons.

The government guidance on face coverings for primary aged pupils is clear – they are not expected to wear them.

The only thing we can be certain of at present is that guidance is likely to change at short notice. If restrictions are imposed in our area, we will need to review our policy again. I am sorry for the inconvenience any changes may cause but these matters are beyond our control.

You may also have heard about new government guidance about different restrictions that may be placed on schools if outbreaks occur in particular areas. However, the government's position is that all schools should open fully. The new guidance has been issued to help schools plan for different situations that may arise in the future.

We are still very much looking forward to welcoming your son or daughter back next week. We are all looking forward to a new academic year like no other.

Yours sincerely



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