



11 September 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

As you will be aware from the Parent Handbook shared in advance of our return to school this week, we had taken the decision that young people and staff were not required to wear face coverings in school. This decision was based upon the latest Government guidelines and on local health information at that time. Aware that information and guidance evolves often rapidly, we also acknowledged that our policy on face coverings would be kept under review and may be changed at short notice.

This afternoon as school closed, we received communication from Deborah Myers, Head of Children and Young People, Education and Schools (East Riding of Yorkshire Council) and Andy Kingdom, Head of Public Health (Statutory Director of Public Health). This communication stated that,

*"Having reviewed the current regional and local situation and taking account of the most recent Public Health data, we are writing to strongly advise that with effect from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September, all staff in primary schools and all staff and pupils in secondary schools should wear face coverings at all times except when in the classroom or when eating and drinking.*

*We would like to stress that this is a precautionary measure but one we feel is essential to adopt at this time".*

As a consequence, I write this evening to ask that from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September, young people bring a face covering to school and clear plastic bag in which to store the face covering when they are not wearing it. In our handbook we asked that face coverings were subtle in colour (black / blue / navy – disposable or reusable) and should not be designed with logos, images or extreme patterns. Appreciating that Monday is only two days away, we ask that on Monday face coverings are simply without extreme graphics or wording at this time. We will move forward from there.

Can I also take this opportunity to request parents / carers remind all young people who travel on public transport that a face covering should also be worn on the journey to and from school. Sixth Form students will continue to be required to wear face coverings on the Consortium Coach; we will provide further information for them on Monday.

We recognise that some individuals will be exempt from wearing face coverings and also that further communication will be valuable, particularly regarding how we will address face coverings in school. For that reason we will contact parents again next week.

Yours sincerely

Susanne Kukuc  
Headteacher