



13th May 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

RE: Covid-19 Restrictions in Schools

Due to a recent change in medical advice related to low transmission rates of Covid-19, the Department for Education has issued new guidance around the wearing of face coverings in schools. From Monday 17th May 2021, face coverings will no longer be recommended for students in schools. We appreciate that for some families this will be welcome news, whereas for others there may still be a caution. To this end, school will be allowing any student who wishes to wear a face covering to do so. We will of course keep this advice under review and if local conditions, or national guidance change, we will communicate this with families accordingly.

In addition to advice on face coverings changing, we have also been advised that some restrictions put in place at the height of the pandemic can now be managed differently. You will be aware that your daughter currently wears her sports kit to school on the days that she has P.E. As of Monday 17th May 2021, **all students will revert back to wearing full school uniform each day** and should bring their sports kit with them to change into in the changing facilities. In line with local authority guidance, the changing facilities will be subject to an enhanced cleaning regime between use and this will be monitored closely.

We expect additional guidance to be published on June 21st which may enable further changes to be made. When we receive this advice we will communicate our plans accordingly, but until that point, the existing systems of controls will remain in place. Please feel reassured that this is a cautious approach to minimise any risk to students and staff.

Finally, parents of students in Years 11 and 13 are understandably keen to know when their daughters “leave school”. Within the guidance published on Monday 10th May 2021, the Department for Education has set out expectations that schools should continue to provide education and support for all Year 11 and 13 students after May half term, through to their final day of school which will be Friday 25th June 2021. The provision between May half term and June 25th will be a combination of face-to-face group work in school, remote education provided through Oak National Academy, transition work to Sixth Form or other Further Education providers and pastoral support delivered through PSHCE activities. Further information will follow in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Gidman
Headteacher.

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