

13th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Whilst it seems a while ago now, I hope you all had a good Easter.

Exams

This is a very important term for our students in Year 11, 12 and 13. They are sitting assessments to determine their overall final grade in the subjects they have been studying. I'm sure the whole community wishes them well.

Update regarding face coverings

On Monday 10th May, the Government announced changes to students wearing face coverings in school. In line with Step 3 of the roadmap, face coverings are **no longer compulsory for pupils in classrooms or communal areas in all schools from Monday 17th May**. Face coverings are also no longer recommended for staff in classrooms. For parents/carers visiting the school to attend meetings, face coverings will still be required if social distancing cannot be maintained. Should there be a localised outbreak then students will need to revert to wearing face coverings for a temporary period.

The guidance has not changed for travel on public transport or dedicated school transport such as the school minibus where face coverings are still compulsory.

Year group bubbles remain in place and year group entrances into school/exits from school remain the same. **It is imperative all students remain in their year group bubbles** as it will be key for the continuation of the Government's roadmap towards normal life. Please talk to your child/children about the importance of remaining in their year group bubble, irrespective of friendship groups in other years.

Covid-19 home tests

Although face coverings are no longer compulsory, students still need to carry out Covid-19 tests at home twice a week. We recently received additional test kits, packs of 7 tests, which were distributed to students Friday 30th April in tutor time. We will of course distribute more when we receive them.

Road safety

On another note, please can you remind your child about road safety. Unfortunately, we have had some complaints from members of the public who drive past the school site at the end of the school day. They have reported that students are dashing across the road at random places rather than use the crossing.

Traffic travels at speed on the main road so please remind your child to cross the road safely to avoid the risk of an accident.

Place2Be

Many of you are already aware, but for those of you who are not, we are very fortunate as a school to be able to offer the services of Place2Be. Place2Be are committed to helping children with their mental health. Their approach to children's mental health means they aim to intervene early to prevent life-long mental health issues.

- **Provide support early** to spot mental health problems before they develop and help children cope with challenges throughout their lives
- **Use an effective therapeutic approach** which is backed by research and combines several ways of working
- **Offer a menu of different services**, including advice and support for families and school staff, to build resilience and raise awareness of mental health across the whole school community.

Place2Be have now expanded their services further to include a new parenting resource – [Parenting Smart](#)

Risk Assessment

Please find attached updated Risk Assessment which no longer includes the wearing of face coverings in school but includes the wearing of face coverings on public and dedicated school transport.

Kind regards



Mr Steven Paddock
Headteacher