



DEAN TRUST Rose Bridge

Chief Executive: Mr Tarun Kapur CBE
Executive Headteacher: Mr James Haseldine

1st September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The government changed its guidance for Covid 19 and schools relating to Personal Protective Equipment/face coverings this week. The Government have said;

- for schools in locally restricted areas: there is an expectation that staff and pupils wear face masks on corridors and in internal communal areas (not in classrooms)
- for schools not in locally restricted areas: whilst it is not an expectation that staff and pupils wear masks on corridors and in internal communal areas, they can choose to do so if they wish to (not in classrooms).

Wigan is no longer a locally restricted area.

Staff and pupils can wear a face covering **should they choose to do so**. This applies specifically to areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain such as; any movement in the corridors between lessons, the dining rooms and outside at break and lunchtime. Staff and pupils who choose to wear a face mask in communal areas must not wear face coverings in classrooms or lessons. Face coverings in class would inhibit effective teaching and learning and we have a range of health and safety measures in place for classrooms including; pupils in year group learning bubbles, spacing of desks and seating, enhanced cleaning, equipment restrictions and marking adaptations.

There is **no** expectation that all pupils must wear face coverings when moving around the school buildings e.g. on corridors and in communal spaces. This approach will be reviewed if Government guidance or Dean Trust approach changes.

If staff and pupils choose to bring a face covering to school, they will be expected to bring in their own **plain** face coverings for use in communal areas and a sealable plastic bag to store it when not in use. We will discuss with pupils in assemblies how to store these safely including the sanitising of hands after masks have been used and their storage in a plastic bag (re-sealable sandwich bags are appropriate for this and are widely available).

The only occasion where any member of staff or pupil may wear a face shield in a classroom is where that member of staff or a pupil has been identified as extremely medically vulnerable and the school has deemed that wearing a face shield is appropriate following a personal Risk Assessment and medical assessment.

You and your child may find the following links of use regarding the safe use of face coverings;

WHO – https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=27&v=9Tv2BVN_WTk&feature=emb_logo

Gov uk – <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

Believe Achieve Succeed

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A reminder that Year 7 and 11 pupils are expected to attend school on Thursday 3rd September for induction. Year 7 and 11 pupils are not expected in school on Friday 4th September.

Year 8, 9 and 10 pupils are expected to attend school on Friday 4th September for induction. Year 8,9 and 10 pupils are not expected in school on Thursday 3rd September. All pupils are expected to attend school from Monday 7th September for the start of curriculum teaching.

Pupils will be able to purchase their own lunch from a limited menu, including hot and cold choices, each day but all payments must be completed online via school gateway. Cash will no longer be accepted at school.

We look forward to seeing all pupils next week.

Yours sincerely,

James Haseldine

Executive Headteacher

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