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3rd November 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Re. Face coverings – new instructions for Thursday, 5th November 2020 (3rd November 2020)

In response to the new national restrictions announced by the Prime Minister on Saturday, 31st October¹ and the widespread transmission of COVID-19 in the Broxbourne area², the school is amending our protective measures regarding the wearing of face coverings.

A [video](#) will be shared with pupils on Wednesday explaining this important change.

From Thursday, 5th November 2020 – to coincide with the new national restrictions – all staff and students in the school must wear a face covering in the following circumstances:

- In all **indoor communal areas** including corridors, changing rooms, reception, student services, sixth form study centre, sixth form café
- When **crossing between year group bubbles**, for example when walking to PE or ICT lessons, the school canteen, student services etc.

Face coverings do not need to be worn in the classroom, although staff and students may do so should they wish. Face coverings can also be removed when students are eating (e.g. in the canteen or sixth form café). Face coverings do not need to be worn in outside spaces.

Students will be asked to put a face covering on at the end of each lesson or before entering their teaching block at the start of the day, end of break and end of lunch. Students will be told when to remove their face covering at the start of each lesson by their teacher.

Some people are exempt from wearing face coverings³. Heads of Year need to be informed if a child is exempt so that we can make necessary provisions in school.

Previously we have recommended the wearing of face coverings in communal indoor areas – this is now an instruction. Please can all parents/carers ensure that their child/children has/have a face covering with them in school from Thursday, 5th November 2020.

While we are frustrated that we are having to bring in these additional measures, we feel that they are now necessary for us to protect the more vulnerable members of our community whether they are students, staff or family members.

We will continue to encourage our school community to maintain good hand hygiene and social distancing alongside the increased use of face coverings.

I would like to thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

Mr Jeremy Scott
Headteacher

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>

² In the week up to 28 October Broxbourne had 184 cases per 100,000 up from 138 in the previous week and the highest number across Hertfordshire – data can be found [here](#)

³ More detail about exemptions can be found [here](#)