



Hazelwick School

An Academy

Headteacher: Ms A Fearon BA (Hons) MA NPQH

Chair of Governors: Mrs R Bowron

Dear Parent/Carer,

I do hope that this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

On Monday this week, the Prime Minister announced the next stages of the roadmap out of lockdown. The guidance states that from Monday 17th May it is no longer recommended that students in schools wear face coverings in classrooms or communal areas. We have taken the decision that this guidance will be implemented at Hazelwick from Monday 17th May. It will, therefore, no longer be mandatory for students to wear masks anywhere on the school site. Any student that wishes to wear a mask may continue to do so, but students will not be instructed to wear a mask in the classroom. All other hygiene-related processes will continue unaffected, including social distancing, the enhanced cleaning regime, regular hand sanitising and the sanitising of desks and touch points on chairs at the end of lessons.

The updated Government guidance also states that it is no longer recommended that staff wear face coverings in classrooms. However, it states that outside of the classroom, for example in corridors and communal areas, it is recommended that staff and visitors should continue to wear face coverings where social distancing is not possible. This guidance will also be implemented at Hazelwick from Monday 17th May. If staff choose, they can continue to wear a face covering in the classroom. Staff will continue to wear masks in communal areas at busy times. The guidance remains unchanged in relation to the strong advice for teachers to remain at the front of classrooms whilst teaching, and remaining 2m away from students where possible.

We hope that we will not have to reintroduce the use of face coverings in the future. However, the reintroduction of face coverings of students and staff may be advised for a temporary period in response to a localised outbreak, including variants of concern. This will be dependent on guidance provided by the government and Public Health England.

I will update you again with further information as more details are released.

All good wishes,

Ms A Fearon

Headteacher