



23rd September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds both you and your loved ones well.

In a time when advice and direction from the Government changes on a regular basis, I believe it is important that we review and update our provision at the academy to ensure that the whole community is kept safe and feels protected. Following further restrictions being announced by the Prime Minister yesterday, as well as conversations with staff and some of you, I have decided to update our policy on wearing masks in corridors and communal areas.

From tomorrow onwards, staff will be strongly advising students to wear masks when moving around the academy. When they are in class or socially distanced in outside areas, they will not be required to wear them (but may do so if they wish). Staff will also be instructed to wear either visors, masks or both when they are in corridors or moving between classrooms.

Even though the scientific guidance tells us the chance of catching COVID from passing anyone in a corridor is 'vanishingly small', I have been concerned at times that students are forgetting to walk on the left of the corridors, and are failing to socially distance from each other at break and lunch. I am hoping that the wearing of a mask will act as a reminder to behave sensibly and thoughtfully in communal areas. I would appreciate your help in this matter, by having a conversation with your child to emphasise the importance of following the guidelines. Although members of staff have doubled up on duties during this time, it is still impossible to be everywhere at once, so their self-regulation is vital.

I hope to be writing to you soon with happier news. There is a lot of good work going on in the academy, and students are demonstrating their resilience and determination to us every day. It has been lovely to speak with them during break and lunch time, and for me to start to get to know them all.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Hogg'.

Lesley Hogg
Principal.