



Wednesday 3rd March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Update to government guidance on wearing of face coverings.

You may have seen that the government have updated its guidance on the use of face coverings inside classrooms. In the government guidance, it states 'we also recommend that face coverings should be worn in classrooms for a limited time'. The guidance also states that 'No pupil should be denied education on the grounds that they are not wearing a face mask'. At The Coleshill School, we recommend that face coverings are worn by students wherever possible. We will continue to guide students about the effective use of face coverings.

The use of face coverings in recommended circumstances is one element of the system of controls and will be implemented in line with other guidance and measures such as increased ventilation for example.

We will be recommending, as we were before this most recent lock down, that students wear "**masks to move**" when moving around the school and on entry and exit to school. We will also be encouraging face coverings outside when children are not eating or involved in physical activity.

We will not penalise or sanction a student who is **not able** to wear a face covering. I outlined in my letter on Monday how you can apply for exemption, should your child not be able to wear a face covering. Please see below:

Any exemptions will need to be applied for by emailing Mr Bailey, who is our Assistant SENDCo bailey.a@thecoleshillschool.org

Exemptions apply to those who;

- cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical impairment or disability, illness or mental health difficulties
- speak to or provide help to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expression to communicate

Students who are granted exemption will be asked to wear the nationally recognised green lanyard.

We look forward to welcoming your child/ren back to school next week.

Yours faithfully

Ian Smith-Childs
Headteacher