

9th November 2020

Dear families

Following the recent guidelines from the Government, and now that we are once again in lockdown, the Senior Leadership Team have taken the decision to implement the wearing of face coverings in school in communal areas and when transitioning to places such as the swimming pool, soft play and the school hall.

The guidelines state:-

Primary Setting

In primary schools, teaching year 6 and below, there is no change to the existing position. It is not mandatory for staff and visitors to wear face coverings. In situations where social distancing between adults in settings is not possible (for example when moving around in corridors and communal areas), settings have the discretion to recommend the use of face coverings for adults on site, for both staff and visitors.

Secondary Setting

In schools where pupils in year 7 and above are educated, face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. This was already the case for pupils in year 7 and above, and staff and visitors for those schools that were in areas where local alert level 'high' and 'very high'.

Some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings and we expect everyone to be sensitive to those needs.

Dysart staff across the whole school have been asked to wear face coverings around the building and in communal areas unless they are exempt. For those of you who bring your child to school, you will see that staff are also wearing face coverings in the car park.

We understand that every Dysart student is officially exempt from wearing a face covering. However, if you would like your child to wear a face covering in communal areas and when transitioning please can you let the class teacher know?

It should also be noted that, where possible and if your child is happy to do so, pupils in year 7 and above should wear face coverings when travelling on dedicated school transport.

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I noticed that some students who came into school this morning may have been slightly unnerved by seeing staff with face coverings on. We will monitor the situation and will risk assess for any student who appears to be extremely sensitive to staff/students wearing face coverings. If we feel that your child falls into this category, we will be in touch to discuss further. However, so far, most children seem to be quite accepting of this new way of life.

For those of you who bring your children to school, we are not making it mandatory for you to wear a face covering in the car park. However, we do ask that you keep conversations in the car park to a minimum to ensure social distancing is adhered to where possible. If you require longer conversations with staff, please do contact us at school.

If you have any questions at all, please to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leigh Edser".

Leigh Edser
Principal