

Dear Parent / Carer

I am sure you have seen this morning's news reports and are aware of the government's announcements surrounding the use of Face Masks in schools.

As I outlined in my previous letter we are taking all reasonable and sensible measures to secure the safety of our community as much as we possibly can and, to that end, although the guidance is still vague, we feel it is necessary to review our approach.

Previous communications have indicated that the wearing of masks was not recommended in schools, but that anyone in the school community who wished to wear a mask was permitted to do so.

Our face mask guidance is currently as follows.

- **Students are advised to wear a face mask**
  - o if they are walking in close proximity to friends outside their 'bubble' on the way to school
  - o as they arrive into school and as they walk into their 'designated areas'
  - o as they walk from one area of the school to another
  - o as they wait in a queue, for example lunch, a class etc
  - o as they use the toilet facilities
  
- Face masks **must** be worn on public transport as previously indicated, however, should your child wish to keep their face mask on for the remainder of their journey that is advisable.
- Face masks must be worn and removed correctly, please see 'How to wear a face covering', an extract from the updated government guidance on 'Face Coverings -When to wear one'.
- Guidance remains that face masks are not required in classrooms, however where students wish to wear a mask throughout the day this will be permitted.
- Students **MUST** wear face masks appropriately and any misuse will lead to our 'Behaviour for Learning' policy being employed in order to safeguard our community.

Staff at Bromfords **may** also be wearing face masks / visors, particularly when moving around the school and when on duty. It may be necessary when on duty for staff to remove face coverings in order to undertake their duty effectively, they will however be following social distancing rules wherever possible.

Maintaining a distance and following the school's guidelines remains absolutely crucial in order to reduce any risks. The full document from the government can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education>

Thank you for your continued support

Mr Neil Dunn  
Headteacher

## **How to wear a face covering**

*A face covering should:*

- cover your nose and mouth while allowing you to breathe comfortably
- fit comfortably but securely against the side of the face
- be secured to the head with ties or ear loops
- be made of a material that you find to be comfortable and breathable, such as cotton
- ideally include at least two layers of fabric (the World Health Organisation recommends
- three depending on the fabric used)
- unless disposable, it should be able to be washed with other items of laundry according to
- fabric washing instructions and dried without causing the face covering to be damaged

*When wearing a face covering you should:*

- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before
- putting a face covering on
- avoid wearing on your neck or forehead
- avoid touching the part of the face covering in contact with your mouth and nose, as it could
- be contaminated with the virus
- change the face covering if it becomes damp or if you've touched it
- avoid taking it off and putting it back on a lot in quick succession (for example, when leaving
- and entering shops on a high street)

*When removing a face covering:*

- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before
- removing
- only handle the straps, ties or clips

- do not give it to someone else to use
- if single-use, dispose of it carefully in a residual waste bin and do not recycle
- if reusable, wash it in line with manufacturer's instructions at the highest temperature
- appropriate for the fabric
- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser once removed