



FAO: Parents & Carers of Students at Denton Community College

RE: Covid-19 Update

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and well at this time.

On **Monday 7th** and **Tuesday 15th June 2021**, I wrote to you outlining our current position regarding the preventative measures we have in place to help prevent the spread of infection in our school. This included the introduction of a 3 phase response to the wearing of face masks in school, as set out below:

- **Phase 1** - Strongly recommend students & staff wear face coverings both in the classroom and communal areas of the building
- **Phase 2** - Expect students & staff to wear face coverings in communal areas but strongly recommend they wear them in the classroom
- **Phase 3** - Expect students & staff to wear face coverings in all areas (Classrooms & Communal) of the school building

As you will be aware, on **Thursday 17th June 2021** we implemented **Phase 2** of our response which means students & staff have been expected to wear face coverings in communal areas within the building (e.g. toilets, corridors and break out spaces). Cases of the new Covid-19 variant continue rise across the region and this is affecting the student population in Tameside schools. As a further preventative measure against this spread we will be implementing **Phase 3** of our response from **Monday 28th June**. This means we will **expect** students & staff to wear face coverings in all areas (Classrooms & Communal) of the school building.

The national, local and in school infection rates will continue to be monitored and we will remain in regular contact with Public Health Tameside regarding our risk assessments to keep students & staff as safe as possible. As you are aware the wearing of masks is not mandatory in schools, however when we state 'Expect' as part of our response we do expect face masks to be worn by individuals unless there is a legitimate medical reason for not doing which the school has been informed of by parents & carers.

In addition to our protective measures in place to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in school, we continue to strongly encourage the twice-weekly use of 'Lateral Flow Tests' by students. These are effective at picking up people who have Covid-19 but are not displaying any symptoms. If you would like school to provide these for your child please contact Mr Nixon (Assistant Headteacher) at s.nixon@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk.

Please remember that if you or your child has any of the Covid-19 symptoms you should not send them into school; book a PCR test through the NHS; then you and your household must self-isolate whilst you wait for the results.

As before the Covid-19 symptoms are still:

- a new, persistent cough
- a temperature
- a change in sense of smell or taste

HEADTEACHER: Mr G Rule

These remain difficult times and we thank you for your ongoing support not only in the education of the young people of Denton but also the safety and wellbeing of all our stakeholders.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Rule', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Greg Rule
Headteacher