MC/bn

12<sup>th</sup> May 2021



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Dear Parents & Carers

## Re: the mandatory wearing of face coverings in school

As part of the government's Step 3 roadmap out of Covid lockdown, it has been determined by the Department for Education that it is no longer necessary to recommend the additional precautionary face covering measures that they introduced on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2021.

The decision to lift further restrictions at Step 3 has followed a government review of the latest data on infection and vaccination rates.

Students are still required to wear face coverings on buses to and from school.

Whilst it is no longer a recommendation, students may choose to continue to wear a face covering if they feel more comfortable.

## Therefore, from 17 May 2021, in line with Step 3 of the roadmap, face coverings will no longer be compulsory for students in classrooms or communal areas in all schools.

Staff and visitors will continue to be asked to wear face coverings in communal areas where social distancing is not possible but will no longer be required for staff in classrooms.

Of course this does not mean that we can relax our vigilance against the spread of the virus and all other precautions remain in place. Students will continue to be taught in year group bubbles, they should wash and sanitise their hands regularly and avoid close contact with others. All of the hygiene and sanitising precautions already in place will continue.

Many thanks for your continue support during this challenging time.

Yours faithfully,

Mr M Cottingham Principal

