



15 September 2020

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Guardians

I am writing to inform you of a change in our policy on face coverings/masks at Lord Grey Academy.

Until now the wearing of face coverings/masks indoors in communal areas such as corridors and staircases has been optional. However we are aware that, in line with the national trend, infection rates are rising in Milton Keynes and although they remain low, we feel that the time is right to ask all students and staff to wear a face covering/mask when inside buildings.

So from Wednesday this week we request that all students and staff wear a face covering/mask when inside the buildings in shared spaces such as corridors and staircases. Face coverings/masks are not required to be worn in classrooms as they pose a barrier to learning.

We are aware that a small number of students will not be able to wear a face covering/mask for medical reasons. If this is the case for your child then please let Student Services know.

Please ensure that your child has a face covering/mask that can be used from Wednesday and remind them of the safe use of face coverings/masks as outlined below.

How to wear a face covering/mask

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 it 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.

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.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Jim Parker
Principal

