

# Tudor Grange Samworth Academy

A Church of England School



Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are aware of announcements in the press late yesterday regarding the use of face coverings in schools. Our understanding of these announcements is that guidance will be updated to state:

- The DfE continues to recommend that face coverings are not necessary in schools
- However, where there is a case of a local lockdown required because of an increase in the number or rate of an increase infections in an area, then students in secondary schools will have to wear a face covering in school corridors and/or communal areas where social distancing is not possible

As Leicester is still under some lockdown restrictions, the latest guidance due to come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September would mean students in Year 7 and above would have to wear a face covering in the corridors/communal areas until the lockdown measures are eased.

As our induction days are before the 1<sup>st</sup> September, we do not consider that we need to make the wearing of face coverings mandatory in our school. However, in response to the most recent announcements increasing flexibility for schools, we accept that some students and some staff may wish to wear face coverings in corridors and other communal areas and this will be allowed. You no longer need to inform us if this will be the case. We will continue to monitor government guidance and local data between now and the 1<sup>st</sup> of September and update you if there are any further changes.

As you are aware, we have put extensive planning in place to restrict any occasions on which we may have congestion and mixing, and therefore the possibility of continued close contact between children from separate cohorts/ bubbles. Due to this detailed planning, there are limited occasions when students would be required to wear a face covering where social distancing measures are less possible.

Therefore, students will only be required to wear a face covering at the following times:

- On arrival and movement to tutor time.
- When moving from tutor base to Lesson 1.
- When moving from break to lesson 3.
- When moving from lesson 4 to 5.
- When moving to leave the school site.

We are relying on parents to provide a face covering that is the correct size for their child, we will presume that you have taught your child how to apply, wear and remove the face covering safely. We will also be relying on parents to ensure that the face covering is cleaned on a daily basis. The complete guidance can be found [here](#):

50 Trenant Road Leicester LE2 6UA

0116 278 0232 [office@samworth.tgacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@samworth.tgacademy.org.uk)

[www.samworth.tgacademy.org.uk](http://www.samworth.tgacademy.org.uk)

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Healthy Schools

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*'When removing a face covering:*

- *wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before removing (hand sanitiser will be available outside every classroom).*
- *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 before removing (hand sanitiser will be available outside every classroom).*

You may find the following links useful for more information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/when-and-how-to-use-masks>

We are doing everything we can to ensure a positive and happy start to the return to school for our children and staff. I will continue to update you and to provide as much clarity as I can to support this aim. Please continue to contact us should you need any further guidance or support; in the meantime, thank you for your continued patience and understanding.

If you have any queries, please email [office@samworth.tgacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@samworth.tgacademy.org.uk) or call 0116 278 0232.

Please be aware that the academy site remains **closed to visitors**. **Appointments with staff must be arranged in advance**, please use the contact details above to ask for an appointment.

Yours sincerely

Mr. Alan Wilkinson

50 Trenant Road Leicester LE2 6UA

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Principal

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