



September 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Face Coverings in the Academy:

As you are aware, the Government recently updated their advice regarding the wearing of face coverings in schools. This letter outlines important information about the use of face coverings.

When will my child need to wear a face covering at the Academy?

Your child will need to wear a face covering at our Academy from the start of the Academic year in September.

Where exactly will my child need to wear a face covering in the Academy?

Students will need to wear a face covering when they move through shared indoor areas. This includes corridors that are shared with other year groups and common areas such as the canteen, shared toilets and reception. They will not have to wear a mask when moving through a corridor in their own bubble area.

They won't need to wear it outside in the playground or in their classroom.

What will my child need to bring with them?

Your child needs to come to the Academy with:

- 1) **A face covering.** We'd recommend a reusable one so that they can use it more than once, as they'll need to take it on and off several times during the day. If this isn't an option, they will need to bring in several single-use face coverings each day. Their face covering should be secured to their head using ear loops only
- 2) **A sealable plastic bag** to keep their face covering in when they're not using it so that it doesn't contaminate (or get contaminated by) other surfaces in the Academy
- 3) **Hand gel/sanitiser** – although there are hand sanitising stations around the Academy, these are meant for emergency usage and students should bring their own hand gel with them in to the Academy

Where can I get a face covering?

Reusable and single-use face coverings are available to buy in shops or online.

How should my child use their face covering?

- Their face covering needs to cover their nose and mouth when they're wearing it
- They shouldn't touch the front of the face covering or the part that's touched their mouth or nose

- They should wash/sanitise their hands before and after touching the face covering, including when they take it off or put it on. They should store it in an individual, sealable plastic bag between uses
- If it becomes damp, they shouldn't wear it, and they should replace it carefully
- Single-use face coverings should be disposed of after use (not in a recycling bin but in an identified PPE waste bin available at the entry points in the Academy)

How often will re-usable face coverings need to be washed?

- Reusable face coverings will need to be washed at the end of each day, ready for your child to wear the next day
- You can wash and dry reusable face coverings with normal laundry - follow the washing instructions for the fabric and use normal detergent

What if my child forgets their face covering?

We'll have a small supply of spares available at the Academy.

To be safe in the knowledge that everyone has one, please make sure your child has their own so that we can keep our supply of spares for emergencies

Please note that this information may be subject to further change from the government moving forward.

What if my child is exempt from wearing a face covering?

They won't need to wear one in the Academy. Please let us know by contacting office@saa.woodard.co.uk if your child is exempt so that we don't ask them to wear a face covering

Yours sincerely,

Mr Blackford – Assistant Principal