

## Queensbury School

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2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

### Re; Update and face coverings

Due to the increased infection rates and national lockdown we will be asking students and staff to wear face coverings when appropriate.

- 1) The government recommends for Year 7 and above.
- 2) To wear in communal spaces (outside, playground and corridors.)
- 3) We will permit to be worn in the classroom if the student feels more confident.

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

Many of our students have and are able to wear face coverings. Equally, many fall into the category of being exempt. However, the more we are able to mitigate risk, the lower the chance of infection within school and thus preventing the school having to close any bubbles or have virus outbreaks.

(Taken from DFE guidance 16th Oct 2020)

### Exemptions;

Some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings. This applies to those who:

- cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical impairment or disability, illness or mental health difficulties
- speak to or provide assistance to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expression to communicate

The same exemptions will apply in education settings, and we would expect teachers and other staff to be sensitive to those needs noting that some people are less able to wear face coverings and that the reasons for this may not be visible to others.



Executive Head Teacher: Mr Chris Wilson BSc/MA

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On **Tuesday, 3rd November 2020** - Students will be off timetable in the morning and with form groups to:

- 1) Ensure they know when to face coverings and how to put on and take off safely without spreading infection.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/911311/PHE\\_Putting\\_on\\_PPE\\_Standard\\_infection\\_control\\_procedures.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/911311/PHE_Putting_on_PPE_Standard_infection_control_procedures.pdf)

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/911312/PHE\\_Taking\\_off\\_PPE\\_standard\\_infection\\_control\\_procedures.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/911312/PHE_Taking_off_PPE_standard_infection_control_procedures.pdf)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html>

- 2) Know how to access 'Purple Mash' accounts in case of a bubble closure

<https://www.purplemash.com/sch/queensbury>

<https://queensburysch.com/online-learning-links/>

- 3) Well-being - discuss any concerns regarding questions relating to the second national lockdown

<https://queensburysch.com/well-being/>

*Further time* throughout the week can be utilised in form time if students need more help. The Form Tutors will make an assessment of this in relation to their class.

For your information;

(Birmingham Live) - Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020; update of the rolling seven-day rate of new cases of Covid-19 for every local authority area in England. The figures, for the seven days to October 26, are based on tests carried out in laboratories (pillar one of the Government's testing programme) and in the wider community (pillar two). The rate is expressed as the number of new cases per 100,000 people.

Data for the most recent four days (October 27-30) has been excluded as it is incomplete and does not reflect the true number of cases.

Birmingham has a rate of 276, up from 240 last week, with Walsall, Tamworth, North Warwickshire and areas of Staffordshire all higher. Walsall has a rate of 336, behind Cannock, at 343.



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I wish to reassure you all that the steps that the school has taken and continues to take to limit the risk of infection comply fully with all government guidance. Our risk assessment is available on the school website. It includes the details of the control measures we have in place.

As you know, the health, safety and wellbeing of all of our students is our top priority. We all need to remain vigilant, both in school and in the community, and be aware of the potential risks of the virus.

Finally, please follow the latest Government guidance and continue this over the forthcoming weeks, as it is vital that we continue this united approach.

Yours sincerely

**Mr Chris Wilson**

Executive Head Teacher



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