

## 29 November 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

As you may be aware the Department for Education published new guidance yesterday in response to concerns about the new variant of Coronavirus. This requires all staff and students in schools and colleges to wear face coverings in communal areas, unless they are exempt.

Face coverings do not need to be worn in the classroom.

We have informed students today about this advice, and request all students from tomorrow to wear face coverings when they are in the college building other than in their classrooms. Students can temporarily remove their face covering to consume food or drink, but we are asking for students to be sensible and work with us in this respect.

Face coverings are also required on all public transport and the College bus service.

If you believe your child is exempt from wearing a face covering, please direct them to Louise Long in the library.

The advice remains for students to be conducting twice weekly lateral flow tests, and seek a PCR test if they are displaying any Coronavirus symptoms. As from last Monday, all 16-17 year olds are now eligible for their second vaccination, and these are available locally from designated vaccination sites.

We would like to reassure you that these measures are precautionary and we will continue to do everything we can to ensure that your child has as normal an educational experience as possible. The college follows the government Coronavirus guidance at all times.

Yours sincerely, Chris Atherton Principal