



The McAuley Catholic High School and Sixth Form

An 11 – 18 Voluntary Academy in the Diocese of Hallam

Headteacher: John Rooney Chair of Governors: Dr Pat Hurley

3rd January 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

Updated guidance received from the DFE on 2nd and 3rd January underlines our current approach to face coverings shared with you on 29th November.

Face coverings

Face coverings help protect the wearer and others against the spread of infection because they cover the nose and mouth, which are the main confirmed sources of transmission of COVID-19. Face coverings (whether transparent or cloth) should fit securely around the face to cover the nose and mouth and be made with a breathable material capable of filtering airborne particles. Face visors or shields can be worn by those exempt from wearing a face covering but they are not an equivalent alternative in terms of source control of virus transmission. (DFE, January 2022)

Face coverings will continue to be compulsory when moving around the premises, inside communal areas including corridors and in classrooms. This does not apply where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons nor when eating or drinking. Face coverings must be worn on public transport including school buses to and from school.

Please ensure that your child has, at least two face coverings per day. From 4th January any student who refuses to wear a face covering will be subject to an immediate sanction. Students will be given the opportunity to purchase one from pupil reception at the beginning of the day, at break and lunchtime at a cost of 50p per mask.

The wearing of face coverings is an important precautionary and temporary measure to mitigate against the spread of the new variant which has the potential to seriously disrupt school life, let alone the impact on people's health and safety. We will continue with existing measures including ventilation and CO2 monitoring, regular hand washing and the use of wipes and hand sanitiser. Mass testing begins this week with the expectation that students conduct a LFT before they arrive for their first day in school.

The latest guidance for parents and carers can be found here;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges>

Thank you for all your support and encouragement.

John Rooney
Headteacher



"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full." John 10:10

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