



Whitley Academy

Principal: Mrs Kathryn Wright

Acting Principal: Miss S. Bloom

SBI/SBa

10th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during our first full week back after the holiday. I apologise for sending another letter out this week, but the picture and advice we are receiving about Coronavirus is regularly being updated.

As I said earlier in the week, it is essential that we continue to re-evaluate our current procedures, and amend them where improvements can be made in order to ensure the safety of staff, students and parents & carers. This week we have staggered the finishing time for students from Wednesday 9th September, we have added more toilets for students to use at break and lunchtimes and we have erected barriers to divide the students' outside zones.

We know that Coronavirus (COVID-19) usually spreads by droplets from coughs, sneezes and speaking. These droplets can also be picked up from surfaces, by you touching a surface and then your face without washing your hands. This is why social distancing, regular hand hygiene, and covering coughs and sneezes is so important in controlling the spread of the virus. In addition, the best available scientific evidence is that, when used correctly, wearing a face covering may reduce the spread of coronavirus droplets in certain circumstances, helping to protect others.

Therefore, in order to protect everyone further, we have now taken the decision that from Monday 14th September, *all* staff and students must wear a face covering/facemask when not in lessons at all time, with the exception of eating areas. Face coverings/facemasks can also be worn during lessons if staff and students wish. Please ensure your child comes to school on Monday with their mask and a small plastic bag to store the mask when they are not wearing it.

Finally, can I please remind you that if your child becomes unwell with a new, persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell they must stay home and follow the [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection guidance](#).

Many thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Yours sincerely

Miss S. Bloom
Acting Principal

thebestyoucan
be