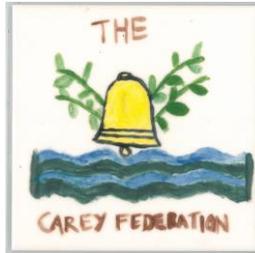


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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Ruh Alford B.Ed (Hons.), M.Ed

14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents,

### Re: Covid-19 Risk Assessment Update

The DfE have updated their advice on face coverings in schools:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/984843/10\\_May\\_Schools\\_Guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/984843/10_May_Schools_Guidance.pdf)

We have looked carefully at this guidance and assessed the risks to our Federation. We have taken into account the low rates of transmission locally; that all staff now undertake twice weekly LFD tests and the majority of staff have now had at least the first dose of vaccine. We have also considered the barrier to learning and communication that face coverings are posing.

Therefore, in line with DfE guidance, we have updated our Risk Assessment so that from May 17<sup>th</sup> 2021, face coverings will no longer be recommended for staff in classrooms. We continue to recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff in situations outside of classrooms where social distancing is not possible.

Some staff members may choose to wear a face covering in class and we support them in their choice.

We still require face coverings to be worn (unless exempt):

- By visitors
- By parents at drop-off and pick-up
- By children 11 years and older on Halwill school transport
- If supervising a child with COVID symptoms
- If undertaking intimate care

As well as essential visitors for the maintenance of the schools, we are also able to have professional visitors such as County advisers and governors, who hold us to account. We request visitors to undertake LFD tests before their visit and as stated above, they will be expected to wear face coverings.

All other COVID-secure measures will remain the same at this time.

I hope you feel reassured that the changes to the Risk Assessment have been carefully considered and are in line with DfE advice. If you have any concerns, do contact me via the office.

Wishing you well,

Mrs Ruh Alford  
Executive Headteacher

