



The Sutton Academy
Together Students Achieve

Principal: Mr Paul Willerton

Dear Parents & Carers

September 2020

As localised numbers continue to rise, the Academy Leadership Team made the decision at the start of the week to take a further measure to protect staff and students.

On Monday 21 September it will become **compulsory** for all staff and students to wear masks on lesson changeovers.

The academy has purchased 3 washable masks per student. The masks are a different colour for different year groups. This makes it easier for staff and students to keep within bubbles.

Masks will be distributed on Monday during Ready to Learn and Period 1. So that your child understands the expectations, can you please talk them through the below information.

- It will be compulsory for students to wear masks as they enter site through their designated gate and make their way to their form room/period 1 lessons. This will not be possible on Monday but will be in place for the days that follow.
- At the end of each lesson, students will stand behind their chairs, put their masks on and then make their way to either their next lesson or for break/lunch.
- Masks will need to be worn in the queue for the Dining Room but not when sat at tables.
- They will not be required to wear them outside during breaks but they will need to put them back on when they re-enter the building and if they spend break in the Covered Walkway.
- They will also wear them when they are dismissed at the end of the day until they leave the building.
- It won't be compulsory to wear masks during lessons but staff/students can continue to do so if they wish.
- Masks must be worn on the 733 school bus otherwise they will not be allowed to travel.

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Masks must be worn at the times described, failure to do so will result in the student being removed from their year group bubble. There are circumstances where a student or a member of staff might be exempt from wearing a mask. Below is the national guidance on exemption that are relevant to the academy. If your child is unable to wear the mask because of the reasons below, please contact the academy.

- People who cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability.
- Where putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause you severe distress.
- If you are speaking to or providing assistance to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expressions to communicate.

I understand that the topic of wearing masks can cause a difference of opinion. The main benefit of wearing a mask is that it is seen as a method to protect those around you. Whatever our opinions on Covid 19, I think we would all agree that looking after each other is imperative and wearing a mask at the times detailed is a small sacrifice to make to ensure this happens.

Thank you for your continued support

Yours faithfully

Mr P Willerton
Principal

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