

Our Lady's Catholic College

Learn, live, love together in a caring Catholic community



21st September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Change in Government guidance for Lancashire

As you will know, from Tuesday 22nd September, there will be further restrictions placed on our communities. In line with the new restrictions, pupils and staff will be required to wear face coverings in communal areas from tomorrow, Tuesday 22nd September. 'Communal areas' means anywhere outside the classroom, including corridors and the dining hall at lunch time. Face coverings can obviously be removed when children are eating. Face coverings should be a mask, either disposable or made of an appropriate fabric. In the case of a child forgetting their mask we will not be able to supply masks, so please check each morning that they have one. Pupils who have forgotten masks will be sent home to collect one.

Please ensure that your child understands how to safely wear and remove a face covering. Pupils must sanitise their hands before putting their mask on. To remove the mask, they should sanitise their hands first. They should then unhook it by the ear loops and place the mask in a plastic bag. They should then re-sanitise their hands. The full details can be found in the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

There is sanitiser available in all classrooms, but your child might prefer to have their own personal supply to speed up this process.

Face coverings are not expected to be worn in lessons. The government guidance states that: It is not necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures already mean the risks are lower and they may inhibit teaching and learning. We understand that there will be a few members of our community who are exempt from wearing face coverings. Guidance on who is exempt can be found in the first link above. Please ensure that you contact your child's Pastoral Support Officer as soon as possible if this applies to them. I realise this is short notice, but, as you will appreciate, we're responding to rapidly changing guidance.

Thank you for your support in continuing to keep our school community as safe as possible.

Yours sincerely

Helen Seddon
Headteacher

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