



August, 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may be aware, late last night the government changed their advice surrounding the wearing of face masks in schools. Previously they had said that the wearing of masks should not be necessary in any school. This advice has now been updated and the government issued advice last night.

As you will know, Salford is currently an area of the country that has additional, temporary measures in place to help bring down the transmission rate of Covid-19. We will always follow the government and scientific advice on these issues. Therefore, for the time being, pupils will be required to wear face coverings not only on their journeys to and from school but also when they are in communal areas and corridors within the school.

Pupils are not required to wear face coverings in classrooms or during lessons as the measures we already have in place with regards to social distancing, cleaning and personal hygiene already provide the greatest benefits against transmission of the virus.

Pupils are required to provide their own face coverings. Therefore, please can I ask that your child's mask be plain in appearance; no logos or motifs and must be worn appropriately and sensibly. Any pupil intentionally misusing their own mask or any other persons will be dealt with accordingly via the school behaviour policy.

There are a lot of children wearing disposable face masks in my local community around Oldham, but they are made for single use and wearing them for a second day is causing and will cause problems because they do not last and break easily. We have no way of knowing how long this situation will last.

Back in March there was a feeling that everything would be normal by now and when we are back at school, we are conscious that it is with many health and safety procedures in place that may go on for some time. It would probably be more cost-effective to buy a multi-use, washable face mask which is what I have done for my own child going back into Year 8, but we appreciate that it is your decision at the end of the day.

I will of course continue to review this decision in light of any future updated government guidance and any changes in the local Salford/Greater Manchester local lockdown situation.

Best wishes,

Mr J Roberts
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