

22nd September 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

Please be aware that, from Thursday 24th September 2020, staff and pupils **MUST** wear a face covering in all communal areas in Wigan secondary schools. This is a direction from Wigan Council and is fully supported by The Dean Trust. This decision is linked to Covid-19 local restrictions announced today.

Some staff and pupils are medically exempt from wearing face coverings. This applies to those who:

- cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment or registered disability
- speak to or provide assistance to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expression to communicate

This means that from **Thursday 24th September 2020**, it will be **mandatory** for staff and pupils to wear a face covering in all communal areas in Wigan secondary schools until further notice.

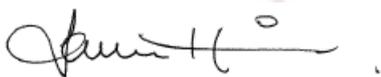
- Pupils must bring their own face covering and should also bring an appropriate storage bag for them (small poly/sandwich style bag is fine).
- Face coverings for staff and pupils **must be plain black/grey/burgundy or ‘medical blue’**.
- Face coverings **must not** be worn by pupils in classrooms. Pupils must get in to the habit of putting on a face covering as they leave a class and taking it off when they arrive at a class.
- We will speak with pupils in classes on Wednesday to discuss this routine and provide advice and guidance.

This link to a World Health Organisation short video about ‘How to wear a fabric mask safely’ is helpful for your child to watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=27&v=9Tv2BVN_WTk&feature=emb_logo

Should you have any concerns about your child wearing a mask then please do not hesitate to contact your child’s head of year.

We continue to work with Public Health England and Wigan Local Authority during these challenging and uncertain times.

As always, thank you for your continued understanding and support.



James Haseldine

Executive Headteacher
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