



Mary Webb School & Science College, Pontesbury, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY5 0TG

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28<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Use of face coverings in Mary Webb School and Science College

On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August the Government announced that headteachers are able to use discretion on the use of face coverings in schools in England. We have decided to allow staff and students to wear a face covering when moving around in the corridors and in other communal areas, if they wish to do so. This will be the situation in all three CSAT schools.

The optional use of masks is in addition to all other methods of infection control in the schools and should **not** be seen as a substitute for good hand hygiene, good respiratory hygiene and social distancing. All the guidance you have received from our leadership team still applies.

The following guidance should be noted and followed:

- The Government is still not recommending face coverings as necessary in education settings.
- We acknowledge some students and staff may prefer to wear a face covering in corridors and communal areas in school, but it is **entirely optional** at this stage.
- There may be situations in future where the Government makes face coverings compulsory, for example if local restrictions come into force in our area.
- Students are not to wear their face coverings when seated in their classrooms, only when moving around in the corridors and in other communal areas.
- Students must carry a small plastic bag to contain their face covering when not wearing it.
- Students must sanitise their hands immediately **before and after** handling their face covering (i.e. when putting on or taking off.)
- Students should only wear a purpose-made appropriate face covering, not a scarf or other face covering. We would request that these are plain or very simply patterned, and do not contain any extreme designs.
- If a face covering is worn, then it must cover the nose and mouth at all times.
- The school cannot be held responsible for the correct wearing of the face covering - please ensure that you discuss the safe use of the face covering with your child.

Finally, please ensure your child understands that wearing a face covering will only help if it is done in addition to good hand hygiene, good respiratory hygiene and following social distancing rules in school - it is not an alternative to these measures.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support for our school during the past few months - we are really looking forward to welcoming all our students back into school for the start of term.

If you have any further questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P J Lowe-Werrell  
Headteacher