



Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing in relation to the updated Covid-19 guidance that was issued to schools by the government yesterday, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November. As you will be aware, there is some increased concern at the moment about the spread of the virus, owing to the new 'Omicron' variant.

**Following this updated government guidance, we have re-introduced compulsory face-masks for students and staff in communal areas from today, Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021.**

Please ensure that students are reminded to bring a face-mask to school with them every day. If they do not have one or if they forget to bring one, they can borrow one from the main office when they arrive at school in the morning.

Students and staff are required to wear face masks around the school building at all times, in all communal areas including corridors, the Café area and the View. We will not be re-introducing compulsory masks in classrooms at this stage, but will require Sixth Form students to wear face-masks during Independent Study since these sessions involving mixing between different classes.

If students are exempt from wearing a mask, they will need to carry with them a card, badge or lanyard to make this clear. This can be provided for them by the school, or students can bring with them the card, badge or lanyard they use outside of school, e.g. on public transport. If students have any questions about this, they can speak to their form tutor or Head of House.

We do not, at present, plan to make changes to other arrangements such as the running of trips, visits, parents evenings and other events. We will, however, keep this under review in light of ongoing developments. I will communicate with you immediately if we are making any changes.

I know that this may be a worrying time for you and your families. I will keep you informed about any further developments. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Dr K Vincent

**Principal**