



HARTON ACADEMY

Part of
THE ILLUMINARE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
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Head of School
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Our Ref: SKG/meh/EHT203
Date: 14 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

The wearing of Face Masks/Face Coverings in school

You may well be aware that South Tyneside has now been identified as an 'Area of Enhanced Support' because there were further rises in Coronavirus cases last week. Public Health advice is now very much that we ask staff and students to wear face masks in school, as they should already do in shops, etc.

Therefore, please note the following information:

- We are making the wearing of face masks **compulsory from Wednesday (16th September)**. This will apply to **corridors and communal areas** where staff and students are **on the move**.
- Those students who are considered exempt for physical or mental health reasons will **not** be asked to wear a mask.
- Masks are **not** required in lessons, the dining hall, outdoor spaces or study areas of the sixth form.
- We know our students may take a little time to get used to this new development, and we will not be sending them home if they are not wearing a mask. We will instead continue to educate and encourage our school community on the wearing of face masks.
- We will provide disposable masks from Wednesday, but hope that you are able to provide your child with their own; we have ordered a re-usable, washable mask for every student, too, and will get this to the students as soon as possible. It will need to be cleaned at home on a daily basis.

You will doubtless know of local and national incidents where entire year group 'bubbles' have been sent home to self-isolate. We are trying to avoid this, and I hope you can appreciate that we owe a duty of care to all at Harton. Therefore, in closing, I would like to thank you in advance for your support in this matter and for encouraging your child to wear their face mask.

Very best wishes,

K. Gibson

Sir Ken Gibson
Executive Head Teacher



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