

21 September 2020

To parents and carers at all STAR Multi-Academy Trust Schools

With rising cases of Corona Virus nationally and the Government adding Selby, including Tadcaster and its surrounding villages, to its 'watch list' as areas of concern, we are now asking members of our school communities to be extra vigilant. This is in line with NYCC and Public Health guidance.

With immediate effect, we require parents and carers who enter our school premises to wear face coverings when dropping off their children and picking them up later in the day. It is not necessary for children under 11 to wear face coverings. This applies to external areas of our sites also.

For our secondary school aged students, unless exempt, they will be required to wear face coverings when moving around all identified communal areas of the school sites. Students will be briefed on identified areas along with how to wear and remove face coverings safely.

These measures will also be in place for staff in both primary and secondary schools – our students can expect to see staff wearing face coverings in communal areas, though I trust, given the prevalence of face coverings in wider society, most students will readily adapt. Our staff will support students with this through our PSHE curriculum as well as opportunities for discussion in class and with individual students.

As 'visitors' to our sites, it is increasingly important that parents and carers try, as far as possible, to maintain a two-metre distance from other people. Please also arrive on time and spend as little time on the premises as possible. Please do not come into school unless otherwise arranged. Your school will brief you on any changes to arrival and departure detail to ensure everyone stays safe.

You will appreciate these actions are necessary in everyone's best interests and that other schools in the area are similarly asking the same co-operation of their parents and carers.

Of course, if there are valid reasons why you, or your secondary aged children, should not wear face coverings, these will be respected.

We appreciate these are very worrying and stressful times for you as a parent/carer, for our young people, as well as for the staff in our schools. It is really important we work together for the benefit of everyone in these challenging circumstances to support our communities by taking these actions in line with Covid-19 safety guidance.

Yours faithfully

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