



OLD BUCKENHAM
HIGH SCHOOL

Be the best we can be

6th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to advise you of a change to the health and safety measures that the Trust feel are necessary at all secondary schools due to the surging number of cases of Coronavirus across the UK and the increasing numbers of secondary school age children exhibiting symptoms.

Whilst the scientific evidence suggests children are less susceptible to the more serious effects of the virus, we cannot be complacent and with the winter flu season and a second lockdown upon us, it is vital that we do everything we can to ensure both the safety of our staff and students and the continued provision of a world class education.

In line with all secondary schools in Sapientia Education Trust we therefore intend to enhance safety measures to further protect our students and also our staff members without whom the schools could not function.

As such, from Monday 9th November 2020 in addition to the requirement for face coverings on school transport, all Sapientia Education Trust secondary schools will implement the following:

- Face coverings should be worn by adults and students when moving around the premises in indoor areas, such as in corridors and communal areas unless individual exemptions apply;
- In classrooms, unless exempted, all students should wear face coverings;
- In classrooms, unless exempted, all staff should wear face coverings, if they are unable to socially distance (2 metres separation).

Face coverings may be removed when outdoors and during lunch and breaks when eating or drinking.

Exceptions will continue to be made for those with known medical exemptions/conditions and for students participating in physical activity lessons such as PE, Music and Drama.

I can assure parents that measures will be taken to ensure that any students with special educational needs are still able to fully participate in lessons.

As face coverings are now compulsory, failure to follow these changes in regulations will be covered by our existing behaviour policy. Any student that refuses to follow instructions regarding the appropriate use of a face covering will be sanctioned as described in the behaviour policy which is available on our website.

I trust that you will be reassured that we are using best endeavours to keep everyone safe and secure.

We will continue to regularly review the situation and I fervently hope we will be able to scale back these measures in the new year.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Fell
Headteacher

