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Academy Trust

Headteacher Kam Grewal-Joy Deputy Headteachers Steve Bacon Tamsin Woodward

KGR/SGI 29th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: New DFE Guidance on Face Coverings until the End of Term.

On Saturday 27th November, the Prime Minister announced new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in the UK. We were told that the new measures are being introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of the variant while more information is gathered.

The government have issued new guidance regarding face coverings in school. Face coverings should be worn in communal areas in all settings by staff, visitors and pupils or students in year 7 and above, unless they are exempt. Pupils or students (in year 7 or above) should continue to wear face coverings on public and dedicated school transport, unless they are exempt. **This** expectation will come into force Tuesday 30th November 2021.

The current guidance on contact tracing and isolation remains in place. In addition to this, any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to self-isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. You will be contacted directly by NHS and told to isolate.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Currently, we are not introducing any further control measures but as always this is subject to change and we will continue to take advice from Public Health. It is important that your child continues to attend as normal if they remain well. We encourage household members that are aged 11 and over to continue with twice weekly LFD testing to help identify cases promptly.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs K Grewal-Joy, Headteacher

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