

2nd November 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

RE: Expectations regarding the wearing of face masks at Seahaven Academy

In keeping with other schools in the local area and to help support the reduction in the transmission of the COVID-19 virus, we are taking the decision that all students, staff and visitors will be expected to wear face masks in communal/busier parts of the school. This will include arriving and leaving school, at break and lunch time in indoor spaces (unless eating) and during transition to and from lessons, when corridors may be more crowded.

Students will be reminded regularly to bring and wear a mask as above, and we will have a small supply of cloth masks available in school for those students who do not have one of their own already. Students will also be reminded of best practice in terms of putting on and removing masks, sanitising hands before and after keeping them in a plastic bag when they are not in use (cloth masks will need to be washed regularly).

Students will not be required to wear masks during lessons or at break/lunch times outside unless they wish to.

During Term One, we left it to individual families to decide to wear a mask in school if it made them more confident and comfortable about the return of all students in September. However, given the current situation and the rising concerns about the increase in numbers of COVID-19 cases we feel that it would be sensible to expect students and staff to wear face masks as described above as all communities prepare for further lockdown restrictions. Students who forget to bring a face mask to school will not be sanctioned and we hope that all members of the school community will support this move in providing this additional layer of protection. Pastoral Leaders will work with tutors over the next few days to identify any concerns and provide masks for those do not have them immediately available.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Pringle Headteacher

