Use of Face Coverings in School

Dear Parent / Carer

Following the Government announcement earlier this week, I would like to provide you with clarification and reassurance regarding the use of face coverings in school.

The Department for Education has announced that from 1st September, if a secondary school is in a local lockdown area, then staff and students should wear face coverings when moving around school, such as in corridors and communal areas (unless they're exempt). As Greater Manchester is a local lockdown area, this will apply to our school. The full guidance can be found <u>here</u>.

At Cardinal Langley this will mean that:

- Students will be expected to have a reusable / disposable face covering or visor unless they are exempt. These must be worn in corridors and communal areas.
- Some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings. Further information on exemptions can be found <u>here</u>. If your son / daughter is exempt then please inform school using <u>admin@clrchs.co.uk</u>. There is no requirement to provide supporting evidence e.g. letter from GP.
- Face coverings must be appropriate for school, i.e. a plain face covering which covers the nose and mouth only. Students should not use scarves, snoods, balaclavas etc.
- Due to the system of controls for minimising risk that are implemented in schools, the use of face coverings in the classroom should be avoided as they can have a negative impact on learning and teaching.
- It is vital that face coverings are worn correctly and clear instructions will be provided to students on <u>how to put on, remove, store and dispose of face coverings</u> to avoid inadvertently increasing the risks of transmission. All students will be provided with a sealable plastic bag to store their face covering between use.

I am sure that students are getting used to the need to wear face coverings in shops and on public transport and will quickly adapt to the new routines in school but I would be grateful if you would discuss this with your son / daughter before the start of term.

We are constantly reviewing our risk assessments to ensure that the school is safe for staff and students and will keep you informed of any changes as they occur. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact school should you have any queries.

Mr A Bridson Headteacher