



Our Ref: TKi/JEd

13 May 2021

Dear Parent and Carer,

You will have seen the Government announcement about face coverings in schools are being relaxed from 17th May.

We are keen to ask our students to continue to wear masks inside our buildings until half term. We are aware there are strong views on both the continued wearing of masks and ending this practice. As a school we need to be mindful and respectful of the differing views of students and staff, and their thoughts and feelings on this matter.

We clearly cannot enforce compliance, but we are encouraging all our staff and students to continue with the same precautions until half term. There are two main reasons for this. Firstly, there have been serious outbreaks in schools in Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill causing substantial numbers of children to be sent home to isolate. This would be devastating for many of our students who are working incredibly hard in school to provide the data for our portfolios for the Teacher Assessed Grades. Secondly, any avoidable teacher absence at this point is important to the chances of our exam students.

I am asking you to encourage your son/daughter to respect the needs of those staff and students who feel strongly that masks should be worn in classrooms and in common places (apart from those students who are exempt).

I know that this situation is far from perfect and again we find ourselves trying to navigate between differing views. I hope we can continue to count on your support with the wearing of masks until half term.

Please feel free to contact the school if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Miss T King
Headteacher

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