



GLOUCESTER
ACADEMY

4th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Update on the wearing of face coverings at Gloucester Academy from Friday 6th November

Good evening, and again many thanks for your continued support, patience and understanding in the current circumstances.

Today, following published advice from the Department for Education at 3.30pm, we are able to clarify the expectation for those on the school site. This will commence to be in force immediately, **THURSDAY 5th November** in all schools.

Department for Education Publication 4th November 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-and-childcare-settings-new-national-restrictions-from-5-november-2020#ooss>

'In schools where pupils in year 7 and above are educated, face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained.'

What will this mean in practice at Gloucester Academy for students?

Whilst we have always made the wearing of face coverings voluntary, it is now compulsory in most areas of the school site for all students

Students must wear a face covering for 'line up' prior to entering the building

- Students must socially distance outside, or they must be wearing a mask
 - social distancing will mean no face to face conversation within 2m
 - Social distancing will mean no side by side conversations for more than 1 minute
- Please note that face coverings must be plain in appearance, no logos or motifs, and must be worn appropriately and sensibly
- The mask must then remain in place until students exit the building. Masks must be stored in a sealable plastic bag (these can be provided by the HOY if required)
- Students may remove the mask when eating in side, but must put it back in place immediately food has been consumed
- Students will still be encouraged to drink water during the day, by lifting the face coverings far enough to access their water bottle, replacing immediately afterwards

What about clinically extremely vulnerable children?

- Most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to follow original shielding advice
- Parents should be advised to speak to their child's GP or specialist clinician if they have not already done so, to understand whether their child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable
- Those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend education whilst the national restrictions are in place. You must forward this evidence to the attendance team on GAattendance@gloucesteracademy.co.uk
- If a member of the household is clinically extremely vulnerable, but the child is not, they should still attend school

Again, we appreciate your support in this matter. Please discuss the serious nature of these new expectations with your child
Yours faithfully

Mr J Heap
Headteacher

Mr Jonathan Heap, Headteacher

Gloucester Academy, Painswick Road, Gloucester, GL4 6RN

T: 01452 428800

E: info@gloucesteracademy.co.uk

W: www.gloucesteracademy.co.uk

Mr Jonathan Heap, Headteacher

Gloucester Academy, Painswick Road, Gloucester, GL4 6RN

T: 01452 428800

E: info@gloucesteracademy.co.uk

W: www.gloucesteracademy.co.uk