



Venerable Bede Church of England Academy

Dayspring Trust



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DAI

June 15/21

Wearing of Facemasks in School

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to my letter earlier this week, I would like to update you on the current situation in school regarding coronavirus infections. Since yesterday we have had 6 notifications of a pupil testing positive for coronavirus. This is compromised of 2xY10, 3xY7 and 1xY9 pupils. I know that, like myself, you will be concerned about this increase in cases and would want to do everything that we can to shut down any lines of transmission. This is why we always take swift action to identify those close pupils who are close contacts and may be at risk. Any close contacts will be asked to self-isolate at home for the appropriate period of time. We understand that this is not easy for families. Where a whole class or year group is sent home, we will be able to support learning with online live lessons in the same way that we did during the last lockdown. If a whole class is not sent home to self-isolate, work will be set each lesson in Foldr.

We have decided that from tomorrow (Friday 18-06-21) **we are going to revert back to insisting that pupils and staff wear facemasks in corridors and other high-density areas around school** as we previously have done. This is in line with Government advice on "Face coverings in education" which says "*The reintroduction of face coverings for pupils, students or staff may be advised for a temporary period in response to particular localised outbreaks, including variants of concern. In all cases, any educational drawbacks should be balanced with the benefits of managing transmission*" ([Click here for LINK](#)). We feel that this is an appropriate response to the current situation in Sunderland and also in school. Naturally those pupils who were previously identified as exempt, will remain so.

It would really be helpful to us if you could continue to fill in the appropriate COVID alert forms which can be found on the school website, should your child test positive for coronavirus ([Click here for LINK](#)). By each of us continuing to follow all of the protective measures in place in school, at home and in the community, and by regular twice weekly testing, we will be able to minimise the transmission of COVID-19 in our community.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Airey
Headteacher





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