



**Woodkirk Academy**  
&  
The Sixth Form @ Woodkirk Academy

14 May 2021

Dear Parent

I hope this letter finds you well.

You will, no doubt, be aware of the next stages of the national roadmap which begin on Monday 17 May. I felt it important to write to you about the measures we will take as a school as a result of the further easing of restrictions.

Throughout the pandemic, we have taken on board the guidance offered by the government and that provided by the Leeds City Council Health and Safety team. We have also considered the Academy's individual context: including the site, and the prevalence of cases and infection rates in the local area. We have remained committed throughout to doing what we can to support the national effort to reduce the spread of the virus and to keep all of the community safe. The same considerations have been made regarding the wearing of facemasks from 17 May.

**From Monday 17 May students will not be expected to wear a facemask in the classroom.** Any student who wishes to continue to do so will be able.

The infection rate in Leeds remain higher than the national average. As such, Public Health in Leeds have advised that students should wear masks in communal areas where social distancing cannot be maintained. This means that **a facemask must continue to be worn:**

- **when entering the site in the morning and when leaving in the afternoon;**
- **when moving around the site between lessons;**
- **when travelling to and from dining and social areas at break and lunch times.**

Furthermore, **masks should be worn by all students using public transport.** As per previous communication, it is recommended that students have 2 clean masks each day and a sealable plastic bag for their storage. Any existing exemptions from wearing a mask remain in place.

The students must be praised for the conscientious and mature way in which they have responded to the expectations placed upon them so far in school; I am certain that this will continue. I am sure you would join me in welcoming the ongoing easing of restrictions in line with the government's roadmap. It remains the case, however, that we must all continue to act sensibly: the virus is still prevalent in the community and we must take care to observe those practices that have been effective so far. This includes maintaining good social distancing where possible and self-isolating if symptoms develop for any member of the household and / or if instructed to do so.

I hope you enjoy the weekend and the return to something more like normal that awaits us from Monday.

Yours sincerely

Mr T Jones  
Associate Principal