



Growing
Talent,
Promoting
Community

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26th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

From tomorrow, Thursday 26 January, national guidance on the wearing of face coverings changes. This decision has been made in response to national infection data showing the prevalence of COVID-19 is reducing. Unfortunately, the picture in Hull is very different to the national picture. Although the rate has dropped overall in Hull, infection rates are still very high and Hull is still well above the national infection rates. School age rates in Hull are double the average rate and well above the national rate.

Our local public health guidance is that face masks should still be worn in communal areas until such a time as the rate in Hull falls in line with the national rates. Once this happens, we will be able to adopt the national guidance.

Evidence shows that face masks help to protect the wearer and others against the spread of infection because they cover the nose and mouth, which are the main confirmed sources of transmission of COVID-19. Up to now, we have managed in-school transmission well due to the protective measures we have in place and it is important that we continue to prioritise the safety of your children and the school staff.

Evidently, the time is not right for us to remove face masks from the school completely and so face masks will continue to be required in school for the time being. **Face masks must still be worn in all communal areas, including corridors and whilst queuing for food. Students must still bring a face mask to school on a daily basis.** If students wish to continue wearing their face masks in classrooms as well as communal areas, to protect themselves and their families, they may do so.

This guidance is part of the Thrive schools risk assessment and face masks are being kept in place across all Thrive schools. This guidance will be reviewed regularly and following any future advice from our local public health team. Thank you for your ongoing support in keeping our school community safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Christopher Leng
Head of School
Kelvin Hall School

