

PENKRIDGE BANK ROAD PRINCIPAL: RACHAEL SANDHAM  
RUGELEY  
STAFFORDSHIRE T +44 (0)1889 802440  
WS15 2UE E enquiries@hartschool.org.uk  
www.hartschool.org.uk



**THE HART  
SCHOOL**  
*Creative  
Education  
Trust*

RSA/SPO  
28 August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

You may be aware that the Department for Education has now advised that secondary school children should wear face coverings in areas of local lockdown where infection rates are high, or where the Principal decides that this is the safest method of operating.

This guidance is based on the following scientific evidence as offered by the Department for Education:

*Coronavirus (COVID-19) usually spreads by droplets from coughs, sneezes and speaking. These droplets can also be picked up from surfaces, if you touch a surface and then your face without washing your hands first. This is why social distancing, regular hand hygiene, and covering coughs and sneezes is so important in controlling the spread of the virus.*

*The best available scientific evidence is that, when used correctly, wearing a face covering may reduce the spread of coronavirus droplets in certain circumstances, helping to protect others.*

This guidance (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education>) is specific to communal areas in schools such as corridors and spaces where it is difficult to maintain social distancing. Classrooms have been configured to allow us to achieve an appropriate distance between children, so face coverings will not be required during lesson time.

On the basis of this guidance, we have made the decision to **require** the use of face coverings for all staff and students when moving around, such as in corridors and in communal areas and request that you ensure your child/children have **plain face coverings** to bring to school, as well as a **plastic, sealable bag** to keep them in when not in use.

We ask that face coverings are plain/black /grey or responsibly patterned, without images, logos or words that may cause offense or distraction.

We will make sure that all children know how to apply and remove their face coverings safely, and ask that you reinforce these messages at home using the government guidance found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>



If you believe that your child/children should be exempt from wearing a face covering due to a disability or other concern, please inform Mr Lloyd, our senior member of staff who is responsible for health and safety as soon as possible via email:

[gary.lloyd@hartschool.org.uk](mailto:gary.lloyd@hartschool.org.uk)

If you will have difficulty providing a face covering for your child/children, please inform Mr Lloyd as soon as possible by email.

To maintain the high behavioural standards around the school, we will expect the following with regard to face coverings:

- Face coverings to be plain/ black/grey or responsibly patterned without images, logos or words that may cause offense or distraction.
- Students are expected to observe the safe and appropriate application and removal of face coverings once this has been explained to them.
- If students are using their face coverings in a disruptive manner, this will be dealt with as disruptive behaviour, and dealt with in accordance with our behaviour protocols.
- Students must never share face coverings.
- Tampering with students' face coverings would be classed as a significant health and safety breach and will be dealt with accordingly.

We have been working hard over the summer months to make the school as safe as possible, taking into account the guidance from the government.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the information above, please contact Mr Lloyd via email: [gary.lloyd@hartschool.org.uk](mailto:gary.lloyd@hartschool.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

**Miss R Sandham**  
Principal