



Headteacher: Mr I. Bryant

Founder Academy of the Mercian Trust

17 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly I would like to say how wonderful it has been to see so many children return to school and how well they have adjusted to the 'new normal' of staggered starts and finishes to the day. The staff at Aldridge have worked incredibly hard to plan a Covid-secure school and it has taken some adjustment for students and staff alike. We are hopeful that these precautions will allow the school to function as safely as possible for everyone. You will be aware from my letter last week, that there was one positive case confirmed in school, but the preventative measures taken by the school meant there was minimal disruption.

It is important for the wellbeing of all our students and staff that we are able to continue the high standards we have started with. Despite our recommendations, we do see students walking around inside the school buildings without their face masks, and whilst there are a few whose parents have expressed they do not wish their child to wear a mask, this does not apply to most of those without the face masks. Therefore taking into consideration recommendations from the World Health Organisation, UNICEF, the guidance given to schools by the DFE, and the latest government advice of **"Hands - Face - Space", we strongly recommend that all of our students should be wearing face masks in school when they are in corridors moving to lessons and in the dining areas waiting to buy their food.** All staff will be ensuring that students wear their face masks at these times and will be actively reminding students to wear them. We do have a supply of face masks in school which we will hand out to those students who may have lost their own.

It may not be suitable for all students to wear a face mask, for medical or health reasons. Further information can be found here if you are unsure, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>
If this is the case then please complete and return the form below by Monday 21st September, so we can exempt your child from being asked to wear a face mask. We will ensure these students are given an exemption card/lanyard.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding in these very changeable times.

Yours faithfully,

Ian Bryant
Headteacher

Student exemption from wearing a facemask in school

I wish for my child _____

Year Group _____

House _____

to be exempt from wearing a face mask in school due to:

- Medical reasons
- Wellbeing of my child
- Other concerns

Please return this slip with your child to their Form Tutor who will pass this on the House Offices by Monday 21st September 2020.

