

# Dormers Wells High School

## MATHS AND COMPUTING SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Headteacher: Ms R. Walsh B.A.Hons M.Sc.

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1<sup>st</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I know I speak for all staff when I say how delighted we are to be welcoming back our students. I trust that parents/carers will share the following information with their children in advance of their return to school.

On the evening of Tuesday 25th August 2020, the DfE announced that “while the government is not recommending face coverings as necessary, schools will have the discretion to require face coverings in communal areas if they believe that is right in their particular circumstances”.

Furthermore, “the government will advise additional measures are taken in areas where the transmission of the virus is high. In these areas, defined as areas of national government intervention as listed on gov.uk, the government’s guidance will state face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils in secondary schools when moving around the school, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain. It will not be necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures already mean the risks are lower, and where they can inhibit learning.”

As of 1<sup>st</sup> September, Ealing is not an area of national government intervention and the school has taken several precautions to minimise risk. Therefore, in line with the above government guidance, the wearing of masks will not be mandatory. However, some students and staff will feel more comfortable wearing a facemask in corridors and communal areas and are allowed to do so.

Students and staff may wear disposable or reusable masks but not other forms of face coverings. Masks must be plain, with no logos or motifs. Masks must be worn appropriately and sensibly. Any student intentionally misusing a mask will be sanctioned in line with the school behaviour policy.

Further guidance will be given on students’ first days in September. Face coverings will not be necessary in the classroom even where social distancing is not possible. In classrooms, the protective system of controls will be in place and students will be within their consistent year-group bubbles. Face coverings can have a negative impact on communication and teaching so students will be asked to remove facemasks as they enter the classroom.

I trust parents/carers appreciate the need for detailed information and appreciate that the delay to sending this information was in order to ensure it followed the most up-to-date government advice. All processes will be reviewed on a weekly basis and I will update parents/guardians with any changes.

Yours faithfully,

Ms R Walsh  
Headteacher



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