

Ref: KHO/023/20-21

30 October 2020

Grange Street
Alfreton
Derbyshire
DE55 7JA

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Changes to guidance on use of face coverings in school

As you will be aware, from 31 October 2020, Derbyshire has been identified as a tier 2 area of national government intervention. As such, the academy guidance on the use of face coverings will change with effect from **Monday 2 November 2020**, in line with government guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education>

Students and staff should now wear a face covering in communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain. **This does not include classrooms.** We are aware that a small number of students will be exempt from wearing a face covering. Please can parents and carers of any students who are exempt, contact us as soon as possible to provide details of this exemption, by emailing info@davidnieper.academy

When should students wear a face covering?

- At both the top gate entrance on Grange Street and the bus park entrance – students should wear face coverings when they arrive in the morning and as they leave the academy in the afternoon, and whilst walking between entrances and classrooms.
- On corridors – face coverings should be worn whenever students are on corridors or staircases.
- When changing for PE – students should wear face coverings in the PE changing rooms at all times.

When would we not expect students to wear a face covering?

- When seated in lessons – students are not expected to wear face coverings whilst seated during their lessons. They will be reminded to put them on when preparing to leave classrooms.
- When eating or drinking in the Dining Hall or Main Hall – students will not be expected to wear face coverings when eating and drinking at break and lunchtime.

What about outdoors during social times?

When outdoors during social times, the risk of transmission is different to the risk of transmission in classrooms. In classrooms, students are seated facing forwards, and their behaviour and interaction follows highly structured routines. During social times, behaviour

and interaction are different, with significant variations between individual students and groups of students. As such, students must ensure that they either maintain distance from other students, or wear a face covering if they are unable to or would prefer to do so. We will discuss this with students in some detail at school. Please note that staff will wear face coverings in the same ways as students, and when working in shared spaces where it is difficult to maintain an appropriate distance.

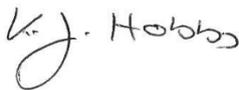
Safe use of face coverings

It is best practice for individuals to:

- Clean hands before and after touching face coverings when putting them on and taking them off
- Not touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing it
- Store face coverings in small plastic zip-lock bags between use
- Not wear a face covering if it becomes damp
- Dispose of temporary face coverings in a waste bin, or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them to wash between uses. If you are unable to provide your son/daughter with a face covering, please ask them to contact the main office. This should only be in exceptional circumstances. If you have any queries please contact us.

We are grateful for your continued support with our efforts to keep our community as safe as possible during these challenging times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. J. Hobbs". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'K'.

Dr Kathryn Hobbs
Headteacher