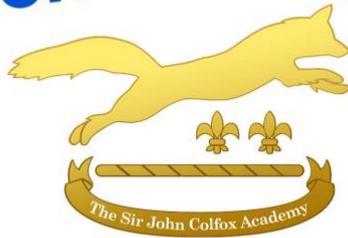


# The Sir John Colfox Academy



***Inspiring Learning, Achieving Excellence***

Headteacher: Mr Adam Shelley MEd, BSc Hons, PGCE, NPQH

13 May 2021

Dear Parents and Students

## **Face mask update from Monday 17 May 2021**

I am sure you will have seen the announcement from the Government on the relaxation of the rules from 17 May. This has included information on face masks in secondary schools. The Government have now said that secondary school students do not need to wear face masks at all in school. The advice is still for staff and visitors to wear masks in communal areas. I have had concerns from staff, students and parents about this and have consulted with the Headteachers of Woodroffe and Beaminster to come to a solution that will reassure and protect our students, staff and the community.

I have therefore decided that students will not be required to wear a mask while in lessons or outside, but for the remaining two weeks of this half term they still need to wear them in communal areas. This is because we still have mixed bubbles of students moving around. Should cases continue to fall, then face masks will not need to be worn by students in these areas after half term. I will write to confirm in the last week of this half term.

I feel that this staged approach will be better for those with worries and concerns, as it is difficult for many of us to see how it is compulsory on Friday and then not three days later on a Monday, especially as masks are still required in many other areas.

We will continue with the hygiene routines in the classrooms and have the rooms well ventilated. It should be noted that if we do get a case it is likely that more students will be sent home, as we will have to widen our close contacts in the classroom.

Any student or teacher who wishes to continue to wear a mask in lessons can of course still do so.

Thank you as always for your support with this measure as we try to get back to some form of normality.

Yours sincerely

Adam Shelley  
Headteacher