



Friday 30th October 2020

Ref: JT/3010/C-19

Dear parent/carers,

COVID-19 – Facemasks at Beacon Academy from Monday 2nd November 2020

As I am sure many parents are aware, yesterday afternoon (29th October) the Government placed North East Lincolnshire into the 'High Risk' Tier 2 category. This requires our community to make adjustments to our daily routines.

Guidance from the Department of Education (DfE) requires all secondary school students in Year 7 or above to wear facemasks in corridors and internal communal areas. The DfE guidance states; *'When an area moves to the local alert level high.....face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around indoors such as in corridors...'* (<https://bit.ly/3jF7hIF>).

All staff at the academy are wearing face coverings in corridors and whilst on break/lunch duty and will continue to do so.

In accordance with the Tier 2 lockdown and DfE advice, I respectfully request that **from Monday 2nd November** all students wear a suitable face covering when travelling to and from the academy on public transport or in shared vehicles, in corridors when moving between lessons and when using internal communal areas, such as the dining rooms. As per national guidance, when seated with food and eating, students may remove face masks.

Face coverings do not need to be worn in lessons. If your child is exempt from wearing a face covering, please can you inform us by emailing, office@beaconacademy.co.uk.

The health, safety and wellbeing of our students and staff is of the highest priority. The students' response to the key adjustments such as hand sanitising on entry to each lesson, strict one-way movement and split break/lunchtimes helped to ensure no confirmed COVID-19 cases last half-term. I would like to thank all parents for your support and thank you in advance for supporting this additional adjustment.

Face coverings are increasingly used as part of our daily routine and I hope that this adjustment can be easily adopted by the students. If you have any queries or concerns, please do contact us by emailing office@beaconacademy.co.uk.

Headteacher Jason Thurley BA (Hons) PG Cert

Beacon Academy Chatsworth Place, Cleethorpes DN35 9NF

www.beaconacademy.co.uk • 01472 328888 • office@beaconacademy.co.uk

Guidance for using face coverings:

- Students should not share, loan or allow others to use their facemask. Students should not interfere with other student's face coverings.
- Wash hands or use the numerous hand sanitiser stations when using or removing the face covering. Students are provided with sanitiser on entry to the building and prior to each lesson.
- If re-usable, please ensure the coverings are washed according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Guidance on using face coverings will be provided to students as part of the virtual assembly programme starting next week. A parent factsheet is also available on the school website.

Beacon Academy re-opens to all students on **Monday 2nd November** we look forward to welcoming everyone back following the half-term holiday. Thank you for your continued support of Beacon Academy, it is greatly appreciated by both myself and the staff team.

Yours faithfully,

Jason Thurley