

28 November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

DfE Announcement - Face coverings in schools from Monday 29 November

No doubt you will be aware of the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday regarding new temporary measures following the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in the UK.

We understand the new measures will be introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of this new variant while the Government gathers more information, and that the Government will continue to keep this under review as the situation develops. For example, one such measure is that it becomes mandatory to wear face coverings in shops and on public transport.

Following this announcement, **the latest government advice for schools**, received this afternoon (Sunday), is that **face coverings should be worn in communal areas by staff, visitors and pupils or students in year 7 and above**, unless they are exempt.

This means that from Monday 29 November, all students and staff (unless exempt) are required to bring a face covering to Outwood Academy Normanby, and wear it in indoor communal settings, ie when moving to or from lessons or when moving about indoors during break or lunchtime, except when eating.

We would really appreciate parental support in ensuring that all students bring a face covering to school from tomorrow, Monday 29 November.

A reminder from the Government too is that students should continue to wear face coverings on public and dedicated school transport, unless they are exempt.

We are required to continue to encourage all staff and students to test twice weekly using lateral flow device (LFD) tests. We recommend these tests are taken each week on a Sunday and Wednesday evening, and the results reported to BOTH the NHS and the school. The links for reporting LFD tests continue to be within our news item on our website here: <https://www.normanby.outwood.com/posts/1687>

Thank you in anticipation of your continued support, it is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Wappat
Principal