



Mr G Panayiotou – Headteacher
Mr John McNichol – Chair of Governors

Castleford Academy
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Our Ref: GP/NF

13th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Following the government announcement last night regarding local restrictions, the Wakefield area is now considered an area of intervention. This means that there are some additional measures that schools in the area are expected to follow. Please see guidance below from the Department for Education:

In local areas, where restrictions have been implemented for certain sectors (from national direction), we anticipate that schools will usually remain fully open to all. There is an additional requirement that face coverings should be worn by staff and students, in schools and colleges, from year 7 and above, outside classrooms when moving around communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained.

This means that **from Wednesday 14th October**, all pupils and staff will be expected to **wear face coverings when they are moving around school, at break time and at lunchtime** (when not eating). Pupils will not be expected to wear a face covering in lessons as the guidance remains unchanged for classroom environments.

As a result of this guidance, please ensure that your son/daughter has a suitable face covering that they can wear to move around the academy. The covering must be plain black, white or blue. They must not be patterned or have any logos or embellishments (please see attachment for pictures of acceptable face coverings). If your son/daughter does not have a face covering or forgets to bring a face covering to school, disposable face coverings will be available to **buy from student support for 20p**.

We recognise that there are some pupils who, under government guidance, will be exempt from wearing face coverings. The reasons for exemption are set out below:

- *people who cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability.*
- *where putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause you severe distress.*
- *if you are speaking to or providing assistance to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expressions to communicate.*
- *to avoid harm or injury, or the risk of harm or injury, to yourself or others – including if it would negatively impact on your ability to exercise or participate in a strenuous activity.*

If you think that your son/daughter is exempt from wearing a face covering, please complete either the form below to give to your child's form teacher on Wednesday morning **or** this on-line form <http://b.link/8gdfr>. If they are exempt, your son/daughter will be issued with a blue badge to place on their tie to indicate that they are exempt. It will be pupil's responsibility to make sure the badge is visible on their tie each day. Pupils must bring an individual sealed plastic bag to store the face covering when it is not in use. **Please only complete the form if your child should be exempt from wearing a face covering.**

We will be working with pupils on Wednesday to ensure that everybody understands the new regulations.

We appreciate that some parents will have very personal views about the wearing of face coverings, however, it is essential that we follow national guidance on this issue. If you are unsure if your son/daughter should be exempt from wearing a face covering, please contact you son/daughter's year leader.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Mr G Panayiotou
Headteacher

Yours faithfully



Mrs D Cook
Associate Headteacher

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Reply Slip
Exemption from Wearing Face Coverings

My son/daughter is exempt from wearing a face covering:

Name: _____ Form: _____

Reason for exemption (please tick):

- My child cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability.
- Wearing or removing a face covering will cause my child **severe** distress.
- My child relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expressions to communicate.

Please provide details below:





Castleford Academy School Uniform Acceptable Face Covers

Face coverings should be plain black, white or blue. Patterned face coverings or face coverings with logos are not permitted. Snoods, scarves or bandanas cannot be worn as a face covering.

All face coverings should be stored in an individual sealed bag when not being worn. Care should be taken when removing face coverings to avoid touching your face.

Acceptable Face Covers



Unacceptable Face Covers

