

Parent Update

28 August 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

As you will be aware, the Scottish Government announced this week that face coverings should be worn in school corridors and confined communal areas. You should have received a group call message from West Lothian Council detailing the new guidance and I would encourage you to read this carefully. I have noted some additional points for you here too.

- Pupils and staff are expected to supply their own masks. We do have a supply of disposable masks for anyone who is unable to bring their own and senior staff will have these at each of the three student entrances each morning. We will be asking students to sanitise their hands before putting on their mask as they enter the building in the morning, if they are not already wearing a mask. If a student loses their mask during the school day and needs a replacement, they simply have to let a member of staff know and we will get a disposable mask to them.
- Students and staff should wear masks in corridors and social areas at all times. All should be encouraged to do so even when corridors are quiet/ empty.
- In dinner halls students should wear a mask in the queue, then remove it to eat and drink. If still sitting in canteen after eating or moving to another social space within the school, they should put the mask back on.
- Teachers will not ask students to wear masks in class.
- If students choose to wear a mask in class, that is fine. Some may wish to when working in small groups, for example when conducting science experiments.
- If a teacher needs to go nearer than 2 metres to a student in class for more than 15 minutes, a mask should be worn.
- Some people are exempt from wearing a mask and we ask that everyone is understanding of individual circumstances.

If you are at all concerned or unsure about any of this, please do not hesitate to contact the school and speak to either someone in PSA or your child's head of house.

Friday Lunches

As of next Friday (4th September) students can buy a cold lunch (sandwiches etc) at morning break as well as pre-order one. Any child who receives free school meals can also use their pre-paid card to buy a lunch at this time.

Parking Around the School

I have received further concerns from local residents that some parents are blocking streets, driveways and parking on pavements. I would ask again that, should you be driving your child to and from school, please do so responsibly and remain sensitive to the needs of the local residents.

Reminder of Covid 19 Prorocols

As you are aware, with the return of our pupils and staff to school, we have put procedures in to place that support all members of the school community if anyone displays symptoms of Covid 19.

A reminder that the symptoms are:

- High temperature or fever
- A new continuous cough
- A loss of, or change in sense of smell or taste

If a pupil displays symptoms, we will contact you to collect your child (please ensure that we have your most up to date contact details). **Pupils over the age of 16 may return home themselves.** The pupil should, if possible, wear a face covering en route and avoid public transport.

You will be asked to follow Test and Protect and we will provide you with a copy of the Test and Protect Leaflet and Step by Step Guide when your child is collected.

Information on the groups of children within the school, **and on school transport**, and the adults that each group of children come in to contact with will be collected. This is to fulfil legal responsibilities for public health and will allow Test and Protect to contact appropriate people in the event of a positive test result.

If anyone within your household tests positive for Covid 19, please do not send your child to school. Report their absence and the reason for this by calling PSA in the morning.

Should you have any concerns around your child's health and wellbeing or learning, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes

Pauline Allison
Head Teacher